# http://www.ric.edu/webcommunications/images/SealWithText_Small_Black.pngUNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC)PROPOSAL FORM

## Cover page roll over blue text to see further important [instructions](#instructions): please read.

**N.B. DO NOT USE HIGHLIGHT, JUST DELETE THE WORDS THAT DO NOT APPLY TO YOUR PROPOSAL**

**ALL numbers in section (A) need to be completed, including the impact ones.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A.1. [Course or program](#Proposal) | **BA Philosophy and PHIL 363-364**  |  |
|  |  |  |
| A.2. [Proposal type](#type) | **Course** **Revision****Program Revision** |  |
| A.3. [Originator](#Originator) | **Glenn Rawson, Aaron Smuts** | [Home department](#home_dept) | **Philosophy** |
| A.4. [Rationale](#Rationale) | This proposed revision to our PHIL 363-364 Seminar in Philosophy is to create an experiential seminar, PHIL 460 that will now be required of all PHIL majors. In this revised course, with a new prefix number and description, students will engage in experiential learning by entering formally into contemporary scholarly debates in the manner of professional philosophers. We would like students to have the option of repeating the course with a change in topic, as we foresee some of our more ambitious students wanting to repeat this valuable experience, just as now many take more PHIL courses than are needed to satisfy the major.As PHIL is a major often selected later in college, and often selected as a second major, this seminar will replace the former required elective slot, and so not increase our total required credits. While this may seem to reduce choice for our majors, the seminar experience is a worthwhile trade-off; and since our major is only 31 credits, many PHIL students can still take additional PHIL courses that interest them. All the PHIL courses that are not required by the Major program can still run, as they are either general education courses, or courses required in other programs, or courses of interest to other majors such as JSTD or POL. |
| A.5. [Date submitted](#date_submitted) |  | A.6. [Semester effective](#Semester_effective) | **Fall 2017** |
| A.7. [Resource impact](#Resource) | *[Faculty PT & FT](#faculty" \o "Need to hire new full-time or part-time faculty? This is where you indicate if this proposal will be affecting FLH in your department/program.)*:  | No impact. |
|  | [*Library*:](#library) | No impact. |
|  | [*Technology*](#technology) | No impact. |
|  | [*Facilities*](#facilities): | No impact. |
| A.8. [Program impact](#prog_impact) | The Philosophy B.A. will now include a required course designed as an experiential opportunity.  |
| A.9. [Student impact](#student_impact) | Philosophy majors will now be required to take a course designed as an experiential opportunity. |
| A.10. The following screen tips are for information on what to do about catalog copy until the new CMS is in place; check the “Forms and Information” page for updates. [Catalog page.](#catalog)  [Where are the catalog pages](#catalog)? [Several related proposals](#catalog)? Do **not** list catalog pages here. **All** catalog copy for a proposal must be contained within a **single** file; put page breaks between sections. Make sure affected program totals are correct if adding/deleting course credits. |

B. [NEW OR REVISED COURSES](#delete_if) **DELETE THE WORDS THAT DO NOT APPLY TO YOUR PROPOSAL within specific categories, but do not delete any of the categories. DO NOT use highlight. Delete this whole page if this proposal does not include a new or revised course.**

|  | Old ([for revisions only](#Revisions)) | New |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.1. [Course prefix and number](#cours_title)  | **PHIL 363-364** | **PHIL 460** |
| B.2. Cross listing number if any |  |  |
| B.3. [Course title](#title)  | **Seminar in Philosophy** | **Seminar in Philosophy** |
| B.4. [Course description](#description)  | Concepts, individual thinkers, or institutional movements may be chosen and explored intensively. | Intensive study of a specific topic or author, including a term paper that engages recent scholarship and follows disciplinary conventions. May be repeated for credit with a change in topic. |
| B.5. [Prerequisite(s)](#prereqs) | Consent of instructor and department chair. | Completion of at least 60 college credits and any 300-level PHIL course, or consent of the department chair |
| B.6. [Offered](#Offered) | **As needed** | Annually |
| B.7. [Contact hours](#contacthours)  | **3-4** | **4** |
| B.8. [Credit hours](#credits) | **3-4** | **4** |
| B.9. [Justify differences if any](#differences) |  |
| B.10. [Grading system](#grading)  |  | **Letter grade**  |
| B.11. [Instructional methods](#instr_methods) |  | **Lecture | Seminar**  |
| B.12.[Categories](#required) |  | **Required for major** |
| B.13. Is this an Honors course? |  |  **NO** |
| B.14. [General Education](#ge)N.B. Connections must include at least 50% Standard Classroom instruction. |  |  **NO**  |
| B.15. [How will student performance be evaluated?](#performance) |  | **Attendance | Class participation | Exams | Presentations | Papers |** **Class Work**  |
| B.16. [Redundancy statement](#competing) |  |  |
| B. 17. Other changes, if any |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.18**.** [**Course learning outcomes**](#outcomes) | [**Standard(s)**](#standards) | [**How will they be measured**](#measured)**?** |
| - demonstrate knowledge of main concepts in the topic selected for study- demonstrate understanding of strengths and weaknesses of various positions on that topic- demonstrate ability to evaluate important arguments concerning that topic- demonstrate critical engagement with current scholarship on that topic, orally and in writing |  | examsterm paper with scholarly researchother formal and informal writingoral presentationsseminar discussions |

