

From: [Steele, Rachel](#)
To: [Glæssner, Philip](#)
Cc: [Fredal, James](#); [Daly, Meg](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Neff, Jennifer](#)
Subject: Slavic 3310
Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 12:47:29 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Tuesday, November 14th, the Themes I Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Origins and Evolution reviewed a course proposal for Slavic 3310.

The reviewing faculty did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed:

- i. The reviewing faculty ask that the course's connection to ELOs 3.1 and 3.2 be more clearly articulated in the syllabus and the GEN Submission Form. Currently, the reviewing faculty are unable to see how models illustrating the time depth of the Earth, the age of the universe, life on Earth, etc. are incorporated as part of the course. They note that reading some portions of Darwin's "On the Origin of Species" will provide an allusion to time depth of the Earth, and life on Earth, but without the best current understanding of the science in this area. Furthermore, they ask that the course provide additional and more advanced engagement with the scientific method.
- ii. The reviewing faculty request that the department consider reducing the number of texts and films covered in the course, allowing more time for an in-depth and critical study of the modern scientific research.
- iii. The reviewing faculty offer the friendly suggestion that this course might be an excellent opportunity for a teaching partnership with another department. If this is not possible, they note that the scientific material in the course could also be enhanced by the presence of guest lecturers. Should the department choose the latter approach, they note that it will be important to ensure that engagement with scientific knowledge and scientific topics is consistently integrated throughout the semester. In short, it is imperative that students understand and are able to demonstrate mastery of the scientific concepts addressed by the theme, in addition to the strong coverage of humans' cultural response to science and technology.
- iv. The reviewing faculty ask that the department provide more information on how the material in this course connects to "out-of-classroom experiences" (GEN Goal 2).
- v. The reviewing faculty request that the department provide a clearer articulation of how this course constitutes an advanced study of the theme, especially regarding the course's specific readings/films and activities. However, they acknowledge that, in addressing the comments above, the level of the course may be elevated and/or its advanced nature may become clearer in the revised submission.
- vi. The reviewing faculty ask that the department amend the statement regarding the grading scale on pg. 1 of the syllabus, as OSU does not have a standard grading scale; instructors are welcome to use any scale that best fits the needs of their course.
- vii. The reviewing faculty observe that the department has added a third paragraph to the university's required Religious Accommodations statement (syllabus pgs. 6-7). Since this statement was developed in response to

recent legislative action, the reviewing faculty request that this third paragraph be eliminated. If the department feels strongly about its inclusion, the reviewing faculty ask that it be listed under its own heading or moved to a different part of the syllabus.

I will return Slavic 3310 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the reviewing faculty's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the reviewing faculty, please feel free to contact Jim Fredal (faculty Chair of the Themes I Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), Meg Daly (acting faculty Chair of the Origins and Evolutions TAG; also cc'd on this email) or me.

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

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

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I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.