

Subject: RE: Concurrence for new Classics course (CLAS 2206)
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 at 12:26:09 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Caldeira, Gregory
To: Ross, Alan
CC: Walton, Rachel, Kogan, Vladimir, Smith, Charles William, MacGilvray, Eric, Fullerton, Mark
Attachments: image001.png

All are agreed: WE concur.

From: Ross, Alan <ross.2005@osu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:08 PM
To: Caldeira, Gregory <caldeira.1@polisci.osu.edu>
Cc: Walton, Rachel <walton.640@osu.edu>; Kogan, Vladimir <kogan.18@osu.edu>; Smith, Charles William <smith.3280@polisci.osu.edu>; MacGilvray, Eric <macgilvray.2@osu.edu>; Fullerton, Mark <fullerton.1@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Concurrence for new Classics course (CLAS 2206)

Dear Greg,

Thanks for sharing the syllabus of your 5411 *Justice, Sin, and Virtue: Ancient & Medieval Political Thought*.

I realize I should have explained further why Classics is creating this new 2000-level course, especially as 2206: *Politics and Political Thought in the Ancient World* will in fact create greater differentiation – rather than overlap – between our departments' course offerings.

Our new course, if approved, will replace an upper-level course that has been offered regularly for a number of years: Classics 4201 *Political Thought and Institutions in the Greco-Roman World*. Having now read your syllabus, I realize that 5411 and Classics 4201 are closely aligned in aim, content, and audience. Both are text-focussed, spending several weeks reading large amounts of foundational works of political theory such as Plato, Aristotle, Polybius, and Cicero. Both are concerned with the development of political ideas. As 4000- and 5000-level courses, both are aimed at upper-level undergraduates. Both are seminar classes.

Classics 2206 will be introductory and aimed at lower-level undergraduates. It is primarily an historical course, focussed on the practice of politics and the history of states (there are sessions on political communication and art) as much as theory. I do intend to teach a couple of the same texts, but only at the end of the course and in far briefer overview (e.g. one session on Plato's *Republic* where 5411 has six). Befitting an introductory course, the students will read short extracts, not entire books. These texts will be read as products of their historical contexts rather than from the perspective of the History of Ideas. Needless-to-say, as a Classics course, it doesn't reach beyond the ancient world, as 5411 does. The course will be a large lecture class, not a small seminar. There'll be minimal overlap in material between C2206 and 5411; their aims and audiences are quite distinct.

Our intention is to use Classics 2206 to create a pathway towards some of our new upper-level ancient politics courses, such as Classics 3302 *Citizenship in Democratic Athens* and Classics 3210 *Classics and African American Political Thought*. We'd be happy to advertise your 5411 as another obvious follow-up course, where students can explore some of the same issues in more depth, in a different context, and from a

different disciplinary perspective. We could also discuss cross-listing if that's something your department would be interested in; and/or co-ordinate on scheduling so that C2206 and 5411 are offered in complementary semesters.

I think it would serve both our interests to get Classics 2206 on the books so that our department can remove Classics 4201 from our regular schedule, and thereby create greater differentiation between Classics' and Political Science's course offerings. Classics 2206 is likely to boost rather than diminish demand for 5411. We're also always happy to collaborate in course design and scheduling to ensure OSU students have as many opportunities to explore the ancient world and its politics as possible.

Please let me know if you have any questions or any suggestions that will help you grant concurrence.

With best wishes,

Alan

From: Caldeira, Gregory <caldeira.1@polisci.osu.edu>
Date: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 at 11:09
To: Ross, Alan <ross.2005@osu.edu>
Cc: Walton, Rachel <walton.640@osu.edu>, Kogan, Vladimir <kogan.18@osu.edu>, Smith, Charles William <smith.3280@polisci.osu.edu>
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Yes. I'll check to see who has a copy

From: Ross, Alan <ross.2005@osu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:08 AM
To: Caldeira, Gregory <caldeira.1@polisci.osu.edu>
Cc: Walton, Rachel <walton.640@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Concurrence for new Classics course (CLAS 2206)

Dear Greg,

Can you please send over a syllabus for the last time this course was taught (I presume it's 5411 Justice, Sin, and Virtue: Ancient & Medieval Political Thought?)

Alan

From: Caldeira, Gregory <caldeira.1@polisci.osu.edu>
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 11:05 AM
To: Ross, Alan <ross.2005@osu.edu>
Cc: Walton, Rachel <walton.640@osu.edu>
Subject: RE: Concurrence for new Classics course (CLAS 2206)

We would like to see something that differentiates the course from what we do already.

From: Ross, Alan <ross.2005@osu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:03 AM