

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Shuster, Amy](#); [Lin, Eden](#); [Shabel, Lisa](#)
Cc: [Cravens-Brown, Lisa](#); [Krok, Jessica](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Philosophy 2344
Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 4:17:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, September 19, the Themes 2 Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World reviewed a GEN Theme: CDJW request for Philosophy 2344.

The reviewing faculty declined to vote on the request at this time and ask that the following feedback be addressed in a revision:

- The reviewing faculty ask that the general education information provided at the end of the syllabus more sufficiently explain the course's connections to the Theme specific ELOs (3.1, 3.2, 4.1, & 4.2). [Syllabus pp. 11-13]
- The reviewing faculty request that the information in the GE worksheet be included in the syllabus so that students are able to see the alignment of the course content with the Theme ELOs.
- Currently, only week 7 addresses citizenship as a topic. The reviewing faculty ask that the topic of Theme be fully integrated into the course throughout the entire semester and that the course calendar be expanded with more detailed information about what students will be spending their time on during each class session to better display the structure of the course. [Syllabus pp. 5-6]
- For Theme ELO 1.1, while students are applying critical thinking skills to their assignments and are benefitting from scaffolded tasks, there is a need for a stronger focus on how the elements of each assignment relate to the Theme. Rather than referencing words that are key to the Theme, it would be better that the syllabus expand on *how* students will be actively engaging with the Theme through the assignments and activities. For example, the reviewing faculty request that the topic descriptions of the two research reports help guide students' research to focus on the Theme.
- The reviewing faculty ask that the department ensure that the course description in curriculum.osu.edu aligns closely with the one in the syllabus so that the core elements and Theme are highlighted to students when they read the course description in the catalog.
- The reviewing faculty note that the total number of points comes out to 121 rather than the stated 106 and asks that the department correct this in the grade breakdown and in the grade scale. [Syllabus pp. 4, 8]
- The reviewing faculty ask the department to consider which assignments are eligible for students to drop, as it is crucial that the dropped assignments not include those that directly relate to the Theme and its ELOs. If students are not required to complete all of the course assignments, the reviewing faculty want to make sure that they cannot get through the course without engaging every aspect of the Theme.
- For the purpose of transparency, the reviewing faculty ask that the grading of participation be

based on specific criteria rather than relying on subjective assessment or memory of students' performance. Additionally, the current absence policy states that there are *about* 3 allowed absences which suggests that this number is not concrete. [Syllabus p. 2]

- The reviewing faculty ask that the structure of the participation grade be clarified, as it currently is stated that students should give themselves 6 additional points for very regular participation. Is this in addition to the total number of points or is it included? The use of the word additional makes this slightly unclear. [Syllabus p. 2]
- The Subcommittee asks that the department ensure that the reference to the [Office of Institutional Equity](#) in the religious accommodations statement is a hyperlink to the office's email. Additionally, the Subcommittee asks that the link below be added to the bottom of the religious accommodations statement, as it is a part of the required text. Please feel free to copy and paste these two links into the statement directly from the Subcommittee's feedback. Otherwise, the full statement with the links can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus pp. 9-10]
 - (Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))
- The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement, which was updated in summer of 2024. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 9]
- The Subcommittee recommends that the department use the most recent version of the suggested diversity statement, which can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 10]
- The reviewing faculty ask that a cover letter be submitted that addresses all changes made as a result of their feedback.

I will return Philosophy 2344 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the above feedback.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the reviewing faculty, please feel free to contact Lisa Cravens-Brown (faculty Chair of the Themes 2 Subcommittee), Jessica Krok-Schoen (faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: CDJW) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers