

WCL - 3348 - Enlightenment Stories
3d. UH Core - Create New Course and add to Core (UGRD only)

1. Course Ownership/Implementation/Justification

Department* World Cultures and Literatures

Required Approval Steps*

- Undergraduate Studies Department Committee Review
- Undergraduate Studies Department Chair/Program Director
- Undergraduate Studies College Curriculum Committee

Will the course be cross-listed with another area?*

- Yes
- No

If yes, has an agreement with department(s) been reached?

- Yes
- No

Department(s) and Course(s) that will be cross-listed with this course

Catalog year of implementation*

- 2016 - 2017
- 2017 - 2018

Term(s) Course will be TYPICALLY Offered:*

- Fall (including all sessions within term)
- Spring (including Winter Mini all sessions within term)
- Summer (including Summer Mini and all sessions within term)
- Contact Your Academic Advisor

Justification(s) for Adding Course*

a. Successfully taught as a selected topics course

Justification - if "other" selected above:

**State the rationale
for creating this
new course:***

Filling an important gap in the curriculum, 18th century European intellectual history.

2. Course Catalog Information

**Former Selected
Topics Course
Prefix (Rubric)**

WCL

**Former Selected
Topics Course
Code (Number)**

3397

**Former Selected
Topics Course
TOPIC TITLE**

Enlightenment Stories

**Instructional
Area/ Course
Prefix***

WCL

Course Number* 3348

**Long Course
Title***

Enlightenment Stories

**Short Course Title
(30 character
limit)***

Enlightenment Stories

Instruction Type*

Lecture ONLY

Lecture* 3

Lab* 0

Course Credit Level* Junior

Grade Option* Letter (A, B, C.....)

Can this course be repeated for credit?* Yes No

If Yes, how often and/or under what conditions may the course be repeated?

Number of credit hours required of this course in degree plan* 3.0

Number of course completions (attempts) allowed* 3

Are multiple enrollments allowed for course within a session or term?* Yes No

CIP Code* 16 .0104 .00

Prerequisite(s):* ENGL 1304 or equivalent

Corequisite(s)

Requisite Checks in PeopleSoft*

- Need to adjust requisite checks already in place - Begin enforcement Fall
- Need to adjust requisite checks already in place - Begin enforcement Spring
- Need to create requisite checks for course - Begin enforcement Fall
- Need to create requisite checks for course - Begin enforcement Spring
- No adjustment required - requisites not being changed
- No requisite check desired for course at this time

Course Description*

Survey of key 18th century European philosophers focusing on their novels, treatises, and dialogues. Along with primary texts, course also includes secondary sources. Research paper based on original sources is required.

Course Notes

3. Authorized Degree Program(s)/Impact Study

Is this a required course for any

- Yes - enter additional information in field below

program (degree, certificate, or minor)?* No

If yes, for which program(s)?

Does this change cause a change in any program?* Yes - attach copy of program plan
 No

If yes, to which program(s)?

Does this change force changes in prerequisites for other courses?* Yes - enter additional information in field below
 No

If yes, which course(s) and is a proposal being submitted to reflect the change?

4. Core Curriculum Information

Learning Outcomes*

- 1) To demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of writings in the 18th century
- 2) To respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
- 3) To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature and philosophy on intercultural experiences

Foundational Component Area for which the course is being proposed (select one)*

Language, Philosophy, & Culture

Component Area Option (optional)

Component Area Option (b): Writing in the Disciplines

Competency areas addressed by the course*

Communication Skills

Critical Thinking

Personal Responsibility

Social Responsibility

Critical Thinking, if applicable

This competency will be assessed based on the required research paper. Critical examination and analysis of primary sources and placing them in their relevant historical and intellectual context.

Research Paper will be between 12-15 pages excluding bibliography and end notes. Students will be continual contact with professor as they draft and revise their paper.

Communication Skills, if applicable

Students will demonstrate in their research paper that they can write cogently, concisely and clearly. The research paper assignment will be scaffolded and include bibliography, proposal, a full draft, and revision (final draft).

