

C - Small Curricular Revisions : Entry # 2414**Today's Date**

09/12/2022

Your Name

Chris Franks

Your Email:cfranks@highpoint.edu**Department Chair Name**

Chris Franks

Email address of your department chaircfranks@highpoint.edu

By checking below I am certifying that my department chair (named above) has seen and approved the courses that are included in this proposal.

Yes

Please select the appropriate school overseeing this proposal:

Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

Does this proposal correspond to a particular term?

Fall 2023

Which category does this change fall under?

- Distribution requirements - major

Name of Major or Minor that you are revising distribution requirements for:

Philosophy

Distribution Requirement Changes**What is being changed?**

The only distribution requirement change is that PHL 4100, Selected Topics in Philosophy, would be eliminated from the major requirements, and its place among the major requirements would be taken by a new version of REL-PHL 4099. As a result, we would also tweak the language about pursuing Department Honors slightly.

Rationale for change (brief)

Returning to a combined capstone with the Religion major

Rationale for above changes

C - Small Curricular Revisions : Entry # 2414**Existing Major Requirements**

B.A. in Philosophy (36 credits)

One course in Logic (4 credits)

One course in Ethics (4 credits)

Three courses in History of Philosophy (12 credits)

PHL 4100, Selected Topics in Philosophy (4 credits)*

Elective credits in Philosophy (12 credits)

Note: In addition to PHL 4100, at least 8 credits must be at the 3000-level or above.

*PHL 4100 is offered each fall. Students seeking Department Honors must complete PHL 4100 in the fall semester and then expand on one of their 3000 or 4000 level research projects throughout the ensuing spring semester and present their revised paper at an academic conference or submit it to a journal. The revised paper will be circulated among the department faculty in the spring semester to determine if it qualifies for Honors.

Proposed Major Requirements

B.A. in Philosophy (36 credits)

One course in Logic (4 credits)

One course in Ethics (4 credits)

Three courses in History of Philosophy (12 credits)

REL-PHL 4099, Senior Seminar (4 credits)*

Elective credits in Philosophy (12 credits)

Note: In addition to REL-PHL 4099, at least 8 credits must be at the 3000-level or above.

*REL-PHL 4099 is offered each fall. Students seeking Department Honors must complete REL-PHL 4099 in the fall semester and then expand on one of their 3000 or 4000 level research projects, chosen with approval of relevant faculty, throughout the ensuing spring semester and present their revised paper at an academic conference or submit it to a journal. The revised paper will be circulated among the department faculty in the spring semester to determine if it qualifies for Honors.

Rationale

Last year we replaced the old PHL 4099 with PHL 4100 because we believe based on past assessments that the majority of our Philosophy majors would gain more academically by completing an additional, upper-level philosophy course in a traditional classroom setting instead of doing a 4-credit independent study. The old PHL 4099 was a combined capstone along with REL 4099, which allowed students to pursue independent research projects. We also believed that enrollment in PHL 4100 would be robust because we expected non-seniors to take it alongside seniors (the course can be repeated with a different topic). It turned out that only seniors registered, and so enrollment isn't high enough to justify having a Philosophy capstone that is separate from the Religion capstone. Our solution is to create a new, revised version of REL-PHL 4099 that will offer more of a traditional course in a classroom setting than the old PHL 4099, while also allowing students to pursue research related to the course topic in a way tailored to the interests of each student. This new course combines the virtues of PHL 4100 and the old Senior Seminar.

Dean Review**[DEAN] I approve/deny this proposal**

Approve

Today's Date

09-14-2022

Name of Dean (if this is being reviewed by multiple deans, please indicate who approved it first here)

Ken Elston