ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE 7/8/11

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: School of Transborder Studies

2. COURSE PROPOSED: TCL 490 Transborder Queer Performativity 3

(prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Norma A. Valenzuela Phone: 965-9426

Mail Code: 6303 E-Mail: norma.valenzuela@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

Core Areas

- Literacy and Critical Inquiry—L
- Mathematical Studies—MA
- Humanities, Fine Arts and Design—HU
- Social and Behavioral Sciences—SB
- Natural Sciences—SQ

Awareness Areas

- Global Awareness—G
- Historical Awareness—H
- Cultural Diversity in the United States—C

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.

(1) Course Description
(2) Course Syllabus
(3) Criteria Checklist for the area
(4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: □ No ☑ Yes; Please identify courses: WST 490

Is this a multisection course?: □ No ☑ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus? __________

Carlos Vélez-Ibáñez
Chair/Director (Print or Type)

August__________
Chair/Director (Signature)

Date: ______________

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/98, 4/00, 1/02, 10/08
TCL 490 Transborder Queer Performativity

Course Description:

This course will offer students the opportunity to explore a rich and diverse body of border-crossing performative expression created by queer and/or Latina/o artists. Course readings and discussions will include solo and collaborative works with an emphasis on solo autobiographical performance scripts as well as performer interviews and performance scholarship. We will use classroom discussions, written essays, observation and video/audio materials to examine the key components of performative texts, including plot, character, conflict, sound, movement and spectacle. Issues of identity, nation, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, language, class, citizenship and stereotype offer myriad borders, both physical, political, and psychological, that performers transcend in unique ways via their bodies and voices in staged spectacle. In addition to performance analysis, students will use this course to explore the arena of production through weekly improvisation games and exercises and ultimately by creating, editing and performing or directing a short original performance in class during the last week of the semester. While all students will create an original performance script, and either perform or direct an original performative work. This combination of critical analysis and production will emphasize both the content of queer Chican@ Latin@ performance as well as the elements which factor into its creation, reception and dissemination.
Course Description:

This course will offer students the opportunity to explore a rich and diverse body of border-crossing performative expression created by queer and/or Latina/o artists. Course readings and discussions will include solo and collaborative works with an emphasis on solo autobiographical performance scripts as well as performer interviews and performance scholarship. We will use classroom discussions, written essays, observation and video/audio materials to examine the key components of performative texts, including plot, character, conflict, sound, movement and spectacle. Issues of identity, nation, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, language, class, citizenship and stereotype offer myriad borders, both physical, political, and psychological, that performers transcend in unique ways via their bodies and voices in staged spectacle. In addition to performance analysis, students will use this course to explore the arena of production through weekly improvisation games and exercises and ultimately by creating, editing and performing or directing a short original performance in class during the last week of the semester. While
all students will create an original performance script, and either perform or direct an original performative work. This combination of critical analysis and production will emphasize both the content of queer Chicano/Latino performance as well as the elements which factor into its creation, reception and dissemination.

**Disability Accommodations:** Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to me at the beginning of the semester either during office hours or by appointment. **Note:** Prior to receiving disability accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential.

**Establishing Eligibility for Disability Accommodations:** Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at: 480-965-1234 (V), 480-965-9000 (TTY). For additional information, visit: www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc. Their hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

**Other policies Academic Integrity:** I will tolerate no instances of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty can take many forms but the type that usually takes place in a college classroom is submitting someone else’s work as your own, or plagiarism. The penalties for intentional plagiarism in this class will range from a reduction of one grade in the final course grade to the assignment of an XE for the final course grade (an X before an E on a transcript designates that the E was assigned for reasons of academic dishonesty) and a recommendation for expulsion from the University. For more information see the University’s policy on academic integrity at http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity.

