Cluster: American Studies
Title of course: American Literature to 1865
Course Number: 300
Proposing Faculty: Elisabeth Cepi
Cluster Coordinator: Becky Boesch

Cluster Course to New Cluster
Other clusters this course is assigned to:

Non 'U' course proposed to Cluster X
Removal

UNST Committee -- PASS: Yes □ No □
If no, reason: ____________________________

UCC Committee -- PASS: Yes □ No □
If no, reason: ____________________________
University Studies
Cluster Course Addition
Adding a previously unapproved course to a cluster

(When addressing questions, please attach a separate sheet)

PROPOSING FACULTY       Elisabeth Ceppi, English

1. THE COURSE

A. COURSE TITLE, NUMBER, AND CATALOG DESCRIPTION

English 360U, American Literature to 1865. Advanced survey of the major texts and authors in America from European contact through the end of the Civil War.

B. DEVELOPMENT

Is the course based upon an existing course, or is it a new course under development?
This is a new course.

C. AVAILABILITY

With what regularity has the course been—or will the course be—offered?
It will be offered once or twice a year.

D. PREREQUISITES

List any course prerequisites beyond the cluster Sophomore Inquiry course.
None, but English 253/254 are strongly recommended.

2. COURSE OUTLINE.

Provide a detailed outline of the proposed course, also including its preliminary reading list, and the name(s) of instructor(s) committed to teaching the course.

English 360U is a survey course that will examine major texts written before the Civil War in what has become the United States. It will examine these texts within larger cultural rubrics—cultural contact, the gendering of the republic, industrialization, unfreedom, to name a few examples—instead of just proceeding chronologically. It will thus prepare students for more intensive topics courses in American literature. Authors might include: John Smith, William Bradford, Mary Rowlandson, Anne Bradstreet, Jonathan Edwards, Wheatley, Equiano, Paine, Foster, Judith Sargent Murray, Samson Occom, Lydia Maria Child, Hawthorne, Melville, Stowe, Harriet Jacobs, Frederick Douglass. The course will be taught by Peter Carafiol, Elisabeth Ceppi, and Susan Danielson.

3. GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS.

A. COURSE CONTENT & SUITABILITY FOR CLUSTER

Discuss the course content in relationship to the thematic focus of the cluster.
The course will not just introduce American Studies students to some of the major works of American literature, but will raise some of the central issues and questions posed by
American Studies about the relationship between citizen and nation and the ways that language determines and produces that relationship.

B. UNST GOALS
Indicate what materials and assignments will address those University Studies goals appropriate to the course content and cluster theme (the goals are Inquiry and Critical Thinking, Communication, Diversity of Human Experience, and Ethical Issues & Social Responsibility).

By emphasizing major social, cultural, and intellectual contexts, the course will help students think more carefully about the relationships between literary language and the production of cultural categories. It will also encourage students to consider (in written work and in class discussions) their own place in the histories of the conflicts--between classes, races, genders, languages, regions, etc.--that produced and continue to produce the nation. The syllabus will recognize the multiplicity of "American" origins, acknowledging the diversity of voices and identities that have always constituted "America"--long before Crevecoeur's "melting pot."

C. CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT
Discuss the teaching strategies employed in the course and how they articulate with the student-centered, active-learning strategies characteristic of University Studies courses.

The dominant pedagogical method of the course will be discussion. Students will generate discussion questions and brief analytical papers for each text. These assignments will help them become more disciplined and inquisitive readers of all kinds of rhetoric. They will also be asked to produce longer sustained arguments about the primary texts, and will learn to put themselves in dialogue with other interpreters of the text, their classmates as well as published critics.

PROPOSING FACULTY: Elisabeth Ceppi

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: English 360U

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OBTAIN CHAIR AND CLUSTER COORDINATOR SIGNATURES BEFORE SUBMITTING TO UNIVERSITY STUDIES OFFICE

DEPARTMENT CHAIR(S): Date: 6/3/19
CLUSTER COORDINATOR: __________________________. DATE: ____________

All changes to Clusters must be approved by PSU's Senate Curriculum Committee.

THE ORIGINAL + 12 COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL
MUST BE RECEIVED AT UNIVERSITY STUDIES (CH 163)
BY OCTOBER 31, 2002

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COURSE APPROVED FOR CLUSTER INCLUSION

CHAIR, CLUSTER COORDINATORS: __________________________. DATE: ____________

CHAIR, UNST COMMITTEE: __________________________. DATE: ____________