**New York City College of Technology**

**Interdisciplinary Committee**

**Course Review Form**

**DATE:** 3/31/15

**REVIEWER:** Laina Karthikeyan

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** ENG 1161: Language and Thinking

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** ENG 1101 English Composition I

**COURSE IS:**  Existing New In development

**PROPOSED COURSE DESIGNATION**: College Option  elective Capstone other:

**DEPARTMENT HOUSED IN:** English

**PROPOSED STRUCTURE (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):**  Co-taught

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION** (if co-taught): 2/3 English, 1/3 Psychology

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** A study of communication designed to increase understanding and control of language on both the individual and social levels. Class work includes reading and discussion of elements of semantics and psycholinguistics and guided practice in effective thinking. This course is a study of the nature of language and the relation of language to individual and social attitudes and behavior. Readings, discussion, and research in these areas.

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA:** This course clearly illustrates interdisciplinarity by incorporating perspectives from diverse fields

(Psychology/Social sciences and English) and can be adapted by different departments and for different purposes and topics. The faculty will be in the classroom together at times and the classes they teach separately, will be interrelated and overlapping, bringing together their respective areas but allowing them to focus on specialties and specific expertise that the other lacks.

**DESCRIBE & EVALUATE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE:**

The course has an interdisciplinary theme: This course is a study of the nature of language and the relation of language to individual and social attitudes and behavior.

This course will be co-taught by professors from the department of English and Psychology/Social Sciences, each focusing on their respective expertise while supporting the interrelated topics. The assignments are designed to reflect interdisciplinarity by their very structure as noted by the proposers.

**DOES COURSE MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION?** .

This course clearly addresses the General Education learning goals for CityTech. It aims to fulfill the following LOs: 1. Purposefully connect and integrate across discipline knowledge and skills to solve problems; 2. Synthesize and transfer knowledge across disciplinary boundaries; 3. Recognize varied perspectives; 4. Become flexible thinkers 5. Apply integrative thinking to problem solving in ethically and socially responsible ways. The proposer’s rationales for each of these LOs was well presented and supported with information in the theme (several aspects of language acquisition) and sample assignments.

**STRENGTHS:**

This course definitely meets the criteria for an Interdisciplinary course, as it focuses on a topic that cannot be fully addressed through a single discipline alone and is also a writing intensive course. Students will practice the skills they learn regarding the two disciplines: they will write, revise, and edit their work and then understand how to apply social science methodology to their final fieldwork projects, testing hypotheses and analyzing information, drawing conclusions based on evidence.

The course clearly exemplifies interdisciplinarity. Scaffolding of assignments leads to a well-developed fieldwork final paper.

**WEAKNESSES:** None