I. Basic Course Description

(A) Course Number and Title: PHIL 210 Feminist Philosophy

(B) Date of Proposal or Revision: Spring 2007

(C) Sponsoring Department: Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education

(D) Semester Credit Hours: 3 credits

(E) Weekly Contact Hours: 3 classroom: 3 laboratory: 0

(F) Prerequisites: ENGL 111 - English I

(G) Laboratory Fees: N/A

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ENGL 111 - English I
This course examines philosophical ideas concerning politics, economics, psychology, and multi-cultural relations that have served to occasion feminist theories. Such theory types as liberal, Marxist, radical, socialist, and globalist feminism are used to explore things like family, work, gender development, discrimination, subordination, and sexuality.

III. Statement of Course Need

The course provides a timely and important introduction to a major force in the development of civilization. It will serve to heighten students’ awareness of the ways in which social institutions create expectations and stereotypes for various groups. Feminist theories are used to understand these expectations and stereotypes as they apply to women and to suggest a design for social institutions that support women’s flourishing.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A.

- Humanities
• free elective
• helps to satisfy a requirement for the Women and Gender Studies portion of a liberal arts degree

V. Outline of Course Content
• recurrent issues and problems: gender development, family, work, discrimination, subordination, sexuality, and politics
• feminist theories: liberal, Marxist, radical, socialist, multi-cultural, and global
• contemporary issues through the lenses of feminist theory: women and work, women and family, women and sexuality, women and racism

VI. Educational Goals and Learning Outcomes

Educational Goals
The student will:
• gain an introduction to major works of feminist literature (GE 4, 5, 6)
• gain the opportunity to express, orally and in writing, an account of the major ideas of this literature (GE 1, 2)
• gain exposure to feminist thought and reactions to such thought in the mainstream of philosophy (GE 4, 5, 6)

Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:
• describe the nature and meaning of feminism
• explain how feminism is related in principle to traditional philosophy
• cite and discuss certain landmark works of the feminist movement
• explain how feminism is alleged to improve, in certain respects, upon that tradition, as for example in the field of moral philosophy
• state what reactions, pro and con, have arisen to the movement.

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning
• lecture
• small group and class-wide discussion

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments
• quizzes
• essay exam
• in-class presentation

IX. Grade Determinants

• exams and quizzes
• in-class performance.

X. Texts and Materials


XI. Resources

• texts
• whiteboard
• video