

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

New “Graduate Course Proposal from the Department of Communication Studies”

Establishment of a Graduate Course in Communication Studies, COMM 6880 Independent Study

A. Proposal Summary and Catalog Copy

1. Summary

The Communication Studies Graduate Program proposes to add a graduate level class “Independent Study” to the graduate curriculum. The class will be an elective course in the M.A. in Communication Studies Program.

2. Proposed Catalog Copy

COMM 6880. Independent Study (3G). Permission of instructor and graduate coordinator. Area of study beyond the scope of current offerings to be devised by student and faculty member. May be repeated. (*Fall, Spring, Summer*).

B. Justification

1. This will be an elective course in the M.A. in Communication Studies program.
2. No prerequisites. Graduate Standing.
3. Students earning a M.A. degree in Communication Studies should have a strong theoretical foundation leading to disciplinary mastery. This course will allow Communication Studies graduate students to pursue research projects under the direction of graduate faculty.
4. The proposed course will improve the scope and quality of the offerings in the Communication Studies M.A. program by providing a comprehensive curriculum with disciplinary breadth and depth. The course proposed is of interest to Communication Studies students representing a range of specializations. Additionally, this curriculum change aligns our graduate program more competitively with our aspirant, as well as peer programs.

C. Impact.

1. The proposed course will serve graduate students enrolled in the M.A. in Communication Studies program. It will be an elective course in that curriculum.
2. The course will be offered yearly.

3. It will not affect the content or frequency of other course offerings.
 - a. We anticipate 1-4 students to be enrolled per year.
 - b. It will have a minimal effect on the enrollment of other courses.
 - c. The course has not been taught as a topics course.
 - d. The course will be an elective course for students enrolled in the M.A. in Communication Studies. Other areas of catalog copy are not affected.

D. Resources Required to Support Proposal

1. Personnel
 - a. No new faculty positions are needed.
 - b. Dr. Richard Leeman, Dr. Dan Grano, Dr. Christine Davis, Dr. Clifton Scott, Dr. Heather Gallardo, Dr. Shawn D. Long, Dr. Min Jiang, Dr. Alan Freitag, and Dr. Jon Crane
2. Physical Facility.

The current facility is adequate for the proposed curriculum.
3. Equipment and Supplies.

Current equipment and supplies are adequate for the proposed curriculum.
4. Computer.

Current computer resources are adequate for the proposed curriculum.
5. Audio-Visual.

Current audio-visual resources are adequate for the proposed curriculum.
6. Other resources.

No additional resources are required.

E. Consultation with the Library and Other Departments or Units

1. Library Consultation
Initiation of Library Consultation:

2. Consultation with other departments or units

F. Initiation and consideration of the proposal

1. Originating Unit: Communication Studies
 1. In a graduate faculty meeting on December 6, 2007 the Department of Communication Studies graduate faculty endorsed this proposal.
2. Other considering units.
 1. None
3. Council on General Education
 1. Not applicable.

G. Attachments

Appendix A: Library Consultation