Eastern Illinois University
New Course Proposal
GEG 3060, Geography and Culture of Europe

Please check one: ☒ New course   ☐ Revised course

PART I: CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Course prefix and number: GEG 3060
2. Title: Geography of Europe
3. Long title: Geography and Culture of Europe
4. Class hours per week, lab hours per week, and credit: 3-0-3
5. Term(s) to be offered: ☒ Fall   ☒ Spring (even years)   ☐ Summer   ☐ On demand
6. Initial term of offering: ☒ Fall   ☒ Spring   ☐ Summer   ☒ Year 2008
7. Course description:

This course is designed as a geographic study of the European Realm that will focus on both the human and physical characteristics of the continent. Topics will include the environmental, population, cultural, economic, and political geography of the region. Special attention will be given to the dynamic changes of the European economic and political situation and how it impacts the continent and the rest of the world.

8. Registration restrictions:
   a. Identify any equivalent courses (e.g., cross-listed course, non-honors version of an honors course). None
   b. Prerequisite(s), including required test scores, courses, grades in courses, and technical skills. Indicate whether any prerequisite course(s) MAY be taken concurrently with the proposed/revised course. None
   c. Who can waive the prerequisite(s)?
      ☐ No one   ☐ Chair   ☐ Instructor   ☐ Advisor   ☐ Program Coordinator   ☐ Other (Please specify)
   d. Co-requisites (course(s) which MUST be taken concurrently with this one): None
   e. Repeat status: ☒ Course may not be repeated.
   f. Degree, college, major(s), level, or class to which registration in the course is restricted, if any: None
   g. Degree, college, major(s), level, or class to be excluded from the course, if any: None

9. Special course attributes: None

10. Grading methods (check all that apply): ☒ Standard letter   ☐ C/NC   ☐ Audit   ☐ ABC/NC Instructional delivery method: lecture

PART II: ASSURANCE OF STUDENT LEARNING

1. List the student learning objectives of this course:
   a. Describe and evaluate the spatial pattern of cultures found in Europe including different religions, languages, ethnicities, etc.
   b. Describe and evaluate how the major historical events of Europe have shaped the continent’s current geo-political and economic patterns.
c. Analyze the various economic unions that led to the development of the European Union. Also, the student must describe the importance of the European Union in all aspects of life in Europe today.
d. Identify European countries, major landforms, water bodies, and cities in depth.

2. Identify the assignments/activities the instructor will use to determine how well students attained the learning objectives:
   - Exams: Three exams will be given that include multiple choice, fill-in, and short answer type questions. (Objectives a, b, and c)
   - Quizzes: Five quizzes will be given periodically to test the student’s understanding of class notes and readings. (Objectives a, b, and c)
   - Map Quizzes: Five map quizzes will be given to test the student’s knowledge of basic place locations. The first four will cover a small portion of the continent and the final will be a comprehensive map quiz. (Objective d)
   - Term Paper and Presentation: One 10-15 page paper will be completed and the student will be expected to present their research in an 8-10 minute presentation using power point or some other form of visuals to the class. (Objectives a, b, c)

3. Explain how the instructor will determine students’ grades for the course:
   Points Allocated for the semester will be as follows;
   - (3) Exams: 100 points each 300 points
   - (5) Quizzes: 10 points each 50 points
   - (4) Small Map Quizzes: 10 points each 40 points
   - Comprehensive Map Quiz: 35 points 35 points
   - Term Paper: 100 points 100 points
   - Presentation: 25 points 25 points
   Total: 550 points

4. For technology-delivered and other nontraditional-delivered courses/sections, address the following: N/A
5. For courses numbered 4750-4999, specify additional or more stringent requirements for students enrolling for graduate credit. N/A
6. If applicable, indicate whether this course is writing-active, writing-intensive, or writing-centered, and describe how the course satisfies the criteria for the type of writing course identified. (See Appendix *.) N/A

