Proposal Date: 8/31/2013

**University College**

**Department of Honors Academy**

**Proposal to Create a New Course**

**(Action Item)**

Contact Person: Jianjun He, jianjun.he@wku.edu, (270)745-4220

**1. Identification of proposed course:**

* 1. Course prefix (subject area) and number: CHNF 430
	2. Course title: CHINESE CULTURE
	3. Abbreviated course title: CHINESE CULTURE
	4. Credit hours and contact hours: 3
	5. Grade type: standard letter grade
	6. Prerequisites/corequisites: CHNF 420
	7. Course description:

An advanced Chinese Flagship course designed to enhance students’ immersion into Mandarin Chinese by introducing them to the language’s cultural background. Taught entirely in Chinese, students learn both Chinese language and culture through such topics as history, traditional philosophy, political thoughts, religion, arts and literature, medicine and science.

**2. Rationale:**

* 1. Reason for developing proposed course:

CHNF 430 was taught as a temporary course in Spring 2012 and Spring 2013. The Chinese Flagship Program is a relatively new program that is developing its curriculum, especially its upper-level courses. Therefore, after two successful semesters, we would like to list CHNF 430 as a permanent course. The Chinese Flagship Program needs sustained coursework at the advanced level, but currently there are only two 400-level courses, so CHNF 430 is needed to build the curriculum. This particular course will give students a vital cultural context for their Mandarin studies.

* 1. Projected enrollment in the proposed course: 15. This is based on the projected typical cohort size of the Chinese Language Flagship Program.
	2. Relationship of the proposed course to courses now offered by the department:

Chinese Flagship offers courses from the beginning level up to advanced levels. Currently we have two advanced courses CHNF 420, Media Chinese, and CHNF 440, Chinese History. These upper-level courses have very different subjects; therefore, the content and the teaching methods of these three courses are different.

* 1. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other departments:

Chinese is also taught in the Modern Languages Department, and they have a course titled Intro to Chinese Culture (CHIN 105). However, CHIN 105 is taught entirely in English, and this proposed course is taught entirely in advanced Chinese. All Flagship courses are taught at an accelerated rate that is very distinct from CHIN courses. This course is intended for advance Chinese language students who have already studied in China several times before taking this course, which is distinct from CHIN 105.

* 1. Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other institutions:

Universities that also have a Chinese Flagship Program offer a similar course to this one. Those universities include: Indiana University, the University of Oregon, the University of Mississippi, Arizona State University, Hunter College, and Brigham Young University.

Many other universities offer a basic “Chinese Culture” course, but it is strictly a content course taught in English, for students without knowledge of Chinese. CHNF 430 is a course specifically designed for language training. It is different from any Chinese Culture course taught in English.

**3. Discussion of proposed course:**

* 1. Schedule type: L
	2. Learning outcomes: Students successfully completing this course will be able to:
* Read writings in Chinese at the advanced-mid level by the ACTFL standard, compose academic writing, and engage in discussions on complicated cultural topics.
* Communicate in Mandarin through formal writing and speaking on topics related to the basic development of Chinese culture, its achievements and influences.
* Connect the cultural background of China to their ongoing studies in the Mandarin language
* Demonstrate in Mandarin basic knowledge of Chinese history, philosophy, political thoughts, religion, arts, literature, medicine and science.
	1. Content outline: topics include: the geography of China, Chinese mythology, Chinese minorities, Chinese agriculture, Chinese characters, Chinese people’s name, dragon and Chinese culture, Confucius, the Great Wall, the Terre-Cotta warriors, the Silk Road, traditional holidays, traditional calendar, Buddhist arts, Taoism, tea and tea culture, poetry, painting, calligraphy, traditional drama, traditional medicine, traditional architecture, and martial arts.
	2. Student expectations and requirements:

A total of 30 topics will be evenly divided into two categories: 15 topics will be studied in class and students will be responsible to study the other 15 topics and report their study to class by oral presentation. Students will preview the lessons, translate the text of each lesson, and email their translation to the instructor before class. Class discussion and oral presentations are also required.

* 1. Tentative texts and course materials:

*Chinese Culture (*Beijing Language and Culture University Press, 2009)

**4. Resources:**

* 1. Library resources: Current resources are adequate
	2. Computer resources: Current resources are adequate

**5. Budget implications:**

* 1. Proposed method of staffing: current staffing is adequate for Spring ’14 offering; however, Academic Affairs approved on 10/1/13 to hire a new Chinese Flagship faculty member. This will help this course to be sustainable.
	2. Special equipment needed: None
	3. Expendable materials needed: None
	4. Laboratory materials needed: None

**6. Proposed term for implementation:** Spring 2014

**7. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Honors Academy: September 4, 2013

 University College Curriculum Committee October 1, 2013

 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 University Senate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Attachment: Bibliography, Library Resources Form**, **Course Inventory Form**