

Patricia Kollander

From: Ben Lowe
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 3:43 PM
To: Patricia Kollander
Subject: FW: support for history course sought

From: Mary Branaman
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Ben Lowe <bplowe@fau.edu>
Subject: FW: support for history course sought

Hi Ben,

Both Hough and Appleton, the two faculty who teach this course, concur that it greatly overlaps with the course we offer. We are not outright opposed to the approval of the history course in this area, but we want the committee to be aware that the course is very much similar to ours.

Appleton comments:

Well, it significantly overlaps with what I did and would teach. Inciardi is a sociologist, for what that's worth. The others are historians. Not that it matters, I guess.

I don't see it as an issue of losing credits. This is a 4000-level course and won't poach students as our 3000 course.

The most important problem (to me) is that a student who takes this course will have already learned most of what I would cover in the Drugs class. And a student who took my Drugs class will have learned most of what will be covered in this class. I am not sure if we should be setting up classes that way. Some students in the class will have an advantage over others in that they already know most of the material.

If I try to organize a course that does not cover this material, I have no course. I haven't looked at Phil's course in a bit, but I know that he was teaching this entire set of macro issues.

Drugs and Society (SYP 3550) 3 credits

This course examines drug use from both a social psychological and sociological perspective. Within the former, questions of attraction and involvement are considered. Within the latter, the control (and justification for control) of licit and illicit drugs is discussed.

I don't see what's distinctive about this, other than that they are setting it up as an upper division class that requires more work than our 3000-level class. That's nice for the students who want a more advanced course.

Hough comments:

Yes, there is a lot of overlap, but I don't have a problem with it. I hardly get history students enrolled in my class. Also, this course is framed around historical movements of prohibition while mine is framed around social constructionism and political economy.

-PH