

PROPOSAL NUMBER: 99-
CURRICULUM PROPOSAL FORM

(R)

***DEADLINES:**

REGULAR COURSE PROPOSALS: OCTOBER 23, 1998 FOR FALL, 1999 AND FEBRUARY 19, 1999 FOR SPRING, 2000
 SHORT-TERM COURSE PROPOSALS: DECEMBER 11, 1998 FOR FALL, 1999 AND MARCH 26, 1998 FOR SPRING 2000

PROPOSAL TITLE: Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature
 SPONSOR/S: Cindy Vitte
 DEPARTMENT: English

1502.430

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

COLLEGE: Liberal Arts & Science

IF LAS: History/Humanities
 Math/Sciences
 Social/Behavioral Sciences

RECEIVED
 MAR 26 1999

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
 LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

TYPE OF PROPOSAL (Check ALL that Apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> General Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Course (NOT Gen. Ed.)
<input type="checkbox"/> New Course in _____ Bank	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change (Dept., School, Major)
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing course, Add To _____ Bank	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes in Degree Requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Multicultural/Global Designation	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes Involve Gen. Ed. requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Intensive Designation	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor Changes to Existing Courses
<input type="checkbox"/> New Minor/Concentration/Specialization	<input type="checkbox"/> Course is NOT General Education
<input type="checkbox"/> New Major/Degree Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Course IS General Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Short Term Course Proposal	

DEPARTMENT
 (SIGNATURE INDICATES APPROVAL)

[Signature]
 DEPT. CURRICULUM CHAIR / DATE

Timothy Vitte 2/16/99
 DEPT. CHAIRPERSON / DATE

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

DATE OF OPEN HEARING (if necessary) _____

APPROVED
 NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS:

[Signature] 5/3/99
 SIGNATURE DATE

ACADEMIC DEAN (& GRADUATE DEAN, for New Graduate Programs Only)

APPROVED
 NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS:

[Signature] 3/22/99
 SIGNATURE (Academic Dean) DATE

 SIGNATURE (Graduate Dean) DATE

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED

COMMENTS:

Monte Kent
SIGNATURE

10/29/99
DATE

SENATE

Date announced at Senate 11-16-99

Voted upon at Senate: Approved Not Approved Date:

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED If no, reasons are as follows:

STUDENT CREDIT HOURS _____ FACULTY LOAD HOURS _____ EQUALIZED CREDIT HOURS _____

OFFICIAL COPY & APPROVAL SHEET FILED (DATE): _____

DATE/SIGNATURE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST C. M. ...

REGISTRAR

DATE APPROVED COURSE DESCRIPTION RECEIVED _____

HEGIS TAXONOMY & COURSE NUMBER ASSIGNED 502.430

DATE/SIGNATURE OF REGISTRAR Robert L. ... 12/1/99

NOTIFICATION FORWARD:

_____ SENATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

_____ DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSONS

_____ ACADEMIC DEAN(S)

_____ REGISTRAR

_____ SPONSOR(S)

Course Proposal
Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature

1502.430

I. Details:

- A. Course Title: Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature
- B. Sponsor: Cindy L. Vitto, English Department
- C. Credit Hours: 3 s.h.
- D. Course Level - Junior, Senior
- E. Curricular Effect: An upper-level English elective for majors and minors, the course will augment the Department's present selection of elective courses.
- F. Prerequisites: Introduction to Literary Studies (prerequisite for all upper-level English major courses) - 1502.101
- G. Suggested Time and Scale of Implementation: Summer or Fall 2000; one section every other year thereafter
- H. Adequacy of present staff, resources, and library facilities: Adequate
- I. Short-term evaluations: N/A

II. Rationale:

This course is being proposed to overcome three curricular limitations:

1. At present, English majors and minors are exposed to a very limited selection of Anglo-Saxon and medieval texts, either in the required British Literature to Romanticism course (which covers the period from 1066-1798, thus allowing very little time for in-depth exploration of works), in the upper-level elective Chaucer course, or in Seminar I and II (depending on the topic). We have no comprehensive course which allows detailed attention to both Anglo-Saxon and medieval works.
2. At the instructor's discretion, this course could include medieval works from Europe and possibly other cultures as well. Because the world of medieval scholars was relatively close-knit, with many texts influenced by other literary or artistic works, by the exchange of ideas, and by (in most cases) a shared belief system, it makes sense to study medieval literature by including literature from other countries, in particular Italy and France.
3. Through this course, students would be exposed to the history of the English language. Although Anglo-Saxon texts would be taught in modern translation, as would most of the Middle English texts, students would be exposed to the source languages of the texts in order to trace the basic development of the English language from Anglo-Saxon to Anglo-Norman to the various dialects of Middle English.

III. Essence of the Course

A. Course Objectives

1. Students will be able to identify the distinguishing characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon language, culture, and literature.
2. Students will be able to identify the distinguishing characteristics of Middle English and how it differs from Anglo-Saxon.
3. Students will recognize that various dialects of Middle English existed and will be able to read, with adequate comprehension and a limited mastery of pronunciation, the East Midland dialect which has developed into modern standard English.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of medieval culture and literature (in various genres), as well as how and why that culture and literature differ from Anglo-Saxon antecedents.
5. As they write about and discuss the texts included in the course, students will demonstrate critical analysis of literature through an understanding of dominant Anglo-Saxon and medieval themes and concerns.

B. Topical Outline - See attached sample course outline.

C. Evaluation and Grading Procedures - Consistent with procedures in other upper-level elective English courses, students should expect some combination of the following: (1) one substantial paper, or two shorter ones; (2) one or more examinations, primarily requiring essay responses; (3) one or more oral reports, and/or participation in class discussion.

D. Course Evaluation - During the last two weeks of the semester, students will complete SIR forms as an official evaluation exercise. At the instructor's discretion, students may also be asked to complete an informal written evaluation about halfway through the course and again at the end of the course.

E. Consultations - All members of the English Department were consulted during the development of this course. In addition, colleagues in Foreign Languages and in History were consulted.

Catalog Description
Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature
Catalog Number: 1502.430

This course studies the foundations of English language and literature from its beginnings through the fifteenth century, proceeding from the relatively limited selection of Anglo-Saxon poetry and prose to the profusion of literary genres extant in the Middle Ages. Although almost all texts will be read in translation, some attention will be devoted to understanding the major characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon language and Middle English. Selections from continental writers of the period may also be included. This course might not be offered annually.

Sample Course Outline
Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature

- Week 1: Course introduction
Video: The Story of English, section on Anglo-Saxon culture and language
- Week 2: Anglo-Saxon Heroes
"The Battle of Maldon"
"The Battle of Brunanburh"
selections from The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle
Beowulf
- Week 3: The Anglo-Saxon Temperament
"Deor"
"The Wanderer"
"The Seafarer"
"The Wife's Lament"
"The Ruin"
selected riddles and charms
- Week 4: Religious Writings
"Caedmon's Hymn" and other selections from Bede's History of the English Church and People
"The Dream of the Rood"
Wulfstan, "The Sermon of the Wolf to the English"
"Judith"
- Week 5: Exam or paper due
Video: The Story of English (section on Middle English culture and language)
- Week 6: Chaucer
The Book of the Duchess or The Parliament of Fowls
framing techniques in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and
Boccaccio's Decameron
"The Prioress's Tale," "The Nun's Priest's Tale," or other selections
from the Canterbury Tales not usually included in the readings
for British Literature to Romanticism
- Weeks 7-8: Romance
Andreas Capellanus, The Art of Courtly Love
selections from troubadours and trobairitz
selected letters from Abelard and Heloise
Marie de France, "Lanval"
"Sir Orfeo" or "Havelok the Dane"

"Aucassin and Nicolette"
Chretien de Troyes, "The Knight of the Cart"
selections from Malory, "Le Morte D'Arthur"

Weeks 9-10: Social Commentary
Langland, Piers Plowman
Christine de Pisan, The Treasure of the City of Ladies

Weeks 11-12: Mundane or Mystical?
Pearl
selections from Dante, Divine Comedy
selections from The Book of Margery Kempe
selections from Julian of Norwich, Showings, or from
The Cloud of Unknowing
lyric poetry and ballads

Week 13: Drama
selections from the Wakefield and/or York cycle plays
Mankind or The Castle of Perseverance

Week 14: Review
Medieval Banquet

Week 15: Final exam and/or final paper due



Foreign Languages & Literatures

TO: CINDY L. VITTO, English Department
FROM: Sonia B. Spencer, Foreign Languages and Literatures
RE: New Course Proposal
DATE: February 16, 1999

I have just read the proposal for your new elective course, Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature with great interest. It would certainly provide students with knowledge of the foundations and evolution of the English language. This historical / linguistic perspective and sense of language change is not usually treated with any depth prior to graduate school. Offering such an overview would be beneficial to students planning to teach and to pursue advanced studies.

One minor suggestion would be to offer experience in the translation of a short text to modern English. The close reading and in-depth exposure to the language of the text involved in translation afford a new dimension in understanding.

There are no conflicts with our current course offerings in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

I am very pleased to endorse your proposal for this interesting elective without reservations and look forward to sitting in on the Anglo-Norman and Romance class sessions.

Date sent: Tue, 9 Feb 1999 09:53:31 -0500
From: Joy Wiltenburg <JWiltenburg@compuserve.com>
Subject: new course
To: Cindy Vitto <vitto@rowan.edu>

Dear Cindy,

I am delighted to hear you are planning a new course in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature. This will be a valuable addition to the curriculum. I am glad that students interested in the Middle Ages will have this avenue to pursue, especially since our medieval history offerings are quite limited.

All the best,

Joy Wiltenburg
History Department