

# Grand Challenge Application

There are many grand challenges facing society today, and each Grand Challenge course is centered on one of these contemporary issues that could include but is not limited to *multiculturalism and diversity, economy, climate change, peace and nonviolence, health, renewable energy, social media, international policy, entrepreneurship, sustainability, social justice, and emerging technologies*. Because they are grand, they are interdisciplinary by nature and require interdisciplinary investigation to produce a comprehensive understanding. These challenges also involve ethical judgements and for this reason ethics is an essential component of each course.

Grand Challenge courses are an opportunity for faculty to design a stimulating and innovative course experience that addresses significant global challenges and broadens students' understanding of the critical issues facing them in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Grand Challenge courses:

- May be developed at any level
- May be developed for any size section
- May be offered during any academic term
- Will be designated by a three letter code followed by the suffix "G" (e.g. COM 100G)

Please complete the template below to address the required course components and include with the course submission materials.

Criteria for Grand Challenge courses	Please explain how your course will meet each of the criteria
GRAND CHALLENGE: At the center of Grand Challenge courses are a complex issue of contemporary significance, and in those courses students will be given the opportunity to explore, question, and wrestle with the issue. <b>The contemporary challenge should be evident to both the students and reviewers in the title of the course, the syllabus, and assignments.</b>	

**INTERDISCIPLINARY:** Interdisciplinary study draws on multiple disciplinary perspectives and integrates their insights to produce a comprehensive understanding. It is a process of answering questions, solving problems, or addressing topics that are too broad or complex to be dealt with adequately by a single discipline. **When reviewing the syllabus, students and the Curriculum Committee must be able to recognize the contributions of at least two disciplinary perspectives and how students will make interdisciplinary connections in the assignments, activities, and/or experiences.**

**The proposal should include the following:**

1. An abbreviated reading list that is organized by discipline.
2. A statement that identifies how each discipline is reflected in major course assignments and activities.

**ETHICS:** Each Grand Challenge course presents the ethical challenges associated with the issue and provides students with the skills to *recognize* such challenges as well as *apply* ethical concepts/frameworks in considering the ramifications of alternative actions.

**The proposal should include the following:**

1. An identified ethical framework that allows students to weigh/evaluate issues. This topic needs to show up explicitly in the course schedule.
2. A list of some of the readings pertaining to ethics.
3. A statement describing how ethics is incorporated in some/all of the assignments and activities.