**Western Kentucky University**

**745-2345**

**REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

Date: April 23, 2015

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of Item** | **Description of Item & Contact Information** |
| Action | **Proposal to Make Multiple Revisions to a Course**  ENG 409 Practicum in One-to-One Writing Instruction  Contact: Jane Fife, [jane.fife@wku.edu](mailto:jane.fife@wku.edu), 5-3634 |
| Action | **Proposal to Create a New Course**  HIST 330 History of Africa before 1500  Contact: Selena Sanderfer, [selena.sanderfer@wku.edu](mailto:selena.sanderfer@wku.edu), 5-4739  Contact: John Hardin, [john.hardin@wku.edu](mailto:john.hardin@wku.edu), 5-2233 |
| Action | **Proposal to Create a New Course**  HIST 331 History of Africa since 1500  Contact: Selena Sanderfer, [selena.sanderfer@wku.edu](mailto:selena.sanderfer@wku.edu), 5-4739  Contact: John Hardin, [john.hardin@wku.edu](mailto:john.hardin@wku.edu), 5-2233 |

Proposal Date: 3/16/15

**Potter College of Arts & Letters**

**Department of English**

**Proposal to Make Multiple Revisions to a Course**

**(Action Item)**

Contact Person: Jane Fife, [jane.fife@wku.edu](mailto:jane.fife@wku.edu), 270-745-3634

**1. Identification of course:**

* 1. Current course prefix (subject area) and number: ENG409
  2. Course title: Practicum in One-to-One Writing Instruction

**2. Revise course title:**

* 1. Current course title: n/a
  2. Proposed course title: n/a
  3. Proposed abbreviated title: n/a
  4. Rationale for revision of course title: n/a

**3. Revise course number:**

* 1. Current course number: n/a
  2. Proposed course number: n/a
  3. Rationale for revision of course number: n/a

**4. Revise course prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements:**

4.1 Current prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements: (indicate which) n/a

4.2 Proposed prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements: n/a

4.3 Rationale for revision of course prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements: n/a

4.4 Effect on completion of major/minor sequence: n/a

**5. Revise course catalog listing:**

* 1. Current course catalog listing: n/a
  2. Proposed course catalog listing: n/a
  3. Rationale for revision of course catalog listing: n/a

**6. Revise course credit hours:**

* 1. Current course credit hours: 0
  2. Proposed course credit hours: 1
  3. Rationale for revision of course credit hours: The course had originally been 1-

credit hour along with ENG 509 which is the version that all our graduate assistants take to be able to tutor in the Writing Center to fulfill their assistantship during their first year. When the University started charging graduate students per credit hour, we changed the course to zero credits so that students would not have to pay for training that was required for them to do their jobs. We changed the undergraduate tutor training course to be consistent. Some undergraduates have been taking the course less seriously since they do not get credit or a grade for it, so we want to restore the 1-credit status. The graduate course will not be changed since the context for those students is different and the credit and grade are not as necessary for encouraging fulfillment of requirements.

**7.** **Revise grade type:**

7.1 Current grade type: no grade

7.2 Proposed grade type: standard letter

7.3 Rationale for revision of grade type: This change is necessary to accompany the change from zero credit back to 1-credit for the course. When it was changed to zero-credit, no grade was used. In order to motivate better work in students, the standard letter grade accompanying the 1-credit hour is desirable.

**8. Proposed term for implementation: Fall 2015**

**9. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Department of English\_ | **March 16, 2015** |
| Potter College Curriculum Committee | **4/2/2105** |
| Professional Education Council (if applicable) | **NA** |
| General Education Committee (if applicable) | **NA** |
| Undergraduate Curriculum Committee |  |
| University Senate |  |

Proposal Date: 3/24/2015

**Potter College of Arts & Letters**

**History Department**

**Proposal to Create a New Course**

**(Action Item)**

Contact Person: Selena Sanderfer, selena.sanderfer@wku.edu, (270) 745-4739

John Hardin, john.hardin@wku.edu, (270) 745-2233

**1.** **Identification of proposed course:**

* 1. Course prefix (subject area) and number: HIST 330
  2. Course title: History of Africa before 1500
  3. Abbreviated course title: African history before 1500   
     (maximum of 30 characters or spaces)
  4. Credit hours: 3.0 Variable credit (yes or no) No
  5. Grade type: Standard Letter Grade
  6. Prerequisites/corequisites: HIST 101 or HIST 102
  7. Course description: Examines African history chronologically from the origins of humanity to 1500 with emphasis on major political, economic, cultural and geographical themes within a regional context.

