

Essential Studies Program Committee Approval for FYI TOPICS Courses

From the 2015-17 CSC Catalog:

FIRST YEAR INQUIRY (FYI) (6 CREDIT HOURS)

Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 1. Students will practice skills involved in Critical Inquiry and Creative Problem Solving through interdisciplinary, collaborative engagement of a specific issue or theme.

FYI 169AK Topics in First Year Inquiry (3 to 6 Hours)

Each section of this course will focus upon an interdisciplinary issue or theme that students will engage collaboratively and respond to through critical inquiry and creative problem solving. Each FYI topics course must be approved by the Essential Studies Program Committee.

In its review of requests for approval of FYI TOPICS courses to fulfill SLO#1, the Essential Studies Program Committee will use such criteria as:

- Does the course clearly address the Learning Outcome(s) identified?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to develop the knowledge/skills necessary for successful achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Have the hosting department/unit and the instructor(s) agreed to follow through with their responsibilities as outlined in the approval form?

INSTRUCTIONS:

The department or program requesting approval should complete the following steps:

1. Contact the Essential Studies Program Coordinator to arrange for a meeting with the ESP committee.
2. Submit the following forms and requested documents within ONE WEEK of the meeting.
3. Have a representative of the department or program attend the meeting to answer any questions the committee members may have about the submitted materials.

NOTE: TOPICS courses approved by the committee will qualify for SLO#1 Credit each semester from the start date indicated on the form until the committee requires the course to be reviewed and re-approved.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORMS:

Short title of the topics course to appear in the schedule

FYI 169AK Topics in First Year Inquiry:

Semester/Term in Which Proposed Changes Will Go Into Effect:

Name and title of person submitting this form

Name:

Title:

Describe the specific *issue or theme* that will be the focus of inquiry in this course. Explain how this issue or theme will provide the opportunity for students to identify and practice skills involved in asking questions and seeking informed answers in academic and professional settings, and how the course will emphasize the integrated use of problem-solving tools from diverse perspectives.

Describe opportunities students should have to practice skills involved in *Critical Inquiry and Creative Problem Solving*. How is the learning objective embedded in the course? Describe student work that will be used to assess student achievement of the outcome and explain how the students demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the outcome.

Describe opportunities students should have to practice skills involved in *interdisciplinary engagement of a specific issue or theme*. How is the learning objective embedded in the course? Describe student work that will be used to assess student achievement of the outcome and explain how the students demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the outcome.

Describe opportunities students should have to practice skills involved in *collaborative engagement of a specific issue or theme*. How is the learning objective embedded in the course? Describe student work that will be used to assess student achievement of the outcome and explain how the students demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the outcome.

As part of the approval process, the department/unit agrees to collect and assess a reasonable sample of students' work and provide reflections on students' achievement of the Learning Outcomes for its First Year Inquiry course as outlined in the assessment plan for SLO#1 (click [HERE](#) (*link to be inserted*) for a copy of the assessment plan).

I agree to provide requested materials as part of the assessment plan for SLO#1

Supportive Material

Attach a copy of the sample syllabus that clearly identifies:

- The Learning Outcome(s) that are satisfied by the course.
- A brief description of the opportunities this course provides students to acquire the knowledge or skills necessary to achieve the Learning Outcome(s)
- A brief description of the graded assignments that the instructor(s) uses to assess the students' achievement of the Outcome(s).

If approved, submit the appropriate materials to the records office for updating schedules and/or catalogs.

(Adapted from University of Nebraska-Lincoln ACE Certification Program) Rev. 1/14/15