PART III: OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

I. Introduction to Europe: 1 Week
   - Introduction to the continent and the major geographic qualities of the region

II. Physical Geography: 2 Weeks
   - Overview of the major physical features and water bodies in Europe
   - Climate of Europe and the major factors that impact the continent’s climate

III. Population Geography: 2 Weeks
   - Examination of Europe’s population trends and impact of the aging population and the role new immigrants will play in the European economy
IV. Cultural Geography: 3 Weeks
- Spatial analysis of languages and language families in Europe
- Spatial analysis of different religions in Europe
  i. History of Christianity in Europe
  ii. Jewish population and World War II
  iii. Impact of migrants

V. Political Geography: 2 Weeks
- Overview of major political events in Europe and their influence on Europe and the world today

VI. Urban Geography: 1 Week
- Analysis of the design of urban centers in Europe and a comparison to cities in the United States

VII. Economic Geography: 2 Weeks
- Spatial study of manufacturing, agricultural, and service activities in Europe
- History of multi-national organizations and the European Union
- Impact of the European Union on life in Europe today

VIII. Presentations: 2 Weeks
- Student Presentations on Research completed for class requirements

PART IV: PURPOSE AND NEED

1. Explain the department’s rationale for developing and proposing the course.
   Regional studies are one of the 4 primary traditions in geography. Our department currently offers courses on Latin America, Africa, North America, and Asia. Europe is a necessary component to our regional offerings due to the continent’s influence on the world historically and today. Also, this course will be a part of the proposed International Studies Concentration in Geography and will address the department’s assessment goal of providing the students an understanding of the human and physical characteristics of the world’s regions.

2. Justify the level of the course and any course prerequisites, co-requisites, or registration restrictions.
   The Geography and Culture of Europe will provide a more in depth view of the European continent that is not taught in introductory courses. Offering the Geography and Culture of Europe at the 3000 level is consistent with other upper-level geography electives. Our department offers all regional courses at the 3000 level and targets sophomores and juniors for the courses.

3. If the course is similar to an existing course or courses, justify its development and offering.
   a. Similar courses include:
      ECN 3833: Economic Development of Modern Europe
      ECN 4875: Areas Studies – Europe as one possible course offering with other regions.
      HIS 4810 Europe in the Nineteenth Century
      HIS 4830 Eastern Europe from World War I to the Present
      HIS 4840 Europe Since 1945
      PLS 3303 European Politics and Governments

   Differences:
   The Geography of Europe will differ from the above course in the fact that it will examine the economy, history, and political situation in Europe using a spatial perspective rather than a temporal. Each of the topics covered in the classes listed above are a small percentage of the proposed course. It will expand on these courses...
by offering information on population geography, physical geography, urban
geography, and cultural geography of Europe. There will be very little overlap
between the courses.

b. The Geography of Europe will provide three benefits to the geography program. First
it fills a gap in our regional course offerings. We teach courses on the Regional
Geography of Asia, Africa, North America, and Latin America. Most geography
programs in the country offer the Geography of Europe as one of their main regional
courses due to the continent’s influence on world history. Secondly, the course will be
included as an option in the geography program’s proposed International Studies
Concentration. Finally, the course will provide a foundation for our study abroad
offerings to East/Central Europe, Scandinavia, and the British Isles.

4. Impact on Program(s):

This course will be used as an elective in Geography’s proposed International Studies
concentration. It will also be used as an upper level elective for Geography majors and
minors.

PART V: IMPLEMENTATION

1. Faculty member(s) to whom the course may be assigned:
   Dr. James Davis or any other qualified faculty member of the Department of Geology/Geography.

2. Additional costs to students:
   None

3. Text and supplementary materials to be used (Include publication dates):
   Ostergren, Robert C. and John G. Rice. “The Europeans: A Geography of People, Culture, and

PART VI: COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER

N/A

PART VII: APPROVALS

Date approved by the Geology/Geography Department: 25 October 2006

Date approved by the College of Sciences Curriculum Committee: 01 December 2006
Date approved by CAA: 01 February 2007