**2. Rationale:**

* 1. Reason for developing the proposed course: This course in being offered in response to faculty and students who have expressed concern regarding the number of courses offered on African history. Currently the History Department only has one course on African history, HIST 360 – History of Africa, which is cross listed in the African American Studies Program AFAM 360. The course covers African history in its entirety from prehistoric times to the present. This course however, has proven difficult for both students and professors because of the large amount of content covered. If approved, HIST 360 – History of Africa will be deleted and replaced by two chronological courses covering African history. HIST 330 – History of Africa before 1500 will be the first of the two new chronological survey courses. In order to advance the University mission by preparing students to become global citizens, who are socially responsible and cognizant of the historical contexts affecting minorities, regions, and peoples around the world, the History Department must expand its course offerings on areas outside of Europe and the United States. In HIST 330 students will learn about topics in African history such as geography, physical anthropology, linguistics, Stone Age cultures, ancient and medieval kingdoms, and the influence of religious cultures such as Islam and Christianity. WKU students pursuing careers in education may be required to teach topics in world history, therefore teachers with more in depth knowledge of African history will be at an advantage. If WKU students are too be effective teachers in an increasingly competitive market, it is paramount that they be given the opportunities to study such topics. HIST 360 - History of Africa continues to have high enrollment numbers and the level of student interest in another more comprehensive history course on Africa has been judged by the History Department to warrant a permanent course offering.
  2. Projected enrollment in the proposed course: The projected enrollment for this course is approximately 30 students during the semester the course is offered. This projection is based upon informal surveys in history classes such as HIST 360, HIST 358 and HIST 359. Students not majoring in history or social studies are expected to enroll. Interested students may include those in the African American Studies Program and the Folk Studies and Anthropology Program.
  3. Relationship of the proposed course to courses now offered by the department: The History Department currently offers one course on the history of Africa, HIST 360, which if approved, will be deleted and replaced by two chronological survey courses. HIST 330 History of Africa before 1500 will be the first of the two new courses. It will complement other courses offered in the department that partially cover topics related to the African Diaspora including HIST 358 Blacks in US History before 1877, HIST 390 Blacks in the American South, and HIST 310 Comparative Slavery. The proposed course will also offer a more nuanced investigation into Africa’s regional diversity than any of the above mentioned course offerings.
  4. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other departments: There are no similar courses offered at WKU outside of the History Department that examine specifically the topic of African history before 1500. Courses that address related topics include FLK350 Peoples and Cultures of Africa and RELS 324 Christianity in Africa. HIST 330 is also related to PS 260 African Governance and Politics and GEOG 466 Geography of Africa. HIST 330 will help to correct the dearth of courses specifically on precolonial Africa offered by the University. If approved, it will also be a crossed listed course in the African American Studies Minor.
  5. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other institutions: Nationally numerous top research universities offer multiple courses on African history as a basic part of their course offerings. Universities that offer survey courses on the early part of African history include University of Virginia HIAF 201 Early African History through the Era of the Slave Trade, University of Connecticut HIST 3752 History of Pre-Colonial Africa, University of Oregon HIST 410 Ancient Africa, and The Ohio State University HIST 551 Africa before Colonial Rule. Courses on early African history are also offered at campuses in the Southeast including Emory University HIST 364 African Civilizations to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and The College of William and Mary HIST 282 Medieval African History. A few universities within the state of Kentucky offer similar courses on early periods in African history including Northern Kentucky University HIS 335 History of Ancient Africa, Eastern Kentucky University HIS 385:  Early African History, and Kentucky State University AAS 365 African History to 1870. Although numerous institutions offer general surveys on African history by using multiple chronological courses, WKU still only offers one course to cover all of African history from prehistoric times to the present. In following broader trends in the history discipline that take a more complex examination of African history, offering a course on the history of Africa before 1500 will familiarize WKU students with these growing subfields and help them keep pace with a changing job market.

