

Chinese 4409

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To: Xie, Zhiguo <xie.251@osu.edu>; Knicely, Debbie <knically.2@osu.edu>

Cc: Nagar, Ila <nagar.5@osu.edu>; Fredal, James <fredal.1@osu.edu>; Soland, Birgitte <soland.1@osu.edu>; Tanner, Heather J. <tanner.87@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>; Hilty, Michael <hilty.70@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>

Good afternoon,

On Monday, February 5th, the Themes II Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Citizenship for a Just and Diverse world reviewed a proposal for Chinese 4409 to be included in the GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World.

Additionally, on Wednesday, February 28th, the Themes I Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations reviewed the *same* proposal for Chinese 4409 to be included in the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations. Please see below for both group's feedback.

Themes II Subcommittee: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World

The course received a vote of "no" from the reviewing faculty for this proposal. The Subcommittee offers the following comments in regard to approval within the GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World:

- The reviewing faculty thank the course proposer for providing updates to the course proposal based on their previous feedback. However, at this time, they are unable to see how the course will successfully fulfill the GEN Theme-specific ELOs (3.1, 3.2, 4.1, & 4.2). They have decided to decline this course for inclusion with the GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World.
- The reviewing faculty recommend that the course proposer reach out to Ila Nagar.5, faculty Chair of the ASCC Themes II Subcommittee, Birgitte Soland.1, faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World, and Bernadette Vankeerbergen.1, Assistant Dean for Curriculum, to discuss how the course could be strengthened to better meet the GEN Goals and ELOs. They believe a meeting may be beneficial for the course proposer to gain a better sense of what the committees are looking for when evaluating courses within the requested GEN Theme categories and provide a better understanding of why the proposal was declined for inclusion within the Citizenship Theme.

Themes I Subcommittee: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations

The course received a vote of "no" from the reviewing faculty for this proposal. The Subcommittee offers the following comments in regards to approval within the GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations:

- The reviewing faculty ask that the department further provide further evidence of how the course meets the goals and ELOs of the Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations category. Specifically, they ask that the course (and, by extension, the syllabus and GEN Submission Form) focus more clearly on the change or transformation of a "big idea", and how that transformation impacted dominant and non-dominant subcultures differently.
- The reviewing faculty recommend that the department consider some kind of pre-requisite for the course (completion of certain GEN Foundations Categories, a particular rank [e.g. sophomore, junior, senior] etc.) as in its current form, the course could be taken by a first semester student who has no experience with college coursework. This is especially important given that this is an online course that can be completed without any synchronous meetings, and an early-career college student may struggle to understand what is required of a course at this level.
- The reviewing faculty ask that the department eliminate the quiz at the end of the semester (outlined on pg. 13 of the syllabus) that asks students to self-report completion of the Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI). While they sympathize with the desire for student feedback, the reviewing faculty note that this practice compromises the anonymity of the SEI and the integrity of the students' responses. As an

alternative, the reviewing faculty offer the friendly suggestion that an instructor could award all students in the course a bonus point/points if the percentage completion rate of the SEI for that section meets a certain level.

- The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi, which includes a new (as of 03-01-2024) statement on religious accommodations. This required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website. The Subcommittee thanks you for adding this statement to your course syllabus.

Given the complexity of the proposal and the votes of "no", the faculty chairs of those subcommittees/groups would like to invite the department/instructors/course creators to arrange a meeting with them to discuss the submission and a possible path forward for the course. Should the department be amenable, please reach out to Assistant Dean Bernadette Vankeerbergen.1 (copied on this email) to make arrangements for this meeting. I will return Chinese 4409 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu so that the department can craft a revised proposal that addresses the concerns of the reviewing faculty after the meeting.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact the following individuals (or either myself and Michael Hilty.70, ASC Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator):

GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World

Ila Nagar, faculty Chair of the Themes II Subcommittee

Birgitte Soland, faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World

GEN Theme: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations

Jim Fredal, faculty Chair of the Themes I Subcommittee

Heather Tanner, faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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