



To: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences.

From: Jonathan Hess, Chair, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures

Date: October 14, 2016

Re: Outline of Curriculum Changes, Updates, and Requests for the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures (GSSL)

Our goals for this round of curriculum changes were to streamline course offerings and to ensure that our curriculum accurately reflects the current department structure. In order to achieve these goals, we are submitting through CRAS a number of minor changes to course titles and descriptions. These changes will ensure consistency of language between course descriptions across the department and make the presentation of our curriculum clearer to students, advisors, and others interested in our undergraduate concentrations.

In addition to the changes mentioned above, we are submitting five new course proposals (see below for details) and requesting the following changes that are reflected in the attached bulleted text and outlined below:

- Migration of Courses to GSSL Prefix
- Deletion of Courses from the Course Catalog
- Change from “Serbian and Croatian (SECR)” to “Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian (BCS)”

### New Course Proposals as they relate to GSSL and College Curriculum

We are submitting five new course proposals:

- **GSSL ##: FYS - The Book of Books. Literature and the Bible.** As a proposed FYS, this course will not fit directly into GSSL major or minor concentrations. We expect, however, that it will be an attractive course offering for First Year Students and an excellent introduction to our department. We are requesting that this course fit the general education curriculum as LA, NA.
- **GSSL 2##: Moon in Song, Story, Science.** This course will be part of the College’s general education curriculum. It will provide students, particularly those interested in comparative literature, with EE credit for mentored research. Other general education designations requested for this course are: VP, NA.
- **GSSL 2##: From Oklahoma to Camelot.** This course will be part of the College’s general education curriculum. It will provide students an opportunity to explore the

American musical as part of a European tradition of light opera that has roots in Aristotle's *Poetics*. It will meet the following general education designations: VP, NA, EE.

- **GSSL 2##: Dissent and Protest in Central Europe.** This course will be an elective for the Central European Studies and Slavic concentrations, as well as an attractive course for students in such programs as PWAD or History, and for students seeking general education credit. We are requesting the following general education designations for this course: HS, GI.
- **RUSS 2##: Russian and Soviet Science Fiction.** This course has been previously offered as a special topics course. Due to its popularity, we would like to make it a permanent part of the curriculum. It will count toward the Russian and Slavic concentrations, as well as toward the following general education requirements: LA, BN.

### **Migration of Courses to GSSL Prefix**

With the assistance of Nick Siedentop, Curriculum Director for Undergraduate Curricula, we are migrating thirty-three existing courses to the GSSL prefix (see Table 1). This change is being implemented to better reflect the structure of our department and will not have any impact on the majors and minors offered in GSSL. Following last year's changes to the bulletin, which integrated GSSL courses into our concentrations, the Director of Undergraduate Studies determines if a GSSL-prefixed course at the 200-level or higher can count toward a student's major or minor. This wording provides us with the flexibility to proceed efficiently with the requested migration of courses to the GSSL prefix.

Types of courses that are included in this migration include: First Year Seminars; courses related to Jewish Studies that naturally fit both Germanic and Slavic disciplines; courses that would be more visible to students under a GSSL prefix; and courses on literary movements, comparative topics, or theory that bridge fields in the department.

This prefix change has minimal to no impact on cross-listed courses; all proposed courses with cross-listings are sponsored by our department, and cooperating departments will be notified of the prefix changes.

Where necessary, we have marked the attached bulleted text to reflect these requested changes.

### **Deletion of Courses from the Course Catalog**

In order to streamline our course offerings and in conjunction with the migration of courses to the GSSL prefix, we are eliminating the GERM and SLAV Honors Reading Courses (691H, 692H, 693H). Undergraduate students writing an Honors Thesis in our department will register for Honors Reading Courses under the GSSL prefix. We are also eliminating GERM and SLAV 89 (FYS: Special Topics); future FYS: Special Topics will be offered as GSSL 89.

For this cycle of changes, we have also decided to permanently delete courses from the GSSL curriculum which are no longer being taught due to previously implemented curriculum changes or changes in the faculty roster. This list includes: seven RUSS graduate-level courses, which have not been taught in the department since the suspension of the Slavic MA and PhD programs; two RUSS courses that are obsolete based on last year's changes to the curriculum and current pedagogical methods of foreign language teaching; and two SLAV courses (one that is no longer taught, and one that was cross-listed with GERM 251 and will now be offered as GSSL 251).

