REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue—why the issue is being considered:
The present name for the emphasis no longer reflects the multiplicity of disciplinary approaches, methodologies, and pedagogies practiced by department members. This change reflects a refining and enlarging of the current program and name, based on evolving curricular philosophies over more than ten years since the last major program change. During those ten years, there has been significant evolution in the faculty and staff who teach literature in our department.

Points Discussed by Committee:
1. The change in emphasis name will extend from literary texts to shifts in discipline and range of courses which currently require a waiver in order to count.
2. The change utilizes the expertise of faculty specializing in film studies as well as courses across different time periods and nationalities not currently included in the “Literature” emphasis.
3. The change in emphasis name—which now includes film—would not compete with the focus on film in Communication and Journalism. This emphasis would focus on film as text or an artifact rather than the communication of the film, which would be the focus in Communication and Journalism.
4. One of the film courses might become a service course for General Education. The change in emphasis will not jeopardize proposed liberal education offerings. The shift in emphasis would be more inclusive of current GE courses. The Department of English will be offering more seats in Liberal Education courses.
5. Social media would likely fall into the area of Rhetoric rather than Critical Studies.
6. The adequacy of the library holdings to support this emphasis is unknown.

Pros of Recommendation:
1. Utilizes expertise of existing faculty
2. Updates an emphasis to address current student needs by including courses currently outside the scope of the current emphasis
3. Transcends the current nationality and time-period restrictions of the current emphasis

Cons of Recommendation: None

Technology/Human Resource Impact:
None. The Department of English has existing faculty teaching existing courses. The new courses which will be proposed for the 2014-2015 catalog will be taught by current faculty and will have no impact on the ability of the Department of English to contribute to the General Education core. Rather, those courses will be offered in rotation with existing courses.

Committee Recommendation:
1. Rename the Literature emphasis (Code 540-206) within the Major: English, Liberal Arts to Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film (Code 540-2XX)
2. Rename the Literature emphasis (Code 540-407) within the Minor: English, Liberal Arts to Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film (Code 540-4XX)
MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The Academic Policies Committee,

by a vote of __9__ for to __0__ against on November 12, 2013

recommends that

1. the Literature emphasis (Code 540-206) within the Major: English, Liberal Arts be renamed to Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film (Code 540-2XX); and that

2. the Literature emphasis (Code 540-407) within the Minor: English, Liberal Arts be renamed to Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film (Code 540-4XX).

Implementation Date: 2014-2015 Catalog

Signed: ______Jean A. Pratt______
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office