**Required Texts:**

*O Solo Homo: The New Queer Performance.* David Román and Holly Hughes, eds.  
*The Power of One: The Solo Play for Playwrights, Actors, and Directors.* Louis Catron  
Blackboard scholarly readings as indicated in the course calendar

**Course Objectives:**

By the completion of this course successfully you should be able to:

* Identify key performers, works and themes in trans*border queer solo and collaborative performance.  
* Understand issues key to performance reception and analysis.  
* Interpret and analyze written performance scripts, video, and live performance.  
* Explore basic elements of improvisational technique.  
* Create a brief original performance script and either perform from memory or serve as director for a performance piece.
Grade Distribution:

1) Participation: 3 x 50 pts = 150pts
2) 2 Live Performance Responses: 2 x 25pts = 50pts
3) Performance Script: = 50pts
4) Final Performance (performer/director) = 50pts
5) Final Essay = 200pts

500-488 = A+
487-465 = A
464-450 = A-
449-440 = B+
439-415 = B
414-400 = B-
399-390 = C+
389-350 = C
349-300 = D
299 and below = E

Grading Component Descriptions:

1) Participation: The structure of this class will be a combination of lecture, collective discussion and creative writing/performance workshop. In as much as we will use the required readings and the theories described in each text as tools with which to understand identity and representation, we must also use each other as invaluable resources in the learning process. The presentation and active discussion of new ideas strengthens the critical foundation of our class as a whole. Therefore, it is extremely important that you attend class regularly, arrive on time and have read all required materials BEFORE class begins each week so that you are prepared for active discussion. Your participation will be evaluated based on classroom observation and short weekly written and performance projects as assigned each week. Participation in class discussion and activities will constitute 150 points of your final grade and will be evaluated 3 times throughout the semester: on 2/23, 3/23, and 4/29.

Attendance: Will be determined by signing in at the beginning of each class meeting. Signing in is the student’s responsibility and will only be accepted until 5pm each Wednesday. You may miss 2 classes throughout the semester without a penalty to your final grade. After 2 absences, your final grade will be reduced by 10 points for each additional absence. For example, if a student with a final point total of 417 has a total of 4 absences, I will deduct 10pts for each additional absence above 2 (-10 x 2 = -20) for a total deduction of -20. This student’s final grade will be 417 – 20 = 397. The student’s final grade would be reduced from a B- to a C+.

2) Live Performance Responses: During the semester you will submit 2 short response papers. For each response you will attend a live performance in the local phoenix community and offer your insights and commentary on the production and your experience as an audience member. This performance will ideally be by a queer and/or Latina/o or Chicana/o group or individual performer. I will accept theatrical productions, musical and dance performances, as well as open mic and spoken word events. For this response paper you will focus on visual and audio aspects of the performance, including but not limited to music, sound effects, volume and tone of voice(s), body movements (gestures, choreography, shape, etc.). How did the performer(s) create a dramatic experience for you as an audience member? What types of emotions did you feel as you watched? How did the performers elicit those emotions from you as an observer? What types of borders did the performer(s) reify, challenge, or transcend? Would you have
done anything different? Imagine you were brought in to direct this event/performance. Discuss 2 elements that you would alter and what you believe the impact of those alterations would be. Please begin your responses by providing full details about the performer’s name(s), date of performance, location (city/theater), title of work, and director’s name (if applicable). Each response should be 1-2 pages typed (not including performance credits and information) and single spaced. Please staple your response paper to this cover sheet and submit it in class on 2/24 and 4/7. No late papers will be accepted for any reason. Each of these responses will be worth 25 points towards your final grade, for a total of 50pts.

3) Performance Script: By the end of this course you will have created an original solo performance, and performed or directed an original 1 to 3 minute performative work (1 double-spaced typed page = about 1 minute). You have a unique and important voice and this class is your opportunity to explore what you have to say to the world (or at least your classmates and me). You will work throughout the semester to develop a short performance script/monologue based on your own ideas and interests. I will offer suggestions and direction throughout the course as well as opportunities to workshop your performance during the week of midterms. Each student will revise their scripts based on the feedback of students and professor during the midterm performances. Your final performance script should be typed, 12pt times font, and double-spaced, with 1 inch margins. AND 4) Final Performance: On 4/28, the last day of classes, we will have a student performance festival where you may invite family members and friends to see you perform or direct your script. For students choosing to perform, they will stage their original script. Performers must be off script for the final performance. Students wishing to direct will collaborate with a classmate to shape and edit an original performance. Performer/Director pairings will be set in the first 3 weeks of the semester. I will grade both your written text (50pts) and the final performance (50pts) each for a total of 100pts towards your final grade.

