Additions to the Catalog for proposed new course

Submitted by Janice Okoomian, March 31, 2017

# General Education

**Chair of the Committee on General Education**

James Magyar

General Information

The General Education Program is designed to provide students in all academic majors and professional programs with the knowledge and skills of a college-educated citizen. General Education approaches eleven learning outcomes through three core courses, seven distribution areas, a second language requirement, and writing in each of the disciplines. In the first year, First Year Writing provides a starting point for writing at all levels throughout the curriculum. Also in the first year, students choose from a large selection of intriguing topics with which to hone their skills in First Year Seminar. Connections courses, taken later in one’s program, again use a topical approach to strengthen academic skills. Writing in each discipline purposefully and explicitly develops student writing appropriate to the style and context of the individual discipline.

Recognizing the vast scope of knowledge available, Distribution courses allow students to choose courses in each area to advance professional goals, enhance personal interests, or explore new areas. One of these courses is a more advanced course that builds upon other General Education courses in science and mathematics to develop skills and understanding at a higher level.

Rhode Island College graduates also demonstrate knowledge of an additional language, demonstrated through the Second Language Requirement. The following sections provide more detailed information on General Education at the College.

Students who were enrolled at Rhode Island College before fall of 2012 are responsible for the requirements of the previous General Education program. The current version of that program is available at www.ric.edu/generaleducation/preSpring2012.php.

Core Courses

Courses

First Year Seminar (FYS)

FYS 100 is required in the freshman year, with sections on a wide variety of topics. Each section is discussion-based and focused on developing critical thinking, oral communication, research fluency, and written communication. FYS 100 will not be offered in the summer or the early spring sessions. Students who enter the college as transfer students are not considered first-year students and are exempt from this requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students

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| FYS 100 | First Year Seminar | 4 | F, Sp |

First Year Writing (FYW)

FYW 100 (or FYW 100P) is required in freshman year. Either course introduces students to college-level writing and helps them develop the writing skills needed for success in college courses. Successful completion of the course (a final grade of C or better) will also meet the College Writing Requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students for FYW 100 (four credit hours); courses are limited to fifteen students for FYW 100P (six credit hours).

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| FYW 100 | Introduction to Academic Writing | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| FYW 100P | Introduction to Academic Writing PLUS | 6 | F, Sp |

Connections (C)

Courses in the Connections category are upper-level courses on topics that emphasize comparative perspectives, such as across disciplines, across time, and across cultures. Students must complete the FYS 100 (p. ) and FYW 100 (p. )/FYW 100P (p. )/FYW 100H courses and must have earned at least 45 college credits before taking a Connections course. Connections courses cannot be included in any major or minor program.

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| AFRI 262 | Cultural Issues in Africana Studies | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| ANTH 262 | Indigenous Rights and the Global Environment | 4 | F, Sp |
| ANTH 265 | Anthropological Perspectives on Childhood | 4 | F, Sp |
| ANTH 266 | Anthropological and Indigenous Perspectives on Place | 4 | F, Sp |
| ART 261 | Art and Money | 4 | F |
| BIOL 261 | The World's Forests | 4 | F (even years) |
| COMM 261 | Issues in Free Speech | 4 | Annually |
| COMM 262 | Dialect: What We Speak | 4 | As needed |
| COMM 263 | East Asian Media and Popular Culture | 4 | Sp, Su |
| ENGL 261 | Arctic Encounters | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 262 | Women, Crime, and Representation | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 263 | Zen East and West | 4 | Sp (alternate years) |
| ENGL 265 | Women's Stories across Cultures | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 266 | Food Matters: The Rhetoric of Eating | 4 | Sp (alternate years) |
| ENGL 267 | Books that Changed American Culture | 4 | Alternate years |
| FILM 262 | Cross-Cultural Projections: Exploring Cinematic Representation | 4 | As needed |
| GED 262 | Native American Narratives | 4 | F, Sp |
| GED 263 | The Holocaust and Genocide | 4 | As needed |
| GED 264 | Multicultural Views: Same-Sex Orientation and Transsexuality | 4 | F, Sp |
| GED 265 | Disability Viewed Through Cross-Cultural Lenses | 4 | F, Sp |
| GED 268 | Bullying Viewed from Multicultural Lifespan Perspectives | 4 | F, Sp |
| GEND 261GEND 262 | Resisting Authority: Girls of Fictional FuturesLights, Camera, Gender!: Gender in Film | 44 | Sp (alternate years)F |
| GEOG 261 | Globalization, Cities and Sustainability | 4 | Sp |
| HIST 263 | Christianity | 4 | F, Sp |
| HIST 267 | Europe and Beyond: Historical Reminiscences | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 268 | Civil Rights and National Liberation Movements | 4 | Annually |

## GEND - Gender and Women's Studies

GEND 200 - Gender and Society (4)

Students analyze the lives of women and men, using the lenses of feminism and emphasizing the legal, economic, political, and social constructions of race, class, gender, and sexuality.

General Education Category: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

GEND 201 - Introduction to Feminist Inquiry (4)

Students explore central concerns of feminist research and analysis, including epistemologies, methodologies, and pedagogy as they relate to the body, language, labor, sexuality, race, and nation.

Prerequisite: GEND 200.

Offered: Spring.

GEND 261 - Resisting Authority: Girls of Fictional Futures (4)

Young adult dystopian novels examine adolescent angst across the backdrop of authoritarian oppression, often featuring a female hero. Students will analyze classic and contemporary texts through a gender perspective.

General Education Category: Connections.

Prerequisite: FYS, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H, and at least 45 credits.

Offered: Spring (alternate years).

**GEND 262 – Lights, Camera, Gender!: Gender in Film (4)**

Students explore how American movies represent and construct femininities and masculinities, by looking at representations of gender in films from various genres and decades.

General Education Category: Connections.

Prerequisite: FYS, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H, and at least 45 credits.

Offered: Fall.

GEND 352 - Feminist Theory (4)

Building on the concepts introduced in GEND 200, students study contemporary feminist theory in depth and explore a range of interdisciplinary approaches.

Prerequisite: GEND 201 or consent of director.

Offered: Fall.

GEND 353 - The Holocaust: Women and Resistance (4)

Using an interdisciplinary approach, students expand on traditional academic approaches to the Holocaust and explore gender differences in the experiences, responses, and forms of resistance.

Prerequisite: Completion of at least 45 college credits or consent of director.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 354 - Teenagers in/and the Media (4)

Students explore and challenge representations of teenagers in the media and examine how teenagers use media culture to represent themselves.

Prerequisite: GEND 200 or consent of director.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 356 - Class Matters (4)

Focus is on the construction, reproduction, and representation of class in modern America; the impact of social and economic structures on opportunities, identities, and values; and intersections with gender and race.

Prerequisite: GEND 200 or consent of director.

Offered: Fall.

GEND 357 - Gender and Sexuality (4)

Students examine how the social construction of gender and issues of power, dominance, and resistance affect the practice and regulation of sexuality.

Prerequisite: GEND 200 or consent of director.

Offered: Fall.

GEND 400 - Internship in Gender and Women’s Studies (4)

Students engage in experiential learning and participate in a selected public or private agency/organization. Each student formulates specific learning objectives under the direction of an instructor.

Prerequisite: GEND 200, junior or senior standing and consent of program director following an interview.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 458 - Gender and Education (4)

Students explore how gender impacts the experiences of boys/men and girls/women in educational settings. (Formerly GEND 358.)

Prerequisite: GEND 200 and consent of director.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 461 - Seminar in Race, Gender, and Class (4)

Students examine how race, gender, and class—interconnected systems that shape individual and collective social experiences—are constructed, experienced, and negotiated within specific historical eras and locations.

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours; major in Africana studies or gender and women's studies; or consent of program director.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 491 - Independent Study I (4)

In the first semester of their senior year, students undertake concentrated research or creative activity under the mentorship of a faculty member.

Prerequisite: Admission into the gender and women’s studies honors program and consent of instructor, program director and dean.

Offered: As needed.

GEND 492 - Independent Study II (4)

In the second semester of their senior year, students prepare a final draft of their honors essay and submit it to the department for acceptance.

Prerequisite: GEND 491 and consent of instructor, program director and dean.

Offered: As needed.