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History

1. Nov 4, 2017 by Samantha Montague (smontag)

New Course Proposal

Viewing: **LA&S 108 : Personal Numeracy**

Last approved: Sat, 04 Nov 2017 09:32:36 GMT

Last edit: Tue, 26 Sep 2017 19:59:15 GMT

Academic Career
Undergraduate, Lawrence

Subject Code
LA&S

Course Number
108

Academic Unit
Department
Liberal Arts & Sciences

School/College
College of Lib Arts & Sciences

Locations
Lawrence

Describe Other Location

Do you intend to offer any portion of this course online?

Yes

Please Explain

This is currently an online only course offered in the 8-week format.

Title

Personal Numeracy

Transcript Title

Personal Numeracy

Effective Term

Fall 2017

Catalog Description

This course will provide the tools to help you understand and make decisions using data. You will learn the basics of human decision making and why relying on numerical data is an important component of good decisions. The class will also help you understand the basics of probability and statistics. This will include fundamental statistical concepts used in everyday decision-making as well as training to perform statistical tests. The class will conclude with applications of numeracy to make sound personal financial decisions regarding spending and borrowing and saving and investing. Throughout the course, you will learn to use Excel to perform calculations, analyze data and spending habits and develop a personal budget.

Prerequisites

None

Does a student need to be admitted to the school/college in order to enroll in this course?

[Cross Listed Courses:](#)

[Credits](#)

3

Course Type

Lecture (Regularly scheduled academic course) (LEC)

Grading Basis

A-D(+/-)FI (G11)

MD Course Category

Course Offered as

Year of Student

Maximum number of students (per rotation)

Typically Offered

Describe Specific Months

Instructor(s)

Instructor Name

Is this course part of the University Honors Program?

No

Are you proposing this course for KU Core?

Yes

Typically Offered

Typically Every Semester

Please explain

Repeatable for credit?

No

Does this course fulfill RSRS (Research Skills Responsible Scholarship)?

Principal Course Designator

NM - Mathematical Sciences

Course Designator

Are you proposing that the course count towards the CLAS BA degree specific requirements?

Yes

Justification for counting this course towards the CLAS BA

We are submitting this course to count for Goal 1.2 so it can be used as one of two required Goal 1.2 courses.

How does this course meet the CLAS BA requirements?

Quantitative Reasoning (QR)

Is this course for licensure?

Describe how:

Will this course be required for a degree, major, minor, certificate, or concentration?

No

Which Program(s)?

Rationale for Course Proposal

Provides numeracy pathway, emphasizing life skills to motivate students who are not receptive to traditional numeracy course. Focus on: numeracy for making decisions, understanding numerical & statistical claims, & making personal financial calculations and choices. It also teaches use of common tools for calculations. Request provisional approval pending CAC approval to make crs avail. ASAP.

Supporting Documents

Syllabus_LAS 108.docx

LAS 108 Course Learning Objectives by week.docx

KU Core Information

Has the department approved the nomination of this course to KU Core?

Yes

Name of person giving departmental approval

Paul Atchley

Date of Departmental Approval

8/14/17

Selected Goal(s)

Do all instructors of this course agree to include content that enables students to meet KU Core learning outcome(s)?

Yes

Do all instructors of this course agree to develop and save direct evidence that students have met the learning outcomes(s)?

Yes

Provide an abstract (1000 characters maximum) that summarizes how this course meets the learning outcome.

Problem: This course is focused on helping students understand why using numerical reasoning is an important part of good decision making. The course shows students how failing to use numerical analyses can lead to bad decisions and then shows them two areas where being numerical can improve their lives.

Selected Learning Outcome(s):

Goal 1, Learning Outcome 2

State how your course uses discussion and course assignments to teach students to solve problems using mathematical functions and numerical techniques. (Please limit responses to 1000 characters.)

LA&S 108 is an 8-week course with a new learning objective for each week. Each week students submit an assignment and also review a peer's assignment and provide feedback. Each assignment includes a practical application of the reasoning or statistical methods and techniques learned in that lesson. Seventy-five percent of the assignments include using numerical methods to make decisions, interpret, and describe existing data using statistical, numerical, and reasoning skills. For these assignments, students perform calculations using a common spreadsheet tool (Excel).

State what aspects of your course or educational experience require students to apply mathematical or statistical principles to organize or process numerical information. (Please limit responses to 1000 characters.) *

Lesson 3 covers frequency, central tendency, and variability and requires students to use that information to summarize data, create tables and graphs within Excel, and interpret descriptive statistics. Lesson 4 focuses on correlation and regression so students can evaluate relationships between variables. Students compute correlations, use regression analysis to make predictions and interpret R-squared, and compute parameters of regression and graph the regression line. In Lesson 5 students learn how to use statistics to make decisions. Students learn to calculate z-scores and test sample data using a z-test. Lesson 7 covers saving and investing and students learn the Rule of 72 to evaluate investments. Lesson 8 requires students to use their skills to develop a financial goal and create a budget to reach that goal, quantify assets and liabilities, and calculate net worth.

State how your course or educational experience will use assignments, readings, class discussion, and lecture to require students to use specific quantitative methods to solve problems and to choose appropriate methods for given problems. (Please limit responses to 1000 characters.) *

The course uses a scaffolded approach to learning in which each lesson contains 1) an individual numeracy exercise for that week's goal, such as a calculating correlations between variables and 2) a separate calculation that will be used in the capstone budget exercise, such as computing the correlation between

spending over time and savings over time. Each weekly lesson includes a reading component as well as a video and/or powerpoint that focuses on understanding and then applying statistical and mathematical reasoning. Assignments are peer reviewed and reflected upon to encourage students to learn from one another and give feedback. The instructor also reviews the assignments for grading purposes.

Indicate the weight of the evidence that will be used to evaluate student performance in the tasks above and how you will use this evaluation for a supermajority (greater than or equal to 60%) of the final course grade. (Please limit responses to 1000 characters.) *

7 exams = 35% of grade, Money habits capstone project = 15% of grade, 7 assignments = 15% of grade, 7 peer-review & reflections = 15% of grade, Money habits assignments = 20% of grade

KU Core Documents
Syllabus_LAS 108.docx
LAS 108 Course Learning Objectives by week.docx

KU Core Effective Semester

Fall 2017

Course Reviewer Comments

Rachel Schwien (rschwien) (Tue, 26 Sep 2017 19:39:35 GMT): Approved through CUSA to be a new course and fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement for Spring 2018 ONLY. CUSA has also recommended this course to fulfill the KU Core Goal 1.2. After the one semester approval, the course will be considered again by CUSA to recommend further action.

Ronda Morgison (rondaball) (Fri, 29 Sep 2017 14:28:49 GMT): #350829 Effective 8/1/2017

Holly Scheirman (h465s133) (Wed, 04 Oct 2017 17:17:32 GMT): Move to UCCC for vote

Holly Scheirman (h465s133) (Fri, 03 Nov 2017 19:29:55 GMT): Course was sent back to department for feedback. Department provided necessary information. Course was approved 10/31.

Judy New (jnew) (Fri, 03 Nov 2017 21:05:29 GMT): Added Core goal to Enroll & Pay Catalog effective Fall 2017. No Schedule of Classes correction needed. JN