5) Final essay will address a written performance script that is not included in the required readings for this course. You may choose an author whose work we have discussed, but you must locate a different performance that is not included in the syllabus. Please see me if you have trouble locating a script with which to work. This essay should be 6-10 pages in length and develop an original thesis about the ways in which the performance works on the levels of content and production to negotiate border-crossings as physical, emotional, and political structures. More details will be offered in the first few weeks of the semester. Formatting must be typed, double-spaced, 12pt times font, 1 inch margins. This essay is worth 200pts of your final grade.

Class conduct:

Additional requirements for the course are attentive and appropriate classroom conduct as well as respect for your fellow classmates and instructor. I fully expect each student to participate in each classroom discussion and performance activities. You will be earning points towards your grade based on your ability to express your ideas and engage with other students and the materials assigned for each class. And, while I do not require you
to agree with my or other classmates’ opinions or perspectives, I do expect you to show respect and consideration for perspectives that differ from your own. Please try to express yourself in ways that are not insulting or offensive to other listeners. Disagreement is welcomed, hatred is not.

Note: Please be aware that the required reading includes performers whose work challenges normative conceptualizations of gender, sexuality and spirituality. Additionally, video viewings and scripted performances may include adult themes, nudity, and profanity. As a student in this course you will not be required to agree with the ideas presented, but you must be able to engage critically with all of the course materials in a mature and scholarly manner. If you are unable or unwilling to approach these issues in an intellectual context, please feel free to enroll in an alternative TCL, WST, or COM course.

**TCL/COM/WST 494 * Semester Calendar**

(All reading and written assignments are due on the date indicated)

[OSH = O Solo Homo; PO = Power of One; BB = Blackboard Scanned File]

**Week 1:** Introduction

Wed 1/20  **READING:** *O Solo Homo* (1-16)
**VIEWING:** Monica Palacios (performance clips)
**ACTIVITY:** Describe Yourself #1

**Week 2:** Starting Solo

Wed 1/27  **READING:** *Naked Breath* Tim Miller; OSH (49-92)

*Power of One* (1-18)

**VIEWING:** *Body Blows* Tim Miller

**ACTIVITY:** Perpetual Motion

**PREPARE:** Describe Yourself #2

**Week 3:**


**VIEWING:** *Your Kunst Is Your Waffen* Carmelita Tropicana Excerpts from *Comedy Por Favor* Tropicana

**DUE:** Funny Childhood Story
Week 4:

Wed 2/10  READING:  *Hello (Sex) Kitty* Denise Uyehara *OSH* (375-409) and 


PO (19-50)

VIEWING:  TBA

DUE:  Alter Ego/Super Hero

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Week 5:

Wed 2/17  READING:  *Stuff* Coco Fusco and Nao Bustamante and


VIEWING:  *The Couple in the Cage* Coco Fusco and Guillermo Gómez Peña

DUE:  Infomercial

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Week 6:

Wed 2/24  READING:  “Downtown” Luis Alfaro and


VIEWING:  “Downtown” (audio) Luis Alfaro

DUE:  Live Performance Response #1
Week 7:

Wed 3/3  READING: *Your Just Like My Father* Peggy Shaw OSH (175-198) and PO (51-63)

VIEWING: Butch Lalis of Panochtitlán

DUE: Gender Transformation

Week 8:  MIDTERMS: Take One!

Wed 3/10  READING:  PO (64-93)


DUE: Student Performance Workshop
and
Final Paper Drafts

Week 9:

Wed 3/17  SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS

Week 10:

Wed 3/24  READING: *I Dismember the Alamo* Laura Esparza (BB) and PO (94-117)


DUE: Origins

Week 11:

Wed 3/31  READING: *Clit Notes* Holly Hughes (OSH 411-440) and PO (118-146)
VIEWING: *Without You I'm Nothing* Sandra Bernhard and John Boskovich

DUE: Final Performance Check-In

**Week 12:**

Wed 4/7  READING: *Greetings...* Monica Palacios (BB) and “Loving Revolution” Danielson (BB)

VIEWING: *Greetings...* Monica Palacios

DUE: My Revolution and Live Performance Response #2

**Week 13:**

Wed 4/14  READING: *Skin & Ornaments* Craig Hickman (OSH 121-174) and PO (147-176)

VIEWING: Performance by Jack Smith (1992)

