**Potter College of Arts & Letters**

**Western Kentucky University**

**745-2345**

**REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

Date: November 19, 2013

The Potter College of Arts & Letters submits the following items for consideration:

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| --- | --- |
| **Type of Item** | **Description of Item & Contact Information** |
| Information | **Proposal to Create a Temporary Course**  THEA 349 Honors: Sex, Power, and Performance  Contact: Carol Jordan, [carol.jordan@wku.edu](mailto:carol.jordan@wku.edu), 5-8942 |

Proposal Date: 9-24-13

**Potter College of Arts & Letters**

**Department of Theatre & Dance**

**Proposal to Create a Temporary Course**

**(Information Item)**

Contact Person: Carol Jordan, [carol.jordan@wku.edu](mailto:carol.jordan@wku.edu), (270) 745-8942

1. **Identification of proposed course:**
   1. Course prefix (subject area) and number: THEA 349
   2. Course title: Honors: Sex, Power and Performance
   3. Abbreviated course title: Hon: Sex, Power and Perf
   4. Credit hours: 3.0
   5. Schedule type: Seminar
   6. Prerequisites/corequisites: Sophomore standing. Good standing in the Honors College or Honors eligibility (minimum 3.2 GPA).
   7. Grade type: \_X\_ standard letter grade \_\_\_\_ pass/fail \_\_\_\_in progress (IP)
   8. Course description: An exploration of how theatrical performance has been used in different contexts to reinforce or challenge societal ideas of power, sexuality and gender.
2. **Rationale**
   1. Reason for offering this course on a temporary basis: We were asked to offer an upper level honors seminar in theatre this spring, but our existing Topics in Theatre class has prerequisites that make it difficult for non-theatre majors to enroll. We hope that by creating the temporary course we can provide an in-depth theatre seminar accessible to all honors students.
   2. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other academic units: While the English department has offered upper-level seminars focused on dramatic literature in the past, they have not offered courses in that area recently, and no other department is currently offering a seminar focused on the political and social implications of playwriting and performance as they relate to gender, sexuality and power.
3. **Description of proposed course**
   1. Course content outline: The course will be broken into four units:

* Sex and War: Gender Roles in Conflict
* Social Norms and Sexual Charades: Sexuality and Political Theatre
* Outsiders in Power: The Politics of Sexual Difference
* Sexual Immorality and Political Corruption
  1. Tentative text(s):

Aristophanes. *Lysistrata*. *Four Plays by Aristophanes*. Trans. Douglass Parker. New York:

Meridian, 1964. Print.

Genet, Jean. *The Balcony*. Trans. Bernard Frechtman. New York: Grove Press, 1966. Print.

Kushner, Tony. *Angels in America.* New York: Theatre Communications Group, 1995. Print.

Masteroff, Joe, John Kander and Fred Ebb. *Cabaret*. New York: Newmarket Press, 1999. Print.

Namboku, Tsuruya. *The Scarlet Princess of Edo*. *Kabuki: Five Classic Plays*. Trans. James R. Brandon. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1975. Print.

Nottage, Lynn. *Ruined*. New York: Dramatists Play Service, 2010. Print.

Schiller, Friedrich. *Mary Stuart*. *Don Carlos and Mary Stuart*. Trans. Hilary Collier Sy-Quia and Peter Oswald. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996. Print.

Shakespeare, William. *Measure for Measure*. *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 1993. Web. <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/measure/index.html>

1. **Second offering of a temporary course (if applicable)**
   1. Reason for offering this course a second time on a temporary basis:
   2. Term course was first offered:
   3. Enrollment in first offering:
2. **Term of Implementation:** Spring 2014
3. **Dates of review/approvals:**

Department of Theatre & Dance September 26, 2013

Dean, Potter College of Arts & Letters September 30, 2013

**Attachment: Course Inventory Form**