| B.19. [**Topical outline**](#outline) |
| --- |
| This is a sample topical outline for purposes of illustration. The topic of the course will be different each year, as it will be taught by different faculty who select topics of study from their own fields.**WELL-BEING****Topic I: The Concept of Well-being*** **Week 1**
	+ **C1 Introduction**
		- Epictetus, "The Handbook"
		- Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* #200
	+ **C2 The Good Life**
		- Feldman, "The Quest for the Good Life" [PGL, ch. 1, pp. 1-21]
		- Diener, Wirtz, and Oishi, "The James Dean Effect"
		- {Sumner, "The Concept of Welfare" (WHE ch. 1, pp. 1-26) }
		- {Haybron, "What Do We Want from a Theory of Happiness?" }

**Topic II: Hedonism*** + **C3 Default Hedonism**
		- Feldman, "Hedonism: A Preliminary Formulation" [PGL, ch. 2, pp. 21-38]
	+ **C4**  **Qualitative Hedonism**
		- Mill, "What Utilitarianism Is" [HCC, pp. 121-133]
		- Homer, "Circe's Pigs" (from bk. 10 of the *Odyssey*)
	+ **C5 The Experience Machine**
		- Nozick, "Happiness"
	+ **C6**  **More Objections**
		- Feldman, "Classic Objections to Hedonism" [PGL, ch. 3, pp. 38-52]
	+ **C7 Attitudinal Hedonism**
		- Feldman, "Attitudinal Hedonism" [PGL, ch. 4, pp. 55-79]
	+ **C8** **Replies**
		- Feldman, "Replies to Some Objections" [PGL, ch. 5, pp. 108-123]
		- {Sumner, "Hedonism" (WHE ch. 4, pp.81-113) }
	+ **C9 Implications for Death**
		- Epicurus, "Letter to Menoeceus"
		- Feldman, "Epicurus and the Evil of Death"
	+ **C10**  **Mental Statism**
		- Smuts, "In Defense of Mental Statism"
		- {Haybron, "Why Hedonism is False" [HCC, pp. 173-179]}
		- {Kahneman, "Objective Happiness" }

**Topic III: Preferentism*** + **C11 The Desire Theory**
		- Sumner, "The Desire Theory" (WHE, ch. 5, pp. 113-138)
	+ **C12**  **Difficulties for the Theory**
		- Carson, "The Desire/Preference-Satisfaction Theory of Value"
	+ **C13 Two Theories or One**
		- Heathwood, "Desire Satisfaction and Hedonism"
		- {Heathwood, "The Reduction of Sensory Pleasure to Desire" }
		- {Smuts, "The Feels Good Theory of Pleasure" }
	+ **C14 Implications for Death**
		- Luper, “Posthumous Harm”
		- {Pitcher, “The Misfortunes of the Dead” }

**Topic IV: Life Satisfaction Theories*** + **C15 Life Satisfaction Theories**
		- Sumner, "Welfare and Happiness" (BB, WHE, ch. 6, pp. 138-184)
	+ **C16 Objections**
		- Feldman, "Whole Life Satisfaction Concepts of Happiness"
	+ **C17 Practical Implications**
		- Kupperman, "Myth Two" (Six Myths, pp. 22-45)

