

Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Spring 2017

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IRA Funds Request for First Year Composition Santa Rosa Island Trip

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Stacey Anderson
Activity Title	First Year Composition Santa Rosa Island Trip
Activity/Event Date	March 10-12, 2017
Date Funding Needed By	January 31, 2017
Previously Funded?	No
Semester/Year	—
Proposal #	—
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	—
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	—
Additional Report #1	—
Additional Report #2	—
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	—
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	English Program
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	n/a
Amount Requested from IRA	\$3,912.00
Estimated Number of Students Participating	24
Conditions and Considerations	Field Trip
Brief Activity Description	<p>I am teaching two first year composition courses this year, both of which include students who are participating in the Student Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF) Living-Learning Community. I designed my courses around the theme of the Channel Islands because this was the theme of this year's overall SURF community. The expectation was that my courses would only contain students who were part of SURF (and would already have two opportunities to visit the Santa Rosa Island Research Station (SRIRS), once in fall 2016 and again in spring 2017). It turns out that only 15 out of the expected 40 students enrolled in SURF, which means I opened up my composition courses to other first year students. My ENGL 102 course this semester has 7 SURF students and 11 regular students. These students will continue on in the spring with me for ENGL 103. The ENGL 105 course I will teach in spring will have 7 or 8 SURF students and 12 or 13 regular students. This will leave me with 24 students altogether who will be studying and writing about the Channel Islands but will not have the chance to experience the Islands for themselves unless this application is funded.</p> <p>So far, the students in ENGL 102 are responding very positively to our course theme, and those who are not part of SURF are eager to visit SRIRS. Students have been watching the documentary West of the West during the first five weeks of the semester and maintaining an "Island Journal" in which they explore their perspectives on the topics and issues regarding the Channel Islands that are explored in the film. Students will then write three essays in which they expand upon the ideas they raised in the journal. Given that our campus was strategically named after the Channel Islands when we could easily have been called CSU Camarillo, and given how tied our campus is to the interdisciplinary mission of SRIRS, this theme is proving to be a fruitful way of integrating place-based learning, interdisciplinarity, and sustainability into the composition curriculum. In the spring of 2017, we will continue this theme by exploring literary texts set on the Channel Islands (e.g. Island of the Blue Dolphins, San Miguel, When the Killing's Done) and using those as the foundation for research-based essays.</p> <p>After visiting SRIRS twice now with first year students, I am a firm believer that it can be a transformative experience for first year students. (I have documented this in videos posted on this site: http://ci.comp.populr.me/surf/) Every CI student should have the opportunity to take their learning outside the classroom and immerse themselves in the space that is so fertile for interdisciplinary and experiential learning. This trip would deepen students' thinking and writing skills and inspire them in their future academic pursuits. First year students are still deciding which fields of study to pursue, and this is the kind of experience that