KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York

CURRICULUM DATA TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH
DATE: 18 March 2015

Title of Course or Degree: English 7000 Sexuality and Literature

Change(s) Initiated: (Please check):
☐ Closing of Degree      ☐ Change in Degree or Certificate Requirements
☐ Closing of Certificate ☐ Change in Degree Requirements (adding concentration)
☐ New Certificate Proposal ☐ Change in Pre/Co-Requisite
☐ New Degree Proposal    ☐ Change in Course Designation
☒ New Course             ☐ Change in Course Description
☐ New 82 Course          ☐ Change in Course Titles, Numbers, Credits &/or Hours
☐ Deletion of Course     ☐ Change in Academic Policy
☐ Other (please describe):

PLEASE ATTACH PERTINENT MATERIAL TO ILLUSTRATE AND EXPLAIN ALL CHANGES

I. DEPARTMENTAL ACTION
Action by Department and/or Departmental Committee, if required:

Date approved: 18 Mar 2015
Signature, Committee Chairperson: ____________________________________________________________________________
Signature, Department Chairperson: ___________________________________________________________________________

II. PROVOST ACTION
Provost to act within 30 days of receipt and forward to College-wide Curriculum Committee exercising one of the following options:
A. Approved ☐  B. Returned to department with comments ☐

Recommendations (if any): _____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature, Provost: __________________________ Date: __________________________

III. CURRICULUM SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:
A. Approved ☐  B. Tabled ☐ (no action will be taken by Curriculum Committee)

Recommendations (if any): _____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature, Sub-Committee Chair: __________________________ Date: __________________________

IV. COLLEGE-WIDE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE ACTION
Committee to act within 30 days of receipt, exercising one of the following options:
A. Approved ☐ (forwarded to Steering Committee)
B. Tabled ☐ (Department notified)
C. Not Approved ☐ (Department notified)

Signature, Chairperson of Curriculum Committee: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Revised/Oct. 2013
1) **Course Number and Title:** English 7000: Sexuality and Literature
2) **This course is an elective within the English concentration and Women’s and Gender Studies concentration**
3) **Transferability of This Course**: 

- *Baruch College:* ENG 4525: Lesbian and Gay Themes in 20th Century Literature
- *Brooklyn College:* ENG 4110/74: Queer Literary Studies
- *Hunter College:* ENGL 322: Queer Voices, Queer Literature in the United States after 1945, and Topics in Gender and Sexuality in Literature
- *John Jay College:* ENG 220: Sex Roles in Literature
- *Lehman College:* ENG 345: Topics in Gender and Sexuality
- *Queens College:* ENG 325: The Queerness of Childhood and Gender and Sexuality in the Literature of HIV/AIDS, ENG 395: Transgender Narratives: From Gender Inversion to Gender Fluidity, and E
- *LaGuardia Community College:* ENG 252: Sexuality in Literature; ENG261: Literature of Difference-Lesbian/Gay Writers
- *Borough of Manhattan Community College:* English 346: Queer Literature
- *New York University:* ENGL-UA 749: Queer Literature
- *Columbia University:* ENGL 3983: Sexuality and the Arts
- *SUNY Purchase:* LIT 3004: Lesbian and Gay Poetry

In addition, many Women’s and Gender Studies courses also include literature, culture, and art in their concentration courses, i.e., the College of Staten Island and Hunter College, as does the LGBT Studies program at Brooklyn College.

4) **Bulletin Description of the Course**
An introduction to the study of literature in which themes of heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer identity are central, including the relationships between these works and the larger historical, philosophical, political, and cultural contexts, and its local and global intersections with the social identities of race, class, gender, ethnicity, nationality, and ability.

