ESF Course Proposal Form
Committee on Instruction - ESF Faculty Governance
Office of Instruction & Graduate Studies

Date: June 10, 2010
Course Number: CLL390
Course Title: Literature of Nature

☐ New Course    OR    ☑ Changes in existing course (check all that apply):

☐ Prefix
☐ Number
☐ Credits
☒ Title

☐ Description
☐ Pre-requisite(s)
☐ Co-requisite(s)

☐ Shared Resources
☐ Course Format
☐ Content
☐ Semester Offered

This course meets the General Education standards in the following knowledge and skills area (check all that apply):

☐ American History
☐ The Arts
☐ Basic Communication
☐ Humanities
☐ Mathematics
☐ Natural Sciences
☐ Other World Civilizations
☐ Social Sciences
☐ Western Civilization

Prequisites or co-requisite requirements:

☒ Prerequisites: none    ☐ Co-requisites:

Institutional Impact:

Anticipated Enrollment: 20 per semester

Technology and Classroom Resource Demands: DVD player is needed.

Computing Resources:

Library Resources: Yes, but only standard library resources will be needed.

Transportation Requirements:

Forest Properties or Field Practicum Facilities Required:
Health and Safety Considerations:

Conditions or situations present in association with the course?

1. Will substances with any of the following properties be used during instruction: flammability, toxicity, corrosivity, reactivity, registered pesticide, legally controlled, or other characteristics with the potential to cause harm or injury? No

2. Will any physical hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., machines that need safety guards; razor blades or syringes; compressed gases, etc.). No

3. Will any biological hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., handling animals (rabies or hantavirus); cultures or stocks of infectious agents (fungal spores, viruses, bacteria, etc.). No

4. Will any radiation hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., radioisotopes, X-rays, ultraviolet rays, lasers, etc.). No

5. Will any electrical equipment that, due to its design, location, or method of use, pose any threat to safety during instruction? (Give considerable thought to electrical use outdoors, or any potentially wet location.). No

6. Will there be any personal safety issues related to the class? (e.g., due to time of day or location, at the end of any organized class exercise, will students be in danger of physical assault, etc.). No

7. Will any students be driving official state or research sponsored land or water vehicles during any class or instructional exercise? No

8. Will any type of personal protective equipment be necessary during class exercises? (e.g., hard-hats, eye/face protection, hearing protection, hand/foot protection, lab coat, visibility clothing, etc.) No

If the answer was “Yes” to any of the HEALTH AND SAFETY questions, please explain:

CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Please provide using the precise format currently used in the ESF catalog, please do not exceed 500 characters):

CLL390 Literature of Nature. Three hours of discussion and lecture per week. Examination of 19th and 20th century nature and environmental writings as seen by select writers, poets, and essayists. Readings, discussions, and written assignments will explore the aesthetics, socio-political climate, and prevailing attitudes towards nature and the environment. Fall and Spring.
DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE: CLL 390 Literature of Nature
3 Credit Hours, Fall and Spring
3 Hours Lecture Per Week
Prerequisite(s): none

SCOPE:

1. **Level of Instruction:**
   a. CLL 390 is an upper level literature course.

2. **Relation to curriculum or to other ESF or Syracuse University courses:**
   a. CLL 390 fulfills the requirement for 3 credits of directed electives for the Minor in Environmental Writing & Rhetoric. The course is open to students from any department who wish to improve their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills by studying literature.
   b. Shared resource requirements: none at this time

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course the student should be able to:

1. Identify and discuss significant 19th and 20th century writers, poets, and essayists who used nature as a theme.

2. Explain the critical differences in attitudes toward nature as held by various authors within historic and cultural contexts.

3. Discuss various divergent points of view of nature as held by humanists, scientists, environmentalists, etc.

4. Write summaries of these various points of view and analyze the issues through writing essays, book reviews, oral presentations, and short papers.

MAJOR CONCEPTS OR METHODOLOGIES:

This course will present an overview of representative 19th and 20th century authors who used nature as a theme. We will study the writings of the most significant authors from Gilbert White to Rachel Carson, including Thoreau, Burroughs, Muir, and Leopold.

The course will include lecture/discussion, small group discussions based on readings, in-class exercises, a research project, an oral presentation, journals, and both formal and informal writing assignments. Students will be encouraged to respond both critically and creatively to texts.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Please provide using the precise format to be included in the ESF catalog, please do not exceed 50 words)

CLL 390 Literature of Nature (3)

Three hours of discussion and lecture per week. Examination of views of nature and the environment as seen through works of 19th and 20th century writers, poets, and essayists. Readings, discussions, and written assignments explore aesthetics, socio-political climate, and prevailing attitudes toward the environment that formed the backdrop for readings. Fall and Spring.
Prerequisite(s): none

**COURSE HISTORY:**

This course was first taught at ESF in spring of 1992, was approved in 1993, and has been taught since under the title CLL 390 (Introduction to the Literature of Nature).

2010: Learning outcomes updated and course description re-formatted to match current college guidelines.