**3. Discussion of proposed course:**

* 1. Schedule type: S: This course will be a seminar that uses group discussion and exchange of information meeting 2-3 times weekly.
  2. Learning Outcomes: After successfully completing this course students should be able to:
* Understand the major themes and events that shaped early African history
* Analyze seminal readings written by Africans
* Investigating Africa’s place and interaction in the prehistoric, ancient and medieval worlds
* Evaluate current trends within the historiography
* Pursue advanced study on relevant topics related to early African history using primary and secondary source analysis
* Identify major geographic features of Africa
* Identify major political states in ancient and medieval Africa
* Effectively communicate their ideas in oral and written formats
  1. Content outline:

African Geography

Origins of Humanity and Physical Anthropology

Prehistoric Cultures and Technology

Linguistics

Africans in the Greek and Roman Empires

Ancient Kush

Ancient Meroe

Ancient Kemet

Ancient Aksum

Historiography and Oral Traditions

Indigenous African Religion

Indian Ocean Slave Trade

Trans-Saharan Slave Trade

The Spread of Christianity

The Spread of Islam

West African Forest Kingdoms

West African Kingdoms and Medieval Kingdoms

Great Zimbabwe

Africans in Renaissance Europe

* 1. Student expectations and requirements: This course utilizes three types of separate writing assignments requiring a minimum total of 20 pages.

The three types of assignments include:

* Book review requiring students to offer relevant criticism of historical monographs and secondary sources on early African history
* Historiography requiring students to become familiar with the historical literature on a topic in early African history
* Reading Response requiring students to succinctly summarize main arguments of historical monographs and secondary sources

This course requires two types of oral assignments. The two types of assignments include:

* Discussion leader requiring students to formulate questions on assigned readings and facilitate in class discussion on topics covered
* Discussion Participation requiring students to articulate and communicate their ideas orally
  1. Tentative texts and course materials:

Ruth Swann*, A History of Black Africans to A.D. 1400*

D.T. Niane, ed. *Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali*

Basil Davidson, *The African Genius*

Robert O. Collins, ed., *Documents from the African Past*

Paul Bohannan and Philip Curtin, *Africa and Africans*

James L. Newman, *The Peopling of Africa: A Geographic Introduction*

Thomas T. Spear, *Kenya's Past: An Introduction to Historical Method in Africa*

Graham Connah, *African Civilizations: Precolonial Cities and States in Tropical Africa: An Archaeological Perspective*

George M. James, *Stolen Legacy*

Martin Bernal, *Black Athena*

Isabel Hofmeyr, *We Spend Our Years As a Tale That Is Told*

Michel-Rolph Trouillot, *Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*

Jan Vansina, *Oral Tradition As History*

Susan Raven, *Rome in Africa*

Cheikh Anta Diop, *The African Origin of Civilization: Myth or Reality*

Martin Bernal, *Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization*

Roland Oliver and Brian Fagan, *Africa in the Iron Age: c.500 B.C. to A.D. 1400*

James H. Vaughan and Anthony H. M. Kirk-Greene, editors, *The Diary of Hamman Yaji: Chronicle of a West African Muslim Ruler*

Ralph Austen, *Trans-Saharan Africa in World History*

Randall Pouwells, *Student Study Guide to The African and Middle Eastern World, 600-1500*

Robin Walker, *When We Ruled: The Ancient and Mediaeval History of Black Civilisations*

Patricia McKissack Frederick McKissack, *The Royal Kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhay: Life in Medieval Africa*

Ivan van Sertima*, They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America*

**4. Resources:**

* 1. Library resources: Existing resources are sufficient
  2. Computer resources: Existing resources are sufficient

**5. Budget implications:**

* 1. Proposed method of staffing: Current staffing is adequate for projected enrollment. An increase in course enrollment may require additional personnel in the future.
  2. Special equipment needed: None
  3. Expendable materials needed: None
  4. Laboratory materials needed: None

**6. Proposed term for implementation:** Fall 2015

**7. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| History Department | 2/27/2015 |
| Potter College Curriculum Committee | **4/2/2105** |
| Professional Education Council (if applicable) | **NA** |
| General Education Committee (if applicable) | **NA** |
| Undergraduate Curriculum Committee |  |
| University Senate |  |

Proposal Date: 3/24/2015

**Potter College of Arts & Letters**

**History Department**

**Proposal to Create a New Course**

**(Action Item)**

Contact Person: Selena Sanderfer, selena.sanderfer@wku.edu, (270) 745-4739

John Hardin, john.hardin@wku..edu, (270) 745-2233

**1.** **Identification of proposed course:**

* 1. Course prefix (subject area) and number: HIST 331
  2. Course title: History of Africa since 1500
  3. Abbreviated course title: African History since 1500  
     (maximum of 30 characters or spaces)
  4. Credit hours: 3.0 Variable credit (yes or no) No
  5. Grade type: Standard Letter Grade
  6. Prerequisites/corequisites: HIST 101 or HIST 102
  7. Course description: Examines African history chronologically from 1500 to the present with emphasis on major political, economic, social, and geographical themes within a regional context.

