New Course Request Form

1. Date: Sept. 25, 2013  Department: English and Modern Languages

2. Purpose and Nature of Course (include relevant assessment data to support this proposal):

   The purpose of this course, broadly speaking, is to enable students to explore what the influential critic and novelist Susan Sontag has called “the imagination of disaster.” While natural and unnatural disasters have provided Hollywood and science fiction writers with material for decades, less familiar are the meditations on disasters that serious novelists have taken up in literary fiction. In this class students will consider how novelists imagine catastrophe, examining the ways fiction reaffirms, questions, or rewrites the modalities of disaster. Students will examine the recent surge in disaster literature—to what extent is it a predictor of our future and to what extent a warning?

   Because the emphasis of the course is on active discussion and close introspection into the literature, our society, and ourselves, the course objectives are consistent with several elements of the general education mission, including fostering an inquiring mind, use of varied means of seeking truth and acquiring knowledge, and understanding and evaluation of multiple perspectives. Short papers, group work, and on-line discussion forums work together to increase students’ ability to communicate effectively. Students practice scholarship through integrating the course texts and class discussion with outside research, making connections between literature, the world around them, and the effects of their own actions. Through historical examination and cross-cultural analysis, students should leave the course with a greater sense of global connectedness and an idea of how they can exercise their own civic responsibility, culminating in what is perhaps the most important goal of our general education program: the lifelong pursuit of personal growth.

3. Prefix: ENG  Number: 3387  CIP:__________________

4. Course Title: Disaster Literature

   Abbreviated Title (for Master Schedule), Maximum 20 spaces
   DISASTER LITERATURE

5. Credits (Place number of credits beside appropriate types)

   Credit(s) 3 Undergraduate
   Credit(s) _____ Graduate

   For variable credits, list Minimum Credit _____; Maximum Credits _____

6. Clock Hours: Lecture 3  Recitation _____  Lab _____

   Contract Hours: Lecture 3  Recitation _____  Lab _____

7. To repeat for additional credit (not repeat of previously earned grade), list maximum hours of credit that may be earned over multiple Semesters _N/A_____ semester hours.

8. Course Description for Catalog (limit to four sentences):

   This course focuses on analyzing the social, historical, and political contexts of disaster fiction, exploring what it means to “think the unthinkable” in different times and places.

9. Prerequisites: (Courses which MUST be completed prior to taking this course) None
10. Co-requisites: (Courses which must be taken prior to or simultaneously with)  None

11. If taught dual-level or cross-listed with another department, list:
Prefix _____  Number _____Support Signature ________________________________
If dual-level, attach a document that indicates content, assignments and assessments for graduate and undergraduate courses.

12. List Student Learning Outcomes and describe evaluation techniques for this course in an attached syllabus: **Syllabus attached. The course was offered as ENG 3320 in Fall 2012.**

13. Courses to be eliminated: (Course deletion form must be completed): N/A
Prefix _____  Number _____
If none: How will increased offerings be staffed? **The course will be part of the gen ed literature component of the instructor’s regular load.**

14. New faculty resources needed?  ____Yes  _X__ No
15. Requested initial date of offering (Must meet new catalog deadline of March 1) **Fall 2015**
16. Estimated Frequency of Offering: **Every other year**
17. New Library Resources Needed?  ____Yes  _X__ No  If yes:
Signature of appropriate librarian indicating needs can be met: 

18. New Technology Resources Needed?  ____Yes  _X__ No  If yes:
Signature of Director of Information Technology indicating needs can be met: 

19. New Equipment resources needed?  ____Yes  _X__ No, if yes:
Describe Equipment: ____________________________
Source of funding: ____________________________

20. List 1 – 3 sample textbooks for this course:
See attached syllabus

21. Describe any student enrollment restrictions (limited to majors in program XXX, restricted from majors in program XXX, etc.) **None**

22. Request that Course be considered for General Education Credit. Please check applicable boxes.
   a.  _____ Satisfy Foundation of Knowledge Requirement
      i.  _____Written Communication
      ii.  _____Oral Communication
b. ___X___ Satisfy Approaches of Knowledge Requirement
   i. ___X___ Humanities
   ii. _____ Mathematics
   iii. _____ Natural Sciences
   iv. _____ Social and Behavioral Sciences

c. _____ Satisfy Unity and Diversity of Humanity
   i. ______ Language other than English
   ii. ______ Western and Non Western Global Cultures
   iii. ______ Strand 1 Ethics and Civic Responsibility
   iv. ______ Strand 2 Environmental, Economic, Social, and Personal Sustainability
   v. ______ Strand 3 Arts and Human Experience

   You must submit a separate application for General Education Credit.

22. Does this course impact any Education Programs? _____ Yes  ___X___ No
   If Yes: Signature of Chair of TEC must appear below.

23. Special Needs, if any:

   Recommendation Dates and Signatures:          Signature          Date
   Department:                                      ________________  __________
   TEC (if any education program):                 ________________  __________
   Gen’l Education Subcomm. (If necessary):        ________________  __________
   Graduate Council (If necessary):               ________________  __________
   Academic Affairs Committee:                    ________________  __________
   University Senate:                              ________________  __________
   President:                                     ________________  __________

MU Form A41N – Effective 4/1/01