5) **Number of Weekly Course Hours:** 3
6) **Number of Credits:** 3
7) **Course Prerequisites:** English 1200: Freshman English I

8) **Brief Rationale**
   A. N/A
   B. 25
   C. 25
   D. **Offered:** Every semester

9) **Department's Curriculum and College's Mission:**

   This course will fill a gap in Kingsborough's literature elective course topics by providing an introduction to literary traditions in which themes of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and heterosexual experience are central components, as an area that has become increasingly significant in contemporary literary studies. It also offers students an opportunity to consider themes long regarded as central in global literature, such as the meaning of love, the role of nonconformity, the search for spirituality, and the power of family. In English 7000 students will apply the techniques and concepts of literary scholarship to examine the roles that race, ethnicity, class, gender, language, sexual orientation, belief, and other forms of social differentiation play in world cultures or societies.

10) **Withdrawn Courses:** N/A

11) **Internship or Independent Study:** N/A

12) **Textbooks:**

13) **Required Course for Concentration:** N/A

14) **Open to All Students**

15) **Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
   - Do close readings of literary texts, including summarizing and annotating, and understand theoretical, historical, philosophical, anthropological, and literary contexts and terms.
   - Create central arguments that include a clear topic, a solid stance, and provide support for main ideas by quoting, paraphrasing, and analyzing passages from texts.
   - Recognize writing processes, receive feedback from peers, conference with professor, and revise major writing assignments.
   - Engage in rigorous discussion that fosters critical reflection about life, the local and global world, and the texts through collaborative interaction.
   - Write grammatically and mechanically correct papers and cite in MLA format.
15) Methods of Teaching:

- Lecture and class discussion
- Group work and group project(s)
- Individual and group presentations from students or others (professors from within or outside of the Department)
- Media resources
- Cultural events or learning activities (readings)

16) Assignments to Students: Assigned readings, journals, essays, written and oral responses and portfolios, in-class writing exercises, group work and group presentations.

17) Methods of Evaluating Learning: Students will be evaluated by the professor on the basis of the following graded assignments and activities (as specified in the syllabus distributed on the first day of class instruction):

- Class participation: 10%
- Group work and readings: 10%
- Informal writing assignments, journals: 30%
- Formal writing assignments, two essays (25% each), 50%

18) Topical Course Outline: Tentative Schedule

Week 1: Introductions and Spoken Word

Week 2: Poetry

Week 3-4: Novel
Lecture/ Discussion: James Baldwin’s Giovanni’s Room

Week 5: Poetry and Autobiography
Lecture/ Discussion: Cherrie Moraga’s Loving in the War Years

Week 6: Autobiography
Lecture/ Discussion: Audre Lorde’s Sister Outsider
Week 7: Creative Writing
Writing Workshop/Conference

Week 8: Film
Viewing/Discussion: Maryam Keshavarz’s Circumstance

Week 9: Play
Tony Kushner’s Angels in America

Weeks 10-11: Autobiography
Joan Nestle’s, Clare Howell’s, and Riki Wilchins’ Genderqueer: Voices from beyond the Sexual Binary

Week 12: Analytical Writing and Course Wrap-Up
Writing Workshop/Conference

19) Selected Bibliography and Source Materials:

Bibliography:

Critical Texts:
- Judith Butler, Gender Trouble, Bodies that Matter
- Mark Lily, Lesbian and Gay Writing: An Anthology of Critical Essays
- Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage: A Reader’s Companion to the Writers and Their Works, from Antiquity to Present, Claude Summers
- A Critical Introduction to Queer Theory, Nikki Sullivan
- Epistemology of the Closet, Eve Sedgwick

Proposed Anthologies:
- Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time
- The World In Us: Lesbian and Gay Poetry of the Next Wave, An Anthology
- The Columbia Anthology of Gay Literature: Readings from Western Antiquity to the Present Day
- The Penguin Book of International Gay Writing
- Gay and Lesbian Poetry: An Anthology from Sappho to Michelangelo

Poetry, Novels, Novellas, Plays, and Short Stories
- James Baldwin, Giovanni’s Room
- Jeanette Winterson, Written on the Body, Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit
- Caryl Churchill, Plays: One
- Adrienne Rich, The Dream of a Common Language
- Allen Ginsberg, Howl
- Armistead Maupin, Tales of the City
- Audre Lorde, The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde
Films

- Boys Don’t Cry
- My Life in Pink
- The Last Time I Wore a Dress
- Normal
- The Crying Game