

PROGRAM REVIEW STATUS REPORT

PROGRAM: Liberal Arts: Philosophy Option

Date of update: February 28, 2013
 Update provided by: Meredith Gunning

IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCE REQUESTS		STATUS OF ACTIVITIES AND REQUESTS	
DATE RECORDED	ACTIVITY OR RESOURCE REQUEST	DATE OF STATUS REPORT	STATUS
March 2009	Hire additional full-time faculty member	Feb 2011 Feb 2012 Feb 2013	<p>Global Studies Chair reports that the numbers of students taking philosophy courses do not currently warrant an additional full-time faculty member. Request shelved for now.</p> <p>This status has not changed</p> <p>This status has not changed. With current discussion on the future of the individual programs within the Liberal Arts, it is unlikely that an additional faculty member will be hired, despite the strong numbers for many introductory and upper level philosophy courses.</p>
March 2009	Consult with advisory group on most desirable upper level courses to offer	Feb 2011 Feb 2012 Feb 2013	<p>Two Special Topics courses—Existentialism & Philosophy through Film—have been submitted as permanent courses in the Philosophy Option program. The current requirement to have a minimum of 15 students per course militate against the development and survival of new courses.</p> <p>Existentialism is now a permanent course in the Philosophy Option program. Philosophy through Film will be considered in 2012.</p> <p>Philosophy through Film is now a permanent course in the Philosophy Option program.</p>
March 2009	Philosophy instructors to meet at least once a semester	Feb 2011	Serving as DCE Community Associate provides the opportunity to communicate regularly with the adjunct instructors of the

		Feb 2012	<p>department. Some of the main concerns of adjunct instructors remain from last year especially the late decisions made about the cancellations of courses make it difficult for professors to prepare and for adjuncts to know what they are teaching</p> <p>Adjunct instructors remain concerned about the availability of courses. The schedules of adjunct instructors also make regular meetings difficult.</p>
March 2009	<p>To address problem of low enrollment of minorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more courses in Lawrence 	Feb 2011	<p>There are currently proposals before the department to offer a Special Topics course in Medical Ethics at the Lawrence campus. The previous concerns regarding enrollment in Lawrence persist. Further inquiries about the transfer potential of this course would be essential.</p>
		Feb 2012	<p>It is believed that medical ethics courses would not transfer.</p>
		Feb 2013	<p>Lizzie Casanave is willing to teach a section of Introduction to Philosophy in Lawrence. This should be piloted for at least a semester.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw on research of Prof. Jorge Santiago on minority enrollment 	Feb 2011	<p>Time constrains have restricted the possibility of pursuing this research to date.</p>
		Feb 2012	<p>No status change</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work more closely with Developmental faculty to assure students transition successfully to credit courses 	Feb 2011	<p>Still in progress</p>
		Feb 2012	<p>In progress</p>
March 2009	<p>Request college provide data on preparedness/success of students in four year colleges</p>	Feb 2011	<p>Informal contacts with alumni of the program continue. It has proven difficult to acquire data on this subject.</p>
		Feb 2012	<p>During the course of the past year a number of alums of the Philosophy Option program have been contacted in this regard, and the anecdotal findings presented. Alums report good success.</p>
March 2009	<p>Refine course descriptions and</p>	Feb 2011	<p>Updated course descriptions to be written in</p>

	develop website to highlight offerings	<p>Feb 2012</p> <p>Feb 2013</p>	<p>summer 2011.</p> <p>In progress. Updated descriptions must then be submitted for acceptance.</p> <p>Updated course descriptions submitted.</p> <p>Propose to officially offer PHI 201 Early and Medieval Philosophy in Spring 2014.</p> <p>PHI 120, Introduction to Logic, should be dropped as a course offering.</p> <p>SPECIAL TOPICS: There is also potential to offer an additional joint philosophy and religion course focused on Eastern religion and philosophy.</p> <p>A course on Religion in Contemporary American society would also be a valuable offering.</p>
March 2009	Convene program review team as Advisory Board	<p>Feb 2011</p> <p>Feb 2012</p> <p>Feb 2013</p>	<p>There have been email exchanges with various members of the Advisory Board by Meredith Gunning.</p> <p>Continuing.</p> <p>In process of convening a program review team for fall 2013.</p>
March 2009	Request funding to develop resources	<p>Feb 2011</p> <p>Feb 2012</p> <p>Feb 2013</p>	<p>In progress. Meredith Gunning proposes to meet with library staff to investigate the possibility of acquiring additional copies of books and course materials.</p> <p>Resources for additional materials continue to be scarce, but the library has been willing to acquire extra copies of text books for reserve. This benefits students who have difficulty affording them.</p> <p>Continuing requests made to library as necessary.</p>
March 2009	Purchase Smart technology	<p>Feb 2011</p>	<p>The Smart Technology in the Spurk building does not allow full interactivity. Recent publications refer to the possibility of using Wii remote controls to adapt our boards to</p>

		Feb 2012	full interactivity. No progress on this item. Decisions at discretion of administration.
		Feb 2013	No additional SMART rooms added.
March 2009	Purchase 2 new Dell computers for Philosophy faculty	Feb 2011	Budgetary constraints have prevented this to date.
		Feb 2012	One computer was upgraded during the course of the past year.
		Feb 2013	Permanent faculty member's computer updated during summer 2012.
March 2009	Arrange for full-time faculty to share office with adjuncts of Philosophy	Feb 2011	The previous concerns render this an unlikely outcome for the time being.
		Feb 2012	Full-time faculty member has relocated office, but not with adjunct philosophy faculty
		Feb 2013	No development
February 2011	Philosophy option students who take the Existentialism course in Spring 2011 will be subject to oral assessment in addition to academic papers and examination.	Feb 2012	Students made class presentations which functioned as an oral assessment
		Feb 2013	Had Linda Desjardins visit class in order to provide rubric and guidance on oral presentations.
February 2012	Develop an assessment to gauge that the learning objectives of the Philosophy through Film course are being satisfied.	Feb 2013	Philosophy through Film will be offered again in Spring 2014.