Course Development Funding – Request for Proposals

Integrative General Education

In April 2019, “The Dornsife Idea” -- the report and recommendations of the USC Dornsife Signature Undergraduate Experience Steering Committee – was circulated to all Dornsife faculty. The report contained a call for the development of Dornsife-specific General Education sequences, classes that will pair two new or existing GE’s from different categories around a shared theme, issue, or idea. The goal is to provide students with an opportunity to engage in a more integrated GE experience that models the interdisciplinary spirit of the liberal arts by tackling content from multiple perspectives.

As such, we invite proposals for course development funding for interdisciplinary pairs of faculty to develop linked GE classes. These classes would be taught in the same semester with students enrolling in both sections simultaneously. The courses can be new or pre-existing, but must have syllabi that are developed to be in dialogue with one another, bringing multiple perspectives to bear on a theme or issue. The sequence must satisfy at least two separate GE categories.

**Example:** A faculty member from Sociology and one from Earth Sciences come together to offer a pair of classes titled “Los Angeles 2050.” This 8-unit sequence, comprised of SOCI 2xx “Los Angeles 2050: City of Diversity” and GEOL 2xx “Los Angeles 2050: Climate and Topography” examines the cultural, demographic, environmental and economic issues facing our region in the next thirty years. Students enroll in both classes, the syllabi complement one another, and the instructors communicate on shared learning outcomes, assignments, activities, etc. throughout the semester. The sequence fulfills GE categories C and E (and potentially more, depending on content.)

Faculty have latitude to determine how the sequence will be taught and scheduled (in terms of team-teaching, combining sections, dividing up the semester, traditional delivery etc.), as long as both faculty members teach the equivalent of a full assignment over the duration of the semester.

**Eligibility**
This program is open to all tenure track and RTPC faculty within Dornsife. Faculty should apply as a pair. Pairs should self-identify and be taken from two discrete disciplines, or from disciplines broad enough to cover at least two different GE categories. Proposers must commit to offering the sequence within two years of receiving funding.

**Funding**
Each successful individual will receive $3000 for course development paid into a research account or as an extra service payment as preferred.
Application
Please submit a short description and rationale for the sequence including a list of weekly topics for each section, and the GE categories for which the courses will be proposed. Applications must be accompanied by an email of support from the requisite chairs of departments attesting that the proposers are approved to teach the course(s) in the event they are funded. Individual courses will not be considered for funding.

A meeting to discuss the program and help to source potential partners will be held on **Wednesday September 25th from 12-1pm in MCB 102**.

Deadline
This is a rolling call for course development with no specific deadline. However, we would like the first sequences to be available for Fall 2020, so courses must be approved and scheduled accordingly.

Applications should be emailed to Andrew Stott, College Dean of Undergraduate Education at [astott@usc.edu](mailto:astott@usc.edu).