**2. Rationale:**

* 1. Reason for developing the proposed course: This course in being offered in response to faculty and students who have expressed concern regarding the number of courses offered on African history. Currently the History Department only has one course on African history, HIST 360 – History of Africa, which is cross listed in the African American Studies Program AFAM 360. This course covers African history in its entirety from prehistoric times to the present. This course however, has proven difficult for both students and professors because of the large amount of content covered. If approved, HIST 360 – History of Africa will be deleted and replaced by two chronological courses covering African history. HIST 331 – History of Africa since 1500 will be the second of the two new chronological African history courses. In order to advance the University mission by preparing students to become global citizens, who are socially responsible and cognizant of the historical contexts affecting minorities, regions, and peoples around the world, the History Department must expand its course offerings on areas outside of Europe and the United States. In HIST 331 students will learn about topics in African history including but not limited to the Atlantic Slave Trade, conquest and colonialism, Pan-Africanism, independence movements, and African political economy. WKU students pursuing careers in education may be required to teach topics in world history, and therefore teachers with more in depth knowledge of African history will be at an advantage. If WKU students are too be effective teachers in an increasingly competitive market, it is paramount that they be given the opportunities to study such topics. HIST 360 - History of Africa continues to have high enrollment numbers and the level of student interest in another more comprehensive history course on Africa has been judged by the History Department to warrant a permanent course offering.
  2. Projected enrollment in the proposed course: The projected enrollment for this course is approximately 30 students during the semester the course is offered. This projection is based upon informal surveys in history classes such as HIST 360, HIST 358 and HIST 359. Students not majoring in history or social studies are expected to enroll. Interested students may include those in the African American Studies Program and the Folk Studies and Anthropology Program.
  3. Relationship of the proposed course to courses now offered by the department: The History Department currently offers one course on the history of Africa, HIST 360, which if approved, will be deleted and replaced by two chronological survey courses. HIST 331 History of Africa since 1500 will be the second of the two proposed courses to replace HIST 360. It will complement other courses offered in the department that partially cover topics related to the African Diaspora including HIST 358 Blacks in US History before 1877, HIST 359 Blacks in US History after 1877, HIST 390 Blacks in the American South, AND HIST 310 Comparative Slavery. The proposed course will offer a more nuanced investigation into Africa’s regional diversity.
  4. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other departments: There are no similar courses offered at WKU outside of the History Department that examine specifically the topic of African history since 1500. Courses that address related topics include FLK 350 Peoples and Cultures of Africa and RELS 324 Christianity in Africa. HIST 331 is also related to PS 260 African Governance and Politics and GEOG 466 Geography of Africa. HIST 331 will help to correct the dearth of courses specifically on modern Africa offered by the University. If approved, it will also be a crossed listed course in the African American Studies Minor.
  5. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other institutions: Nationally numerous top research universities offer multiple courses on African history as a basic part of their course offerings. Universities that offer survey courses on the modern era in African history include University of Notre Dame HIST 10061 History of Modern Africa, University of Texas, Austin HIS 310 Introduction To Modern Africa, Westminster College HIST 326 African History Since 1500, and Colgate University 282 The Making of Modern Africa. Courses on modern African history are also offered at campuses in the Southeast including Vanderbilt University HIST 127 Sub-Saharan Africa: 1400-1800, Vanderbilt University HIST 128 Africa since 1800: The Revolutionary Years, Emory University HIST 365 Africa In The Modern World, and Tulane University HISB 1310: Africa since 1880. A few universities within the state of Kentucky offer similar courses on modern African history including Northern Kentucky University HIS 336 History of Modern Africa, Eastern Kentucky University HIS 386:  Modern African History, and Kentucky State University AAS 366 African History from 1870. Although other institutions offer general surveys on African history by using multiple chronological courses, WKU still only offers one course to cover all of African history from prehistoric times to the present. In following broader trends in the history discipline that take a more complex examination of African history, offering a course on the history of Africa before 1500 will familiarize WKU students with these growing subfields and help them keep pace with a changing job market.

