Eastern Illinois University  
New Course Proposal  
SOC 4444, Honors Independent Study

Please check one:  X☐ New course  ☐ Revised course

PART I: CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Course prefix and number: SOC 4444
2. Title: Honors Independent Study
3. Long title:
4. Class hours per week, lab hours per week, and credit: (Arr.-Arr. 1-3)
5. Term(s) to be offered: On demand
6. Initial term of offering: Fall, 2008
7. Course description: Consideration of special topics in sociology, using secondary sources. Special emphasis on an area of interest to the student who must submit a detailed study proposal to be approved by faculty supervisor and Departmental Honors Coordinator, prior to registration. The product may be applied to SOC 4644, Honors Thesis.
8. Registration restrictions:
   a. Identify any equivalent courses: SOC 4400, Independent Study. none
   b. Prerequisite(s): Admission to Departmental Honors Program, permission of Departmental Honors Coordinator, and completion of a minimum of 15 hours of sociology.
   c. Who can waive the prerequisite(s)?
      No one
   d. Co-requisites: none
   e. Repeat status: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 3 hours.
   f. Degree, college, major(s), level, or class to which registration in the course is restricted, if any: Sociology major
   g. Degree, college, major(s), level, or class to be excluded from the course, if any: non-Sociology majors
9. Special course attributes: honors; writing intensive
10. Grading methods (check all that apply): Standard letter
11. Instructional delivery method: independent study/research
PART TWO: ASSURANCE OF STUDENT LEARNING

1. List the student learning objectives of this course:
   1) Students will be able to identify and locate major secondary sources (books, articles, government documents) germane to their topics of inquiry.
   2) Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, and compare/contrast the secondary sources.
   3) Students will be able to synthesize diverse secondary sources.

   a. Not general education
   b. Not graduate level

2. Identify the assignments/activities the instructor will use to determine how well students attained the learning objectives:
   • Comprehensive bibliographies (objective 1).
   • Written review of the literature (objectives 1 and 2)
   • Statement of the research problem/thesis, and hypotheses driven by the literature (objectives 1, 2, 3).

3. Explain how the instructor will determine students’ grades for the course:
   • Bibliography (20%)
   • Review of the literature (30%)
   • Statement of the problem/thesis (50%)

4. This course is not technology-delivered.

5. This course is not for graduate credit.

6. The course is writing-intensive, reflecting the reading-intensive component of independent studies. Specifically, the experience will require several writing activities, including bibliography, possibly annotated, a review of relevant literature, statement of the research problem, and any hypotheses driven by the literature. Opportunity to rewrite any component is unlimited.

PART III: OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

As an independent study, course outline and content will vary with topic, student, and faculty supervisor.

PART IV: PURPOSE AND NEED

1. The course is an appropriate and traditional offering among departmental honors programs, and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology is in the process of proposing a departmental honors program. Independent study is instrumental in contributing to the ultimate production of an honors thesis.

   a. This is not a general education course.
   b. This course is not technology delivered.
2. The course level is consistent with its non-honors counterpart and with the sophistication required. Students must have a minimum of 15 hours of sociology completed in order to possess the disciplinary sophistication to envision a reasoned research project in sociological terms.

3. SOC 4444 does not substantially duplicate any course that would be appropriate for a departmental honors program in sociology.
   a. SOC 4444 does not substantially duplicate any existing course.
   b. No courses will be deleted. This course will be part of the Departmental Honors Program in Sociology.

4. Impact on Program(s):
   a. SOC 4444 is required for departmental honors students and will be accepted as elective hours toward their major in sociology.

PART V: IMPLEMENTATION

1. Faculty member(s) to whom the course may be assigned: Any tenured/tenure-track faculty with substantive expertise to accommodate student research interest.

2. Additional costs to students: none

3. Text and supplementary materials to be used (Include publication dates): no text/supplementary materials assigned.
PART VI: COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFER

A community college course will not be judged equivalent to this course.

PART VII: APPROVALS

Date approved by the sociology/anthropology department _____2-23-2006____________________

Date approved by the College of Sciences Curriculum Committee _January 12, 2007________________

Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course) _1-22-2007________________

Date approved by CAA: February 8, 2007