Where necessary, we have marked the attached bulleted text to reflect these requested changes.

### **Change from “Serbian and Croatian (SECR)” to “Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian (BCS)”**

We would like to request that the course designation “Serbian and Croatian (SECR)” be changed to “Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian (BCS).” This change better reflects current nomenclature, geographically and in Slavic departments at peer institutions across the country. We have submitted course title and description changes for all SECR courses in CRAS with a note indicating that the changes are pending the approval of the new prefix. See Table 2 for a list of effected courses.

We have marked the attached bulleted text to reflect this requested change. We also request that the heading “Serbian and Croatian” in the course catalog be changed to “Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian” and that this section be moved between the end of the GERM course list and the start of the CZCH course list.

**Table 1. Courses Migrating to GSLL PREFIX**

	<b>Current Prefix</b>	<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
1.	GERM	50	First-Year Seminar: Literary Fantasy and Historical Reality
2.	GERM	51	First-Year Seminar: Stalin and Hitler: Historical Issues in Cultural and Other Perspectives
3.	GERM	53	First-Year Seminar: Early Germanic Culture: Myth, Magic, Murder, and Mayhem
4.	GERM	54	First-Year Seminar: Once upon a Fairy Tale: Fairy Tales and Childhood, Then and Now
5.	GERM	55	First-Year Seminar: Fantasies of Rome: Gladiators, Senators, Soothsayers, and Caesars
6.	GERM	56	First-Year Seminar: Germans, Jews, and the History of Anti-Semitism
7.	GERM	58	First-Year Seminar: Love in the Middle Ages
8.	GERM	59	First-Year Seminar: Moscow 1937: Dictatorships and Their Defenders
9.	GERM	60	First-Year Seminar: Avant-Garde Cinema: History, Themes, Textures
10.	GERM	63	First-Year Seminar: Performing America
11.	GERM	65	First-Year Seminar: German Heroes? Knights, Tricksters, and Magicians
12.	GERM	67	Blackness in the European Imaginary
13.	GERM	68	Intensity, Vitality, Ecstasy
14.	GERM	218	Christianity and Islam in the Middle Ages
15.	GERM	225	Popular and Pious: Early Modern Jewish Literature
16.	GERM	246	Reality and Its Discontents: Kant to Kafka
17.	GERM	252	South Africa in Literary Perspective
18.	GERM	254	The Occupation of Germany and the Cold War
19.	GERM	255	Germany and the Cold War: From Allied Occupation to Division and Reunification (1945–1990)
20.	GERM	251	Ideology and Aesthetics: Marxism and Literature
21.	GERM	270	German Culture and the Jewish Question
22.	GERM	683	Moving-Image Avant-Gardes and Experimentalism
23.	HUNG	271	Vampires and Empires: An Introduction to Transylvania.
24.	HUNG	280	Hungarian Cinema since World War II
25.	SLAV	81	First-Year Seminar: Metaphor and the Body
26.	SLAV	82	First-Year Seminar: Doctor Stories
27.	SLAV	84	First-Year Seminar: Terror for the People: Terrorism in Russian Literature and History
28.	SLAV	88H	First-Year Seminar: Gender and Fiction in Central and Eastern Europe
29.	SLAV	281	Holocaust Cinema in Eastern Europe
30.	SLAV	306	Language and Nationalism
31.	SLAV	467	Language and Political Identity
32.	SLAV	560	Reading Other Cultures: Issues in Literary Translation
33.	SLAV	85	First-Year Seminar: Children and War

**Table 2. Courses Requiring Updates in CRAS when SECR is converted to BCS**

	<b>Current Prefix</b>	<b>Course#</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
1.	SECR	401	Elementary Serbian and Croatian Language
2.	SECR	402	Elementary Serbian and Croatian Language
3.	SECR	403	Intermediate Serbian and Croatian Language
4.	SECR	404	Intermediate Serbian and Croatian Language
5.	SECR	405	Advanced Serbian and Croatian Language
6.	SECR	406	Advanced Serbian and Croatian Language
7.	SECR	411	Introduction to Serbian and Croatian Literature
8.	SECR	490	Topics in South Slavic Culture