**Week 14:**


VIEWING:

**Week 15:** **Your Debut!**

Wed 4/28  Student Performance Festival
Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

HUMANITIES, FINE ARTS AND DESIGN [HU]

Rationale and Objectives

The humanities disciplines are concerned with questions of human existence and meaning, the nature of thinking and knowing, with moral and aesthetic experience. The humanities develop values of all kinds by making the human mind more supple, critical, and expansive. They are concerned with the study of the textual and artistic traditions of diverse cultures, including traditions in literature, philosophy, religion, ethics, history, and aesthetics. In sum, these disciplines explore the range of human thought and its application to the past and present human environment. They deepen awareness of the diversity of the human heritage and its traditions and histories and they may also promote the application of this knowledge to contemporary societies.

The study of the arts and design, like the humanities, deepens the student’s awareness of the diversity of human societies and cultures. The fine arts have as their primary purpose the creation and study of objects, installations, performances and other means of expressing or conveying aesthetic concepts and ideas. Design study concerns itself with material objects, images and spaces, their historical development, and their significance in society and culture. Disciplines in the fine arts and design employ modes of thought and communication that are often nonverbal, which means that courses in these areas tend to focus on objects, images, and structures and/or on the practical techniques and historical development of artistic and design traditions. The past and present accomplishments of artists and designers help form the student’s ability to perceive aesthetic qualities of art work and design.

The Humanities, Fine Arts and Design are an important part of the General Studies Program, for they provide an opportunity for students to study intellectual and imaginative traditions and to observe and/or learn the production of art work and design. The knowledge acquired in courses fulfilling the Humanities, Fine Arts and Design requirement may encourage students to investigate their own personal philosophies or beliefs and to understand better their own social experience. In sum, the Humanities, Fine Arts and Design core area enables students to broaden and deepen their consideration of the variety of human experience.

Revised October 2008
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

**ASU - [HU] CRITERIA**

**HUMANITIES, FINE ARTS AND DESIGN [HU]** courses must meet either 1, 2, or 3 and at least one of the criteria under 4 in such a way as to make the satisfaction of these criteria a **CENTRAL AND SUBSTANTIAL PORTION** of the course content.

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1. Emphasize the study of values, of the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems, and/or aesthetic experience.

2. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of written, aural, or visual texts, and/or the historical development of textual traditions.

3. Concerns the comprehension and interpretation/analysis of material objects, images and spaces, and/or their historical development.

4. In addition, to qualify for the Humanities, Fine Arts and Design designation a course must meet one or more of the following requirements:
   a. Concerns the development of human thought, including emphasis on the analysis of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought.
   b. Concerns aesthetic systems and values, literary and visual arts.
   c. Emphasizes aesthetic experience in the visual and performing arts, including music, dance, theater, and in the applied arts, including architecture and design.
   d. Deepen awareness of the analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE:**

- Courses devoted primarily to developing a skill in the creative or performing arts, including courses that are primarily studio classes in the Herberger College of the Arts and in the College of Design.

- Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language – However, language courses that emphasize cultural study and the study of literature can be allowed.

- Courses which emphasize the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.

- Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.
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<td>2</td>
<td>Students engage with performative work in the forms of visual, aural, and written texts. Professor provides students with a series of performance text required readings. Additionally, students experiment with writing assignments and in-class exercises intended to illustrate how artists create meaning and knowledge through performance.</td>
<td>Students complete 2 live performance reviews of local work, and develop a 8-10 page analytical essay that requires a close reading of a course-related performance script (Syllabus p. 3-4). Daily class activities also require performance and/or improvisational activities followed by discussion and reflection about the impact of bodily movements, facial expression, physical props, staging, language, and other performance related elements that produce meaning.</td>
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<td>Students study the aesthetic experience of performance as a live medium and ephemeral creative text. Lectures, class activities/discussions, and assignments emphasize an analytical approach the interpretation of symbolism, emotion, reception, and production.</td>
<td>Reading assignments include performance scripts and performance studies essays (Syllabus p.4-8). Writing assignments include analysis of written performance scripts, videotaped performance works, audio recordings, and live performance viewings (Syllabus 3-4). Course emphasizes history and aesthetics of performance as object of analysis (Syllabus p.1).</td>
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