

DATE: September 29, 2014

TO: ASC Executive Deans Office
All ASC Department Chairs & Directors
All ASC Faculty

FROM: David Manderscheid, Executive Dean and Vice Provost

SUBJECT: Team Teaching Proposals

I am pleased to issue again this year a call for proposals for new, interdisciplinary undergraduate team-taught courses in the College of Arts and Sciences. As the College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Plan states, “We will promote a spirit of collaboration and cooperation that embraces the diversity of scholarship in the College while at the same time recognizing the importance of maintaining our traditional areas of strength.”

Team-taught courses, utilizing professors from different disciplines, programs or departments, provide innovative teaching and learning opportunities, promote the goal of interdisciplinarity in teaching, and encourage interdisciplinary research. These courses provide students with the broadest understanding of a liberal arts education by conveying within a single classroom the breadth of perspectives and interconnectivity that is inherent in academia and the world.

Definition

For the purposes of this plan, a team-taught course is defined as collaborative teaching: Teaching partners are expected to collaborate on defining the objectives for the course, putting together the course materials, conducting the formal instruction of students, and evaluating student performance. Note that courses in which one faculty member of record convenes the course and invites one or more guest speakers to take part in the class are not considered to be team-taught courses. (Team-taught courses may, however, utilize outside speakers when appropriate in addition to the primary faculty members of record.) Moreover, for the purposes of this plan, *interdisciplinary* will mean that participating faculty instructors must be from demonstrably different disciplines, programs, or departments. Minimum enrollment levels for the initial offering will be governed by the offering instructors’ TIUs, in compliance with Faculty Rule 3335-8-16(A).

Applications

Proposed courses should be undergraduate (2000-4000-level) or dual career (5000-level) courses. Course proposals should begin by providing a list of course goals and expected learning outcomes, a detailed syllabus, and all the standard information required for new course requests on curriculum.osu.edu (including such information as course number and title, number of credits, prerequisites, intended student rank, etc.). In addition, the application for Arts and Sciences team-teaching support must include a rationale for, and description of the course that highlights the following components:

1. its interdisciplinary nature;
2. an explanation of how the course will benefit students, how it will advance the participating departments' academic goals, and how it will fit into each department's curriculum map;
3. an explanation of the added value that team teaching brings to the course;
4. an explanation of the form that team teaching in the course will take.

The application should be accompanied by letters of support from the chairs of participating departments describing how the course enhances their departments or programs. Once approved, interdisciplinary team-taught courses should be cross-listed and fully accredited within both instructors' departments. Applications should be addressed to Steve Fink, Associate Executive Dean of the College for curriculum and instruction.

Selection

I will charge the ASC Curriculum Committee with reviewing and ranking the submitted interdisciplinary team-teaching course proposals. Up to 10 courses may be selected, ideally from a variety of disciplines to be funded for the initial year of instruction, after which time the expectation is that the course will become a regular part of each department's offerings, and should be offered at regular intervals of no longer than every two years. Faculty whose courses are selected will each receive one full-course teaching credit for their participation in the initial year of the team-taught course, and departments offering these courses will be compensated at the lecturer rate during the initial year to offset the cost of covering the departmental course that would otherwise have been taught by the team-teaching instructor.

Timeline

Completed course proposals, including all of the required supplementary materials, **must be submitted by January 15, 2015**, with the expectation that approved courses will be first offered during the 2015-16 academic year. Proposals may be submitted to Sonya Vanarsdale, Assistant to the Associate Deans (Vanarsdale.1@osu.edu), 114 University Hall.