



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

B. Department / Program Area: **PHILOSOPHY & HUMANITIES** Revision New Course
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **C**
 Date of Previous Revision: **MAY 2002**
 Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

C: **HUMS 1101** D: **FRONTIERS OF THOUGHT** E: **3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F:	Calendar Description: This course involves an exploration of the frontiers of thought in the areas of people and their world (sciences), people and their society (social sciences), and people and their sense of self (humanities). The contributions made by specialized disciplines (e.g., Biology, Anthropology, Psychology and Philosophy) to our understanding of these general areas will be examined. To facilitate this, the course will often be organized around particular themes, such as paradigm shifts or global transitions. Presentations are interdisciplinary and non-technical and assume no student acquaintance with the subject matter. This course is for those whose programs may not normally include the disciplines covered, as well as for those desiring a general survey of liberal arts offerings.	
G:	Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings	H: Course Prerequisites: NONE
	Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings: Lecture and Seminar	I: Course Corequisites: NONE
	Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor) Lecture: 2 hrs. per week/semester Seminar: 2 hrs. per week/semester	J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite NONE
	Number of Weeks per Semester: 15	K: Maximum Class Size: 70
L:	PLEASE INDICATE:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Credit	
<input type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Non-Transfer	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Transfer:	
SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bccat.bc.ca)		

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the successful student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of some of the various approaches in the academic world to the major concerns of our times covered in the course.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the interdisciplinary approach of the general approaches of the various disciplines that present perspectives on the issues covered in the course.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the interdisciplinary approach of the different subject areas covered in the course, (this will involve showing the ways in which areas of knowledge fit together, the various levels of analysis, the different perspectives and emphasis given, and how these contribute to each other).
4. Demonstrate the development of a reflective critical approach to the issues and questions covered in the course (an approach that recognizes that a broader perspective will assist the student in recognizing dilemmas and choices, and that recognizes that experts and professionals do not always have the “right” or “only” answer).
5. Compare and contrast major assumptions underlying the approaches taken by different disciplines to the problems discussed.
6. Analyze and explain some of the basic differences between the various major solutions proposed to “problems” that people face in the contemporary world.
7. Demonstrate the development of a reflective critical capacity by relating diverse points of view to common themes presented in the course.

N: Course Content:

This course involves an exploration of the frontiers of thought in the areas of people and their world (sciences), people and their society (social sciences), and people and their sense of self (humanities). Normally, the course will be organized around particular themes, such as paradigm shifts or global transitions.

1. Current contributions made by specialized disciplines (e.g. Biology, Physics, Geology, Geography, History, Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Philosophy, Music, and Literature) to the understanding of these general areas and to specific themes pertaining to them will be examined.
2. The course will comprise a series of specific presentations by selected instructors that explore the above areas and themes.
3. At the end of the course, one or two sessions will be devoted to a summation by the course co-ordinator, and this may involve instructors coming back to interact with one another and with the students.

A sample schedule of the presentations is attached.

O: Methods of Instruction

There will be a combination of lecture and discussion. Some instructor’s presentations may take up the entire class time, but then they allow for student questions during the presentations. After the class, students will do reading assigned by the instructor or course co-ordinator during their presentations, and students will be prepared to discuss the material at the next or future class sessions or to use it as a foundation for researching and developing their essay. They will be tested over the lectures and relevant readings as well.

At the end of the course one or two sessions may be devoted to a summation by the course coordinator. A number of instructors may be invited to return and interact with each other and with the students relating the various areas to each other.

	<p>Methods of Instruction Cont'd</p> <p>The course coordinator will be present at all presentations and will create continuity from presentation to presentation, in addition to the summary at the end.</p>						
P:	<p>Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students</p> <p>READING MATERIAL IS NOT NORMALLY PURCHASED BY THE STUDENT</p>						
Q:	<p>Means of Assessment</p> <p>Evaluation will be based on course objectives and will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>Any combination of the following totaling 100%</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Exams, Tests, Quizzes</td> <td>20 - 50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essays (Three)</td> <td>20 - 60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Instructor's General Evaluation (Involves attendance and other possible factors, e.g., participation, homework, improvement, extra-credit, group work)</td> <td>10 - 20%</td> </tr> </table>	Exams, Tests, Quizzes	20 - 50%	Essays (Three)	20 - 60%	Instructor's General Evaluation (Involves attendance and other possible factors, e.g., participation, homework, improvement, extra-credit, group work)	10 - 20%
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R:	<p>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR</p> <p>No.</p>						

Course Designer(s) Robert Fahrnkopf	Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative
Dean / Director	Registrar