

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.82-94

MEMORANDUM

To..... SENATE
.....
FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
Subject... PROPOSED NEW COURSE G.S. 210-3 -
NON-VERBAL EXPRESSION

From..... SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
.....
Date.. September 15, 1982.....

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of September 14, 1982 gives rise to the following motion:-

MOTION:

*Motion failed
S.M. 4/10/82*

"That Senate approve and ~~recommend~~ approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.82-94 , the proposed new course G.S. 210-3 - Non-Verbal Expression."

Subject to the approval of the course by Senate and the Board of Governors the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies gave approval to waiver of the two semester time lag requirement in order that G.S. 210-3 may be first offered in Spring 1983-1.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL FORM

1. Calendar Information

Department: General Studies

Abbreviation Code: G.S. Course Number: 210

Credit Hours: 3 Vector: 2-1-0

Title of Course: Non-Verbal Expression

Calendar Description of Course: Non-verbal expression plays a highly significant role in personal and social interactions. As such, it has been the subject of study and commentary in the social sciences, literature, the arts and the life sciences. Such behavior, however, is difficult to index and classify in a meaningful, parsimonious fashion. This course introduces the student to recent advances in this endeavour and their application to the study of non-verbal expression in an extensive range of social contexts.

Nature of Course

Prerequisites (or special instructions):

None

What course (courses), if any, is being dropped from the calendar if this course is approved:

No course

2. Scheduling

How frequently will the course be offered? Two semesters per academic year

Semester in which the course will first be offered? Spring '83

Which of your present faculty would be available to make the proposed offering possible? Dr. R.J.C. Harper, course co-ordinator and guest lecturers.

3. Objectives of the Course

1. To document the significance and complexity of non-verbal expression
2. To promote the mastery of generic codes for classifying non-verbal expression at the human level
3. To contribute to the general cultural development of the student

4. Budgetary and Space Requirements (for information only)

What additional resources will be required in the following areas:

Faculty None

Staff None

Library Minor additions to the present book holdings. None in journals

Audio Visual None

Space None

Equipment None

5. Approval

Date: _____

11 June 82

Department Chairman

J.W. Barrett

Dean

Chairman, SCUS

NON-VERBAL EXPRESSION

INSTRUCTOR/CO-ORDINATOR:
R.J.C. Harper

VECTOR: 2-1-0

Ful weel she soong the service dyvnye,
Entuned in her nose ful semely.

Chaucer

.....I have heard,
That guilty creatures, sitting at a play
Have by the very cunning of a scene
Been struck to the soul, that presently
They have proclaimed their malfactions,
For murder, though it have no tongue, will
speak
With most miraculous organ. I'll have these
players
Play something like the murder of my father.
Before mine uncle: I'll observe his looks;
I'll tent him to the quick; if he do blench,
I'll know my course.

Shakespeare

Orientation

Non-verbal expression is a term which covers a wider range of activity than any of the separate disciplines can encompass. Nevertheless, its role in the human condition is of unquestionable significance. From the study of those bodily aspects of personal and social interactions which accompany oral exchanges to the art of mime, such expressions add a complexity and richness to our lives which are surely worthy of interdisciplinary examination. For this reason, the subject lends itself readily to the purposes of general studies offerings in this faculty.

The primary objectives of this course are to develop in the student a sensitivity to the importance of non-verbal expression and its role in personal and social interaction; provide a classificatory scheme that will permit accurate recording and communication of non-verbal components in such interactions; and finally enhance our appreciation and understanding of our own and other cultures.

While primary emphasis in the lectures will be placed on the research literature, extensive use will be made of both documentary and feature films which, by virtue of their subjects, lend themselves to the objectives stated above.
Text: Harrison, R.P., Beyond Words

Lecture Organization

Part I The Evolution of Emotional Expressions:
 (Two Weeks) The nature/nurture controversy - Darwin v. the
 learning theorists. Uncertainty and Instinct.

Part II Non-Verbal Codes
 (Six Weeks) 1. Linguistic and non-linguistic codes
 distinguished.
 2. Research Methods: film, audio and VTR
 techniques
 3. Taxonomics of non-verbal expression
 4. Illustrative analyses.

Part III Non-Verbal Expression in Social Contexts
 1. Social Perception:
 2. Comparative Studies in Non-Verbal
 Expression
 3. Non-Verbal Communication in Art forms
 4. The Writer and the Poet as observers

Guest Lecturers: Professors Zaslove, Kim, Garland and Lyman.

Course Requirements

1. 2 short essays on topics selected in consultation with instructor - 1200 - 1500 words (50% of final grade).
2. Final exam, open-book 50% objective 50% short answer (50% of final grade).