**Empirical &
Quantitative
Skills, if
applicable**

**Teamwork, if
applicable**

**Social
Responsibility, if
applicable**

In the research paper, students will demonstrate the ability to apply social principles, such as history, politics, communication, or religious beliefs of a group, on their understanding of behavior and decision making.

Personal

Responsibility, if applicable

In the research paper, students will evaluate and critique the consequences of ethical perspectives within a broader social context.

Will the syllabus vary across multiple sections of the course?*

Yes

No

If yes, list the assignments that will be constant across sections

5. Supporting Documentation

Type of Attachments*

Course Syllabus

Degree Plan

Memo

Other Document(s)

"Other" documents:

Paper assignment - sample topics

6. Additional Information Regarding This Proposal

Contact person for questions about proposal:* ***Other, not listed**

Comments: Contact person:
Prof. R. Zaretsky, MCL
rzaretsky@UH.EDU

Administrative Use Only

**(Administrative Use Only)
Proposal ID#**

WCL 3348 Enlightenment Stories
Robert Zaretsky
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Course Description: Survey of key 18th century European philosophers focusing on their novels, treatises, and dialogues. Along with primary texts, course also includes secondary sources. All readings in English.

Course Outcomes: In this course, students will

- 1) demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of writings in the 18th century
- 2) respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
- 3) demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature and philosophy on intercultural experiences

Requirements:

Term Paper:

First Draft: 30%

Final Draft: 30%

Class Participation: 40%

Calendar:

January 21: Introduction

January 26: On the Enlightenment and Enlighteners.

Readings: Excerpts from the *Encyclopédie* by Jean Le Rond d'Alembert and Denis Diderot

January 28: Voltaire and the Calas Affair

Readings: Voltaire, *Treatise on Tolerance*

February 2: "How can one be Persian?" A Foreigner Views France

Readings: Montesquieu, *The Persian Letters*

February 4: Montesquieu's France Continued

Readings: Montesquieu, *The Persian Letters*

February 9: How can one be civilized and happy?

Readings: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*

Paper Proposal Due

February 11: Rousseau Continued

- Readings: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*
- February 16: Rousseau Continued
Readings: Rousseau, *Second Discourse*
- February 18: Voltaire Takes Us to the Stars...
Readings: *Micromégas*
- February 23: ...and then to the Orient
Readings: *Zadig*
Short Bibliography Due
- February 25: Diderot Abroad at Home
Readings: *Supplement to the Voyage of Bougainville*
- March 2: Diderot Continued
Readings: *Supplement to the Voyage of Bougainville*
- March 4: Diderot and Raynal
Readings: *Histoire des Deux Indes*
- March 9: Diderot and Raynal Continued
Readings: *Histoire des Deux Indes*
- March 11: **Paper Drafts Due**
- March 16: Spring Break
- March 18: Spring Break
- March 23: Beyond Persia: Montesquieu's *L'Esprit des lois*
Readings: *The Spirit of the Laws* (excerpts)
- March 25: Montesquieu Continued
Readings: *The Spirit of the Laws* (excerpts)
- March 30: Enlightened Rulers (and the Enlighteners)
- April 1: Readings: Diderot in Russia
Readings: *Observations on the Nakaz*
- April 6: Diderot Continued
Readings: *Observations on the Nakaz*
- April 8: Observations on the Nature and Role of Women
Readings: Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
- April 13: Vindication Continued
Readings: Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*

April 15: And Now For Something Completely Different...
Readings: Diderot: *Rameau's Nephew*

April 20: Rameau Continued
Readings: Diderot: *Rameau's Nephew*

April 22: Term Paper Meetings

April 27: Term Paper Meetings

April 29: Term Paper Meetings

May 4: **Term Paper Due**

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Sample Research Paper Topics:

- **Compare and contrast the definition of human nature according to Jean-Jacques Rousseau and David Hume**
- **Choose two of the following media used by 18th century thinkers to reach their audiences and analyze the ways in they were used: letter-writing, dialogues, treatises, essays, and satire.**
- **In his seminal book Radical Enlightenment, Jonathan Israel argues that what we traditionally understand as the Enlightenment was, in fact, a pale ghost of what was first begun in the 17th century. Explain and critique his argument, using primary sources in your paper.**