Foundational Component Area: Creative Arts

In the box below, describe how this course meets the Foundational Component Area description for Creative Arts. Courses in this category focus on appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art. The proposed course must contain all elements of the Foundational Component Area. How does the proposed course specifically address the Foundational Component Area definition above?

This course examines various Japanese traditional performing arts from the seventh-century to the present day. At the end of the course, students will be able to identify various genres of traditional Japanese performance arts, analyze their various features and characteristics, compare aesthetic values that are shared between these genres, discuss important individuals and events in the development of the traditional Japanese performance arts, and critically articulate the cultural, social, and aesthetic values that are expressed in these artistic forms.

Core Objectives

Describe how the proposed course develops the required core objectives below by indicating how each learning objective will be addressed, what specific strategies will be used for each objective and how student learning of each objective will be evaluated. The proposed course is required to contain each element of the Core Objective.

Critical Thinking (to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information):

This course exposes students to a wide variety of traditional Japanese musical genres. Emphasis will be placed on developing modes of inquiry and analysis that will give the students opportunities to think critically about these genres, specifically how music serves as a social document that aurally documents social change and aesthetic values in modern-day Japan. This objective will be evaluated by several short analytical summary papers and group presentations that will involve multi-media and audio-visual components.

Communication (to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication):

To help students develop their communication skills, course requirements include observing live or videorecorded performances and several short analytical summary papers and group oral presentations that will include multi-media and audio-visual components. The papers and group oral presentations will be evaluated based on the students' ability to effectively and intelligently express their ideas and synthesize information about traditional Japanese music and its relationship to contemporary Japanese society.

Teamwork (to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal):

An important component of this course includes group presentations using Powerpoint/Keynote, multi-media, and audio-visual components, in which students share their interpretations of key course materials and develop a unified presentation for their classmates.

Social Responsibility (to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities):

One of the learning goals of this course is to expose the students to an unfamiliar musical culture and use creative works from this culture to develop intercultural competence. While this course focuses on the traditional music of Japan, the critical skills acquired will give the students an ability to conceive of regional, national, and global music as texts that construct and reflect social values and aesthetics. This will elevate the role of music in their lives from one which whose function is merely entertainment, to a document that can used to deeply understand the world around them.
Please be aware that instructors should be prepared to submit samples/examples of student work as part of the future course recertification process.