**3. Discussion of proposed course:**

* 1. Schedule type: S: This course will be a seminar that uses group discussion and exchange of information meeting 2-3 times weekly.
  2. Learning Outcomes: After successfully completing this course students should be able to:
* Understand the major themes and events that shaped modern African history
* Analyze seminal readings written by Africans
* Understand the interrelationship between political, economic, cultural, ethnic and religious issues in defining the history of African states and societies
* Evaluate current trends within the historiography
* Pursue advanced study on relevant topics related to modern African history using primary and secondary source analysis
* Identify major political states in Africa
* Understand the historical context of current issues affecting Africa
* Effectively communicate their ideas in oral and written formats
  1. Content outline:

Historiography and Oral Traditions

Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

African Diaspora

Pan Africanism

Ecology

Conquest and Resistance

Maji Maji Rebellion

Mau Mau Rebellion

Ethiopia and the Battle of Adwa

Industrialization

Colonialism

Settler vs. Non Settler Societies

Post-colonialism

Ethnicity and Politics

Neocolonialism

African Nationalism

The rise and fall of African dictatorships

Apartheid

Ethnicity and genocide

Independence Movements

South Africa

Ghana

Democratic Republic of the Congo

* 1. Student expectations and requirements:
  2. This course utilizes four types of separate writing assignments requiring a minimum total of 25 pages.

The four types of assignments include:

* Book review requiring students to offer relevant criticism of historical monographs and secondary sources on modern African history
* Historiography requiring students to become familiar with the historical literature on a topic in modern African history
* Research paper requiring students to use primary sources to make an original argument and contribution to the study of Africa
* Reading Response requiring students to succinctly summarize main arguments of historical monographs and secondary sources

This course requires three types of oral assignments. The three types of assignments include:

* Discussion leader requiring students to formulate questions on assigned readings and facilitate in class discussion on topics covered
* Discussion participation requiring students to articulate and communicate their ideas orally
* Research presentation requiring students to present their original argument and contribution to the study of modern African history
  1. Tentative texts and course materials:

Buchi Emecheta, *The Joys of Motherhood*

Chinua Achebe, *Arrow of God*

William Freund*, The Making of Contemporary Africa*

Perry L. Kyles, Jalata Addisu, *Africa Since the Sixteenth Century*

Frederick Cooper*, Africa Since 1940*

Paul Lovejoy*, Transformations in Slavery*

Adu Boahen*, African Perspectives on Colonialism*

Robert O. Collins, ed*., Historical Problems of Imperial Africa*

Roland Oliver and Anthony Atmore*, The African Middle Ages, 1400-1800*

Elizabeth A. Eldredge, *Kingdoms and Chiefdoms of Southeastern*

Elizabeth A. Eldredge*, Africa: Oral Traditions and History, 1400-1830*

John Thornton, *Warfare in Atlantic Africa, 1500-1800*

John Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World, 1400-1800*

William H. Worger, Nancy L. Clark, Edward A. Alpers*, Africa and the West: A Documentary History, Vol. 1: From the Slave Trade to Conquest, 1441-1905*

Kwasi Konadu*, Transatlantic Africa: 1440-1888*

Constance Jones, *Africa 1500-1900*

Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost*

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

Vijay Mahajan, *Africa Rising*

Thomas Pakenham, *The Scramble for Africa*

Alan Paton*, Cry the Beloved Country*

John Reader, *Africa: A Biography of the Continent*

Philip Curtin*, Disease and Empire*

Caroline Elkins*, Imperial Reckonings*

Marie Beatrice Umutesi, *Surviving the Slaughter*

**4. Resources:**

* 1. Library resources: Existing resources are sufficient
  2. Computer resources: Existing resources are sufficient

**5. Budget implications:**

* 1. Proposed method of staffing: Current staffing is adequate for projected enrollment. An increase in course enrollment may require additional personnel in the future.
  2. Special equipment needed: None
  3. Expendable materials needed: None
  4. Laboratory materials needed: None

**6. Proposed term for implementation:**  Fall 2015

**7. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| History Department | 2/27/2015 |
| Potter College Curriculum Committee | **4/2/2105** |
| Professional Education Council (if applicable) | **NA** |
| General Education Committee (if applicable) | **NA** |
| Undergraduate Curriculum Committee |  |
| University Senate |  |