

New Fairfield Public Schools

New Course Proposal

Directions:

Before completing this form, please discuss this proposal with the appropriate administrator(s) in your school. Complete this proposal form thoroughly, and attach any supporting documentation that would help the Board of Education's Curriculum Sub-Committee understand this proposal better. Be sure that you adhere to all deadlines, and be certain to acquire all required signatures. To ensure that a course can be properly planned for, if it is intended for a coming school year, please complete it by October 31. All other proposals can be forwarded at any time of the year.

Course Being Proposed Exploring Sports and Outdoor Literature

Proposal submitted by Bonny Marsicano

School New Fairfield High School

1. Indicate the department/grade level in which this course/program will run.

High School English Department

Grade 12

2. Please indicate if the new course or instructional program is a semester long or year long, and indicate the applicable grade levels. Please indicate the course level if applicable.

Semester length (½ year)

½ English Credit

3 weight

3. Please give the rationale for this proposal, and include its relationship to the past, current and future development of curricular offerings in New Fairfield.

The purpose of this course is to develop independent, critical proficiency in the study of sports and outdoor literature and other non-fiction works; in addition to, fostering a high level of engagement and achievement in writing, reading, listening, viewing, and speaking for both college and career opportunities. This course is intended to be taken either as an elective in

addition to a core English course, or taken to fulfill the senior Language Arts English credit in tandem to another semester length course “Selective.” Sports Literature is a Language Arts class that will examine the unique relationship between sports and society through literature by contemporary authors, columnists and other media. Reading in the course is selected to be high-interest and thought provoking. Text selections will include informational text, poetry, biographies, and commentary. Writing in this course will include argument, informative, and narrative pieces.

4. Please indicate the target population for this proposal.

Grade 12 students interested in pursuing careers related to sports and sports broadcasting, forestry, parks and recreation; or have an avid interest in the subject.

5. Please explain if this course or instructional program is an addition or a replacement for an existing course or program.

This course is being offered as part of the proposed senior “Selectives” choice course offerings. It is being offered in addition to the current course offerings of Individual Perspectives (Currently “Perspectives”), Diverse Perspectives (Currently “Perspectives”), Honors Humanities, AP Language and Composition, AP Literature, and Young Americans (ECE).

6. List any prerequisites for this course or instructional program.

There are no prerequisites other than successful completion of English requirements in grades 9, 10 and 11.

7. Please write a short description of the new course or instructional program that would be suitable for the high school *Program of Studies* or for a curriculum document.

In this course, students read and analyze literature and journalism focused on sports and outdoor living. Through biographies, autobiographies, journalistic articles, and interviews, students explore the impact that sports and outdoor life has on individuals, communities, and countries, including civil and gender rights movements. In addition, they develop their creative and journalistic writing skills, as well as their interview and public speaking skills. As in all senior English courses, students practice the power of

language to build understanding, empower individuals, and spark change as they develop their own effective, unique writing and speaking skills.

8. Please list the long-term course or program goals that define the broad outcomes that this course or program seeks to help students achieve.

This course is designed as part of the senior “Selectives” course offerings to fulfill the proposed high school Pathways of available learning opportunities.

9. Please indicate what topics, units, or material will be used to meet the long-term goals listed above. What assessment strategies will be used in this course or program? What are the unique components of this course or program content that make it a worthwhile addition for our students?

Unit 1: Sports and Outdoor Literature - Themes and life lessons from biographies, autobiographies and feature stories. (6 weeks)

Unit 2: The Role of Sports in American History and Culture - Literary and journalistic works that reveal the role of sports in race and gender issues, college admissions and opportunities; big business, and as a cultural pillar in American society. (7 weeks)

Unit 3: The Power of Journalism - The power of the press; writing styles of iconic sports writers (i.e. Paper Lion); careers. (5 weeks)

(The formal written curriculum is currently in development).

10. Please enumerate the resources – both human and financial – that you anticipate will be needed to develop this course or program correctly. What impact would this proposal have on scheduling, staffing, and resources? Consider training, equipment and space needs.

The course will be taught by a current member of the high school English Department.

11. If this course will require a textbook, what is the title and cost estimate of a likely text?

The course will not require a textbook, however access to online resources including articles, media content, etc. will be required. The purchase of supporting literature may be required, pending finalization of the written curriculum.

12. What impact will this course/program proposal have upon other courses/programs currently being offered in the district?

This course is designed as part of the senior "Selectives" course offerings to fulfill the proposed high school Pathways of available learning opportunities. It is being offered to support and collaborate with courses offered in the Technology, Performing Arts, History, Health and Physical Education related departments.

Signatures of those making this proposal:

Teacher

Date

Benny G. Yarus

Department Chair (if applicable)

01/11/2021

Date

[Signature]

Principal

1/12/21

Date

Julie Ruby

Assistant Superintendent

1/20/21

Date