



## **THE FIRST-YEAR FSU COLLOQUIUM**

### **Overview of Faculty Involvement**

**September, 2009**

**FOR FALL 2010 CONSIDERATION, PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO UUCR BY  
FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

#### ***Comments from current IDIS150 instructors:***

*“I am thoroughly enjoying teaching IDIS 150 “Experiencing Appalachia.” As freshmen, my students are naturally curious and eager to learn. Approaching the topic from an interdisciplinary perspective, I find that I am able to share with them equally in their journey of discovery.”* Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas, “Experiencing Appalachia”

*I like teaching interdisciplinary courses because you get new and more exciting perspectives than you get from teaching courses within your own field. So to avoid the 'blahs' from teaching the same courses term after term, try an IDIS course with first-year students”.* Dr. Robert Doyle, “Energy: Now and Tomorrow.”

<p><b><i>What is the First-Year FSU Colloquium?</i></b></p>	<p>The First-Year FSU Colloquium offers first-year students an introduction to interdisciplinary thought. As of fall 2007, the course will be required for all entering students, to be taken within the first 45 hours of a student’s academic schedule.</p> <p>In the First-Year FSU Colloquium, the focus will be on the modeling of interdisciplinary thought by the faculty involved as a particular theme or issue is introduced and discussed from multiple disciplinary perspectives.</p> <p>Each Colloquium will be built on a “universal template,” thus allowing topics to change in response to student needs, faculty interests, and national/international issues. To meet State requirements, each course must include at least two (2) of the five (5) curricular clusters as outlined in the Code of Maryland [see attachment]. For example, a Colloquium that investigates “The Inner City” may include a mix of at least two disciplines such as economics, psychology, history, or political science.</p> <p>Individual faculty may design a Colloquium, or faculty can collaborate with two-three faculty members from different disciplines, with each member teaching one section.</p> <p>The First-Year FSU Colloquium will be limited to an enrollment of 25 students.</p> <p>All members of the University community are welcome to submit a proposal for an IDIS 150: tenured or tenure-track faculty, adjunct faculty, or professional staff.</p>
---	---

<p><b><i>What are the expectations of the faculty involved?</i></b></p>	<p>Any member of the faculty interested in teaching a First-Year FSU Colloquium should first negotiate with his/her respective department/division chair regarding the inclusion of the Colloquium in his/her course load (please see the following section, “<i>How can departments be supported so that the Colloquium can be included in faculty course load?</i>” for further details).</p> <p>Presenting a First-Year FSU Colloquium will be similar in time commitment to that expected from faculty who plan and present courses within a learning community; i.e., planning time during the spring and summer prior to the offering of the Colloquium in the fall.</p> <p>Because assessment is a major component of the topic proposal, faculty members will be engaged in identifying, administering, and evaluating assessment instruments and results.</p> <p>Members of the faculty are asked to teach at least two sections, ideally in the fall and spring. The year-long commitment is being requested in order to facilitate the assessment process (i.e., to have benefit of faculty experience over the course of two semesters). However, programmatic or scheduling issues may allow an adjustment to this request (e.g., teaching in at least two fall or two spring semesters).</p> <p>Any person teaching a Colloquium may be expected to attend a planning and information meeting.</p> <p>A special note to faculty interested in presenting a First-Year FSU Colloquium as a collaborative endeavor: Please note that the Colloquium is not “team-taught.” Instead, the participating faculty will collaborate in the development of all aspects of the Colloquium’s content. Then, each faculty member will teach one 25-student section, using the syllabus and activities agreed upon by other faculty in the partnership.</p>
<p><b><i>What compensation is offered?</i></b></p>	<p>Each new faculty member will receive a one-time planning stipend of \$1,200.</p> <p>If, in order to participate, a course needs coverage so that a faculty member can include the Colloquium in his/her course load, funding will be provided that is in line with University compensation guidelines. Guidelines for AY 2009-2010 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ \$2000 per section for fulltime faculty overload, adjunct faculty, or professional staff</li> <li>➤ \$4000 per section for emeriti faculty</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>What is the time frame for planning and implementing?</i></b></p>	<p>The University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UUCR) reviews and approves all Colloquium proposals. To be considered for fall 2010, proposals should be submitted to Dr. Randall Rhodes, Subcommittee Chair, for UUCR, <u>no later than February 9, 2010</u>.</p>
<p><b><i>Where can additional details be found?</i></b></p>	<p>An abstract outlining the rationale and philosophy of the First-Year FSU Colloquium is available on the Undergraduate Education Initiative website: (<a href="http://www.frostburg.edu/projects/uei/propforms.htm">http://www.frostburg.edu/projects/uei/propforms.htm</a>).</p>
<p><b><i>Where can proposal forms be obtained?</i></b></p>	<p>Proposal forms are included, in both Word and Adobe format, on the Undergraduate Education Initiative website: (<a href="http://www.frostburg.edu/projects/uei/propforms.htm">http://www.frostburg.edu/projects/uei/propforms.htm</a>)</p>
<p><b><i>Where should additional questions be directed?</i></b></p>	<p>Please contact Dr. Randall Rhodes, UUCR Subcommittee Chair; <a href="mailto:rrhodes@frostburg.edu">rrhodes@frostburg.edu</a>.</p>