

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip](#); [Ernst, Joe](#)
Cc: [Vaessin, Harald](#); [Lower, Brian](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Slavic 3370
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 9:12:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning,

On Monday, April 14th, the Themes 1 Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Lived Environments reviewed a GEN Theme: Lived Environments request for Slavic 3370.

The reviewing faculty approved the request with the following feedback:

- **Comment:** The reviewing faculty commend the department on this creative and engaging course. The interdisciplinary approach is compelling, and the glassmaking as a lens for exploring environmental and cultural themes will be a wonderful experience for students.
- **Recommendation:** The reviewing faculty recommend clarifying in the syllabus how students should engage with environmental representation in their assignments and reflections (ELO 4.2). This could be done by incorporating a more structured analysis of subjective versus ideological framings of environments. Reflection prompts such as “how is the environment being perceived?” or “what values shape this representation?” could help guide student analysis.
- **Recommendation:** The reviewing faculty recommend strengthening Theme ELO 4.3 in the course by more explicitly positioning the critical analysis of ideological frameworks as a key learning goal. A dedicated unit or assignment on competing environmental ideologies could offer structured engagement and valuable transnational perspectives, enhancing students’ ability to critically assess environmental narratives
- **Recommendation:** The reviewing faculty note that the credit hour statement in the syllabus is currently written for a 3-credit course (9 weekly hours of engagement versus 12 for a 4-credit course). To ensure clarity and alignment with credit hour policies, the reviewing faculty recommend revising this statement to reflect that the engagement for the additional credit hour will be fulfilled through certain activities during the trip abroad (as is evidenced in the study abroad contact hours breakdown). [Syllabus p. 5]
- **Recommendation:** Due to the recent closure of the Student Life Center for Belonging and Social Change (formerly the Multi-Cultural Center), the reviewing faculty recommend removing the link to their website from the land acknowledge statement. [Syllabus p. 15]
- **Recommendation:** Due to the recent renaming of the Office of Institutional Equity to the [Office of Civil Rights Compliance](#), the reviewing faculty recommend that the department replace the links in the Title IX and Religious Accommodations statements. Please note

that the Religious Accommodations statement currently does not include the contact link at all, and the final syllabus should contain the hyperlink to the Office's website.
[Syllabus pp. 15, 17]

As a reminder, *recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

Slavic 3370 has been advanced to OAA.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the reviewing faculty, please feel free to contact Harald Vaessin (faculty Chair of the Themes 1 Subcommittee), Brian Lower (faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Lived Environments), or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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