New Course Request

Indiana University

South Bend Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes: Undergraduate credit [X] Graduate credit [ ] Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
2. Academic Subject Code AST
3. Course Number N190 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
4. Instructor AST Faculty
5. Course Title The Natural World

(Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): Fall 2006
7. Credit Hours: Fixed at 3.0 or Variable from ________ to ________
8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [ ] No [X]
9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [X] No [ ]

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication: Introduces students to the methods and logic of science, and helps them understand the importance of science to the development of civilization and the contemporary world. Provides a context within which to evaluate the important scientific and technological issues of modern society. Interdisciplinary elements.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at ________ or Variable from ________ to ________
12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at ________ or Variable from ________ to ________
13. Estimated enrollment: ________ of which ________ percent are expected to be graduate students.
14. Frequency of scheduling: every semester
15. Will this course be required for majors? N/A
16. Justification for new course: One of four courses in campus-wide general education "common core"
17. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? Yes
18. If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant.
19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by: [Signature] Date 10/19/04

[Signature] Date 12/10/04

Approved by: [Signature]

Dean

[Signature]

Chancellor/Vice-President

[Signature]

University Enrollment Services

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724 University Enrollment Services Final—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow; Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
Indiana University South Bend

Memorandum

To: Academic Senate Curriculum Committee
From: Jerry Hinnefeld, Chair, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy
Date: July 1, 2006
Subject: AST-N190 New Course Request

Attached is a New Course Request, originally prepared about twenty months ago, for the astronomy version of the Common Core course, *The Natural World*. The request seems to have stalled in December of 2004 due to the absence of a sample syllabus. It took some time for the paperwork to find its way back to our department, since it was one of many submitted together in support of the new campus-wide general education curriculum.

You may notice that the route sheet accompanying this New Course Request is actually a photocopy. The original (along with other original paperwork) was lost sometime after I re-submitted the paperwork to the CLAS Curriculum Committee in February of this year. I have therefore also attached the minutes of the Dec. 10, 2004 meeting of the CLAS Curriculum Committee, which documents the approval of this course, along with many other versions of *The Natural World*, by that committee. The paperwork I submitted in February seems now to be lost.

The delay in securing approval of this course presents a bit of a problem, since I have been planning on converting our scheduled AST-A100 The Solar System in Fall 2006 into a section of AST-N190 The Natural World (with the subtitle, "Worlds Outside Our Own"). In fact, AST-A100 carries this notation in OneStart -- "WILL CONVERT TO AST-N190 WHEN THIS COURSE NUMBER IS APPROVED". It may well be that many of the students in this section are expecting to take it as AST-N190 as part of the new general education requirements. For this reason I ask you to take the unusual step of convening during the summer – as soon as possible, in fact – in order to deal with this very routine new course request. If your committee approves this course in early July and forwards it to the Office of Academic Affairs, it will still be possible to clear the 30-day remonstrance period in time for the Fall 2006 semester.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your help in this matter.

cc: Linda Fritschner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
    Lynn Williams, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
    John McIntosh, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Minutes of the CLAS Curriculum Committee
December 10, 2004

Present: N. Karakatsanis, W. Knight, K. LaMar-Clark, L. Zynda

1. The committee approved a new course proposed by the Department of Computer and Information Sciences: CSCI-B583 Game Programming and Design.

2. The committee denied a request by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology to have SOC-S260/INFO-I202 designated as fulfilling the Science and Culture requirement for the B.A. degree. The judgment of the committee was that the course was concerned with technology instead of science as the committee members think of it. As such, the course did not seem to meet the criteria set out in the requirements adopted by the Division of Arts and Sciences back in the 1980s.

3. The committee approved a large collection of courses to be offered by CLAS to be used by students to complete various new General Education requirements coming into force for students entering in Fall 2005. The request for approval came from Joe Chaney, chair of the campus General Education Implementation Committee. Each department in the college had at least one course in the collection:

   Literary and Intellectual Traditions:
   ENG-T 190 and ENG-T 390
   CMLT-T 190 and CMLT-T 390
   FREN-T 190 and FREN-T 390
   GER-T 190 and GER-T 390
   SPAN-T 190 and SPAN-T 390
   HIST-T 190 and HIST-T 390
   PHIL-T 190 and PHIL-T 390

   The Natural World
   AST-N 190 and AST-N 390
   BIOL-N 190 and BIOL-N 390
   CHEM-N 190 and CHEM-N 390
   CSCI-N 190 and CSCI-N 390
   GEOL-N 190 and GEOL-N 390
   MATH-N 190 and MATH-N 390
   PHYS-N 190 and PHYS-N 390

   Human Behavior and Social Institutions
   ANTH-B 190 and ANTH-B 390
   GEOG-B 190 and GEOG-B 390
   POLS-B 190 and POLS-B 390
   PSY-B 190 and PSY-B 390
   SOC-B 190 and SOC-B 390
   WOST-B 190 and WOST-B 390

W. Knight, Chair of the Committee
AST N190: Worlds Outside Our Own

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Henry P. Scott, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy, IUSB

Contact: E-mail is the best way to get ahold of me outside of class or office hours. I prefer that you use my IUSB email address (hpscott@iusb.edu); please provide a meaningful subject line starting with the course number (e.g. AST N190: Homework Question). I will hold official office hours on Tues. and Wed. from 10:00 - 11:15 AM, but I am more than happy to schedule additional time. You are also welcome to just-stop by, and unless I’ve got a deadline approaching I will do my best to help you. My office is 345 Northside Hall and my number is 520-5527.

Course Description (3 cr, prerequisite of M014): In this course we will look at planetary bodies, including Earth. Although we will note systematic similarities, we will focus on the unusual features that make them "worlds" in their own right. Major topics will include: historical background; formation of the Sun, planetary material and planets; planetary interiors, surfaces and atmospheres; and life. We will also discuss social and political issues such as the priority we should place on exploring the Solar System considering competing needs for our limited resources.


Course Requirements and Evaluation: Your grade will be based on peer-reviewed writing exercises (40%), exams (40%), quizzes (10%) and a group project with presentation (10%). There will be four exams, including the Final, which will be equally weighted. I will drop the lowest of the first three exams; note that the final is required and cannot be a dropped score. Missed exams cannot be made up unless you have a documented emergency and will otherwise count as your dropped score. Quizzes may be given in-class or as take home exercises (A.K.A. homework). Quizzes may also not be made up unless you have a documented emergency. You are expected to attend class and participate in discussions.

Although I will do my best to make in-class announcements available online, you are responsible for all announcements made in class. Similarly, although I will make most of my lecture slides available online, you are responsible for all class and reading material regardless of whether or not it is covered in the slides.

Written Assignments: All written assignments must be typed, in your own words and should reflect a synthesis of information you’ve gathered: not merely a reproduction of a particular reference. Plagiarized text will not be tolerated.

Writing assignments will typically involve two components: 1) submission of your essay, and 2) a peer review of the writing of one of your classmates. On the next class period after writing assignments are collected I will randomly redistribute them amongst the class; by the next class period you will submit both the writing assignment from your classmate and a typed review of their work. It is essential that your review contain constructive criticism, be written in a positive manner and be respectful to the author. Your peer review should comment on the writing style, persuasiveness of the arguments, and a reflection of how
the writing has affected your opinion regarding the topic.

You are required to maintain a "journal" containing your writing assignments and peer reviews (the reviews you've received; your classmate's journals will contain the reviews you've written); your grade for the writing assignment portion of the course will be based on the overall quality of your journal. You are also required to maintain electronic copies of both your writing assignments and peer reviews; this will act as a backup in the event that you or one of your classmates loses his journal. If you are not present on the day that essays are distributed for review you will not receive credit for the assignment; I will drop one writing assignment from your average to accommodate an absence.

**Field Observations:** You are expected to make yourself aware of the night sky during the semester. There will be writing assignments dealing with simple observations you can make with your unaided eye, such as positions of major planets, moon positions and phases, sunrise and sunset, etc. You will be expected to take notes regarding what you observe and submit written descriptions.

**Group Project:** The class will be broken into eight groups of three students for the final project, and each group will make 15 minute oral presentations during the last week of class on a current topic in planetary science. I will randomly choose the members of each group. This will require library research, and you are expected to find articles from reputable publications (e.g. Discover, Scientific American, etc. or peer-reviewed scientific journals).

In addition to the presentation, a written summary (~3 pages) of the project must be submitted on behalf of the group including references and a short description of each member's contribution. All members of a particular group will receive the same grade for the project unless it is clear that a member has not made an equal contribution.

**Tentative Schedule:** A tentative schedule of lecture and discussion topics is posted online; however, this will almost certainly change as we make our way through the semester. Check the online schedule frequently to see the latest incarnation.

**Grading Scale:** Letter grades will be given based on the following scale: 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, and <60% = F. The designation of +/- may be added to the final grade at my discretion. Extra credit will not be available.

**Academic Integrity:** I follow the guidelines for the Student Code of Conduct in terms of academic dishonesty, i.e. No Cheating!

**Accommodations:** Any student who feels that an accommodation may be needed based on the impact of a disability should contact Disabled Student Services at 520-4135 in office 148 of the Administration Building. Staff will work to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.