DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: Phillip Ross Anzalone, Chair

College Council Curriculum Committee

FROM: Interdisciplinary Studies Committee

Reneta D. Lansiquot (Founding Chair)

RE: ID Report for Existing Course: THE 3000/LAW 3000 Theatre of Law

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COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: Theatre of Law, THE 3000/LAW 3000

CREDIT HOURS: 3 credits; 3 class hours

PREREQUISITES: ENG 1101 and (COM 1330 or COM 1340 or THE 2180 or with department approval)

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An investigation into the dynamic and embodied live and written communication common to both theatre and law, probing the question, *“Is justice served?”* Students will read plays written about foundational cases involving actual trial transcripts, and probe the ways in which these cases have influenced society. Additionally, students will write and perform short plays based on actual court cases. Persuasive argument and the courtroom itself are also investigated as enactments of theatre and performance (examining the courtroom in terms of costume, roles, design, power dynamics, etc.).

The aforementioned course was originally submitted for review on February 7, 2019 and revised on February 12, 2019. ID Committee (IDC) members discussed this course during our meeting on February 14, 2019. Minutes of this meeting note that the two reviewers believed the course was “not fully cooked.”

A revised version of the course proposal was submitted on March 7, 2019. IDC members discussed this course during our meeting on March 14, 2019. Minutes of this meeting note that the IDC decided to defer voting “for recommendation… keep the conversation open since it was not going to go through Council this year and new comments were raised after the second reviews were completed.”

Proposers contacted IDC Co-Chairs on November 11, 2019 to request a vote on the course ahead of a November 19, 2019 College Council Curriculum Committee (CCCC) meeting. The IDC Co-Chairs received the latest version of the proposal on November 13, 2019. IDC members discussed the course during our meeting on November 14, 2019. Minutes of this meeting note “[r]evised proposal submitted less than 24 hours before the committee meeting. Motion to defer discussion to December meeting.” All members present were in favor of this motion.

Moving forward, noted below is the CCCC Chair proposed procedure.

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Tuesday December 10 we have a college council meeting.  I will present Proposal 19-02 as having passed the CCCC unanimously not as an ID course, but with an understanding by the CCCC that both the IDC and Proposers intend to work toward the goal of ID certification in time to be offered when the course first is run in Fall of 2020.  
  
Thursday December 12 the IDC will have it’s meeting, at which point the committee will prepare a set of specific criteria for the course that will provide the necessary direction for updates to the proposal that can make this an ID course.  
  
Monday December 16 the IDC, as agreed at the last CCCC meeting, will provide these criteria to the Proposers, copying the CCCC Chair and Provosts office, allowing the Proposers time to make changes before the next IDC vote.  The IDC will additionally designate a member from it’s committee as the subcommittee liaison (as per 13-01 which created the IDC) willing and able to work with the Proposers between this date and the IDC proposal deadline to help answer questions and review drafts.  
  
Monday January 27 the Proposers will deliver a final edited proposal to the IDC Chair for review and voting.  This will allow for dissemination to the full IDC Committee and time to review and request changes of the Proposers before the next IDC meeting.  
  
Thursday February 13 the IDC will hold a vote on the proposal as delivered on January 27, and including any edits between that time and the meeting, with final edits being requested and delivered by February 10.  The IDC will then prepare a report on it’s resolution by February 20, allowing sufficient time for the ID designation to be added for the Fall 2020 semester.  
  
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IDC members discussed the course at the December 12, 2019 meeting. A report was emailed to the CCCC chair, proposers, provost, and associate provost on December 16, 2019. IDC Co-Chairs met with the proposers to review this report on December 19, 2019.

Proposers did not submit a final edited proposal to the IDC Chair for review and voting on Monday, January 27. On January 31, 2020 proposers emailed IDC Co-Chairs to “affirm the ID course as submitted and voted upon on November 19, 2019, by the CCCC.”

IDC members discussed the course at the February 13, 2020 meeting. Below is the information related to this course noted in the minutes of this meeting.

**THE 3000/LAW 3000: Theatre of Law presentation, Sarah Standing and Marissa Moran:**

* + The committee requested an updated version of the proposal on January 27, 2020; the updated course proposal has not been submitted
  + Proposers statement, Sarah Standing and Marissa Moran:
    1. The proposers met with co-chairs and discussed the proposal; during the meeting proposers sought and received clarification of the issues and concerns raised by the committee and co-chairs
    2. Reneta Lansiquot stated that no changes were made based on the committee’s feedback from the December meeting
    3. Comment from the chair of CCCC, Phillip Anzalone: since there were no substantive changes to the proposal, the last version of the course should be considered for a vote by the committee

Motion to vote to recommend ID designation for the course: Sean. Second: Diana. 0 in favor, 1 opposed, 10 abstentions. Motion failed.

A revised version of the course proposal was submitted on March 4, 2020. Although this revised version included the previously missing required interdisciplinary theme for the course, there were no changes to the course syllabus. As a result, the IDC Co-Chair suggested that the course proposers send an updated version by March 10, ahead of the schedule March 12, 2020 IDC meeting.

A revised version of the course proposal was submitted on March 10, 2020. Unfortunately, the March 12 IDC meeting was cancelled because on March 11 the College abruptly moved all courses online starting that day due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A March 30, 2020 reschedule meeting was also cancelled because CUNY called for a “recalibration” period. A Zoom meeting was conducted on April 2, 2020. Below is the information related to this course noted in the draft minutes of this meeting.

Sarah Standing joined to answer questions about the THE/LAW 3000 course. Changes to the syllabus were pointed out. The catalog course description had changed, it was noted that this required a Minor curriculum change and will need to be announced at College Council. Laureen questioned the amount of theoretical integration into the course, specifically around the topic of Justice. Question about how the theme/learning objective is measured? Is there evaluative framework in place to ensure that Gen Ed students grasp the complexity of the theme? To Laureen’s point, is there enough of a theoretical orientation to the underlying theme? Christopher and Diana pointed out areas in the syllabus where the content addressed some of the concerns vocalized. Heidi suggested collaboration/co-creation to serve as more evaluative than the current final project within the course which was discussed. Guest (Sarah) was informed that ID syllabi are reviewed each semester and reminded that a Minor curriculum change is necessary to move forward.

Motion to vote to recommend ID designation for the course: Diana. Second: Laureen. 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion passed.