

Call for Proposals Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching in the Humanities (Spring 2011)

The Center for Humanities & the Public Sphere, with the support of the Robert and Margaret Rothman Endowment for the Humanities and the University of Florida Honors Program, is launching a new interdisciplinary, team-teaching initiative in the humanities for faculty members across the university. The program will provide compensation to departments in exchange for releasing faculty members to participate in this program (see below) and give modest course development funds (\$500) to faculty members who have not previously received monetary support from other grant-giving agencies (on or off campus) for these courses.

The objective of this pilot program is to encourage faculty members in different departments and colleges to collaborate with one another in the classroom and offer undergraduate interdisciplinary courses on any topic related to the humanities in spring 2011. Funding exists for up to six team-taught upper division undergraduate courses with the enrollment capped at 40. If this initiative is successful, we intend to repeat it in future years.

The Center asks that applicants formulate a joint proposal for an innovative course in or related to the humanities that would be difficult or impossible for a single faculty member to teach independently. Examples of such offerings might include a course on nuclear war taught from the perspectives of a historian and a specialist in environmental studies. A course on bio-ethics might be taught from the perspectives of a philosopher and a micro-biologist. A course on African dance might be taught from the perspectives of a specialist in African studies and a dance professor. The possibilities are endless and will enrich university offerings to undergraduate students as well as encourage new relationships among faculty across the disciplines. These resources are intended to enhance scholarly opportunities in the humanities as well as related disciplines.

Proposal Format

The application should consist of a brief (two-page) description of the objectives of the course along with the evaluation methods to be used, brief CVs of the two faculty members involved (showing their area of specialization), and a preliminary reading list. Applicants will also be asked to fill out a form (see below) with the following information:

1. Which department has agreed to sponsor the course at the size of no more than 40 students. Agreement to create an honors section (IDH 3931) with 10 of these seats. Signature of the chair required.
2. List of department(s) with which the course will be cross-listed (which may facilitate student enrollment in those areas). Signature of relevant chairs required.
3. In the case of a course listed in a single department, the department contributing a faculty member to the undertaking but not getting SCH credit for the course will

receive a grant of \$5000 for instructional purposes to compensate for this loss. In the instance of a cross-listed course within CLAS (or in certain instances across colleges), the grant of \$5000 will be split between the departments in proportion to the distribution of seats. Signature of both chairs required.

4. Whether you have applied now or in the past to any other UF organization for course development funds for a course on this subject.

Proposal Due Date

The Center is soliciting proposals due Friday, 15 January 2010 by 5:00 PM so that the courses will reach the appropriate bodies well in advance of scheduling deadlines.

Please submit proposals by electronic attachment to the Center Director, Bonnie Effros, at humanities-center@ufl.edu. Applicants will be notified in early February regarding the status of their applications.