**Topic V: Objective List Theories*** + **C18 Objective List Theories**
		- Parfit, "What Makes Someone's Life Go Best"
		- *Brave New World* (excerpt)
	+ **C19 Perfectionism**
		- *Aristotle, The Nicomachaen Ethics* [HCC, pp. 19-34]
		- {Sumner, "Objective Theories" (WHE, ch. 3, pp. 45-81)}
	+ **C20 Eudaimonia**
		- Kraut, "Two Conceptions of Happiness" [HCC, pp. 201-222]

**Topic VI: Well-being and Worth*** + **C21 Worth**
		- Smuts, "What Makes a Life Worth Living"
	+ **C22 The Limits of Well-being**
		- Kagan, "Me and My Life"
		- {Kagan, "The Limits of Well-being"}

**Topic VI: Well-being and the Meaning of Life*** + **C23**  **Subjective Meaning**
		- Taylor, "The Meaning of Life" [Klemke and Cahn, pp. 134-143]
	+ **C24 Hybrid Theories**
		- Wolf, "Happiness and Meaning: Two Aspects of the Good Life"
		- {Cahn, "Meaningless Lives" [ML, pp. 236-238]}
		- {Nagel, "The Absurd" [ML, pp. 143-153]}
	+ **C25 Meaning and God**
		- Wielenberg, "God and the Meaning of Life"
	+ **C26 Objective Theories**
		- Smuts, "The Good Cause Account of the Meaning of Life"
	+ **C27 Meaning and Suffering**
		- Frankl, "Logotherapy in a Nutshell" (*Man's Search for Meaning*)
	+ **C28 Meaning and Death**
		- Kaufman, "Death"
	1. {Kaufman, "Death Without Dread" }
 |

### C. [Program Proposals](#program_proposals) **complete only what is relevant to your proposal Delete this whole page if the proposal is not revising, creating, deleting or suspending any progam.**

|  | [Old (for revisions only)](#old_program) | New/revised |
| --- | --- | --- |
| C.1. [Context](#summary) |  | This proposed Seminar in Philosophy will replace a required elective, leaving the Philosophy B.A. otherwise unchanged |
| C.2. [Enrollments](#enrollments) | Since 2010, the number of enrolled PHIL majors has ranged between 22 and 44 | We expect the number of majors to be unaffected by this one change to the B.A. |
| C.3. [Admission requirements](#admissions) |  |  |
| C.4. [Retention requirements](#retention) |  |  |
| C.5. [Course requirements](#course_reqs) for each program option | - PHIL 205 or 305 (4 credits)- PHIL 351 (4 credits)- PHIL 356 (4 credits)- Two from: PHIL 300, 353, 355, 357, 358, 359 (3+3 = 6 credits)- PHIL 306 (3 credits)- PHIL 330 or 333 (3 credits)- PHIL 311 or 320 (3 credits)- Any additional course in Philosophy with the exception of PHIL 479, to complete a total of 30 credit hours in the major. (3 or 4 credits) | - PHIL 205 or 305 (4 credits)- PHIL 351 (4 credits)- PHIL 356 (4 credits)- Two from: PHIL 300, 353, 355, 357, 358, 359 (3+3 = 6 credits)- PHIL 306 (3 credits)- PHIL 330 or 333 (3 credits)- PHIL 311 or 320 (3 credits)- PHIL 460 (4 credits) |
| C.6. [Credit count](#credit_count) | 30-31 | 31 |
| C.7. Other changes if any |  |  |
| C.8 [Program goals](Program%20goals)Needed for all new programs |  |  |

## D. Signatures

##### D.1. Approvals

* Changes that affect General Education in any way MUST be approved by ALL Deans and COGE Chair.
* Changes that directly impact more than one department/program MUST have the signatures of all relevant department chairs, program directors, and relevant dean (e.g. when creating/revising a program using courses from other departments/programs). Check UCC manual 4.2 for further guidelines on whether the signatures need to be approval or acknowledgement.
* Proposals that do not have appropriate approval signatures will not be considered.
* Type in name of person signing and their position/affiliation.
* Send electronic files of this proposal and accompanying catalog copy to curriculum@ric.edu and a printed or electronic signature copy of this form to the current Chair of UCC. Check UCC website for due dates.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#_Signature" \o "Insert electronic signature, if available, in this column) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Glenn Rawson | Chair of Philosophy |  |  |
| Earl Simson | Dean of Arts and Sciences |  |  |
|  |  |  | Tab to add rows |

##### D.2. [Acknowledgements](#acknowledge)

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#Signature_2) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
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