

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST

## Office of Academic Affairs

### Interdepartmental Communication

TO: Alfred Guillame, Jr., Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

FROM: Gilbert W. Atnip *GWA*  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

SUBJ: Activation of Course(s) at IU Southeast

DATE: November 19, 2008

The new course requests below are recommended for approval by Indiana University Southeast. Copies of the request forms are attached.

**PHIL-P          495          Senior Proseminar in Philosophy**

In accordance with the procedures for curriculum development, if there are no remonstrances received in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at IU Southeast by **December 19, 2008**, these requests will be forwarded to the Office of University Enrollment Services for recording.

refk

cc: Annette Wyandotte  
George Harvey

Attachments

Activation  
New Course Request

Indiana University

ACTIVATE  
SOUTHEAST Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes: Undergraduate credit  Graduate credit  Professional credit

1. School/Division ARTS & LETTERS 2. Academic Subject Code PHIL-P

3. Course Number 495 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services) 4. Instructor \_\_\_\_\_

5. Course Title SENIOR PROSEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY

Recommended Abbreviation (Optional) FALL'09  
(Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): FALL'09

7. Credit Hours: Fixed at \_\_\_\_\_ or Variable from 1 to 4

8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR PHILOSOPHY MAJORS IN THEIR SENIOR YEAR OF STUDY. THE PROSEMINAR WILL CONCENTRATE ON ISSUE(S) AND FIGURE(S) SELECTED BY STUDENTS WITH FACULTY INVOLVED. THE EMPHASIS WILL BE ON THE PREPARATION, PRESENTATION AND FORMAL DISCUSSION OF PAPERS.

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 3rd Sem. Will this course be required for majors? YES

15. Justification for new course: COURSE MAKES PARTICIPATION IN SENIOR COLLOQUIUM MANDATORY

16. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? YES

17. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.

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 11-10-08  
Department Chairman/Division Director

Approved by: [Signature] 11/18/08  
[Signature] Date 11-10-08  
Dean

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Dean of Graduate School (when required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor/Vice-President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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.

Date: November 14, 2008  
To: Gilbert Atnip, Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs  
From: George Harvey, Philosophy Program Coordinator  
Re: Proposed Program Changes in Philosophy

*Activation of P495 – Senior Proseminar*

The Philosophy faculty propose adding a required senior capstone course to the BA in Philosophy. We request approval to use the course PHIL-P 495, Senior Proseminar in Philosophy, which is currently taught at IU South Bend, for this purpose.

The Senior Proseminar will be the capstone event for students completing the B.A. program. It will culminate in a Colloquium in late April each year, at which graduating students give presentations on topics of their choosing. A Colloquium has been held for several years, but student participation has been voluntary. We will build on the success of this effort in developing and offering the required Proseminar. The setting and parameters of the presentations will be similar in most important respects to the kinds of presentations done at professional conferences. In participating in the Proseminar and presenting at the Colloquium, then, the student not only has an opportunity to share his scholarly interests with his or her colleagues, but also, in the preparation of a conference length presentation, the student is given the opportunity to develop his or her best work, which can be presented at other conferences (there are many graduate- and undergraduate-level philosophy conferences nationwide) and be used as a writing sample in graduate school applications.

As a capstone event, the Proseminar will also be the focus of a major component of the program's assessment efforts, as a successful presentation would require students to apply their competencies in research, writing, and oral communication. In principle, the presentations given at the Colloquium should provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate the extent to which they have developed in these areas. In turn, the Colloquium gives the program an opportunity to assess the high points of student proficiency under almost ideal circumstances.

The course will require the student to work under the advice and direction of a full-time faculty member to select an appropriate topic, conduct scholarly research, and draft and edit the work to be presented. Much of the work will be conducted independently by the student with the faculty member's guidance. Students would be required to take the course in the year prior to graduation so that students can present their work in the last spring *prior to* graduation.