ENGLISH 5940: MA EXAM TUTORIAL

1. Catalogue Description
   a. 5940 ENG
   b. MA Exam Tutorial
   c. (ARR-0-3) (Credit/No Credit)
   d. On demand
   e. MA EXAM TUTORIAL
   f. Supervised reading and discussion of selected texts representing designated fields in Literary Studies or Composition/Rhetoric and Professional Writing.
   g. Prerequisites: English 5000; Permission of the instructor and permission of the Graduate Coordinator.
   h. This course will be offered on demand, but no sooner than Fall 2005.

2. Objectives and Evaluation of the Course
   a. Objectives:
      To prepare an advanced graduate student for a formal MA exam based on a list of readings approved by the instructor, the examination committee, and the Graduate Studies Committee in accordance with departmental procedures;
      To afford an opportunity for critical engagement with significant primary and secondary texts in a specified field of study;
      To facilitate and ensure regular directed discussion of selected texts with a member of the graduate faculty;
      To facilitate and ensure the keeping of a substantial reading journal in the designated field of study;
      Credit for this course does not insure a passing grade on any subsequent MA Exam.
   b. Journal writing and exams will help prepare the student for a future MA exam and will constitute no less than 35% of the instructor’s evaluation of student success in the course. Student achievement will be assessed by the evaluation of the reading journal and by periodic examination (written and/or oral) of the student’s knowledge of the designated field of study.

3. Outline of the Course
   a. This course will be offered in non-traditional format as a tutorial.
      Student/instructor contact will be arranged on a case-by-case basis. The following outline is a sample only:
Week 1: Student contacts instructor to schedule the reading of texts, specify requirements for the reading journal, and schedule weekly meetings.

Weeks 2 – 14: Student meets with instructor each week to discuss material from the reading list and the reading journal. Periodic oral and/or written exams are given at the discretion of the instructor.

Week 15: Student and instructor evaluate the student’s progress and readiness to take the MA exam.

4. **Rationale**
   a. Purpose and Need: Graduate students in English may complete the degree by either writing a thesis or passing an intensive written examination in a specialized field of study. The English Department currently makes no provision for formal supervision of preparation for the MA exam. This course would rectify this omission and ensure timely and organized preparation for those students who elect the exam option.
   b. Justification of level and prerequisites: This course will be taken by advanced graduate students who have completed at least twenty-four credit hours of graduate coursework, at least half of which will be in a selected concentration.
   c. This course does not duplicate any existing courses.
   d. This course will be taken by students who elect to take the MA exam in either of the following concentrations: Literary Studies; Composition/Rhetoric and Professional Writing.

5. **Implementation**
   a. This course may be assigned to any member of the graduate faculty.
   b. There are no additional costs associated with this course.
   c. Texts used will depend on the designated field of study and the list of readings.

6. **Community College Transfer:** NA

7. **Date approved by the department:** February 24, 2003

8. **Date approved by the College Curriculum Committee:** April 2, 2003

9. **Date approved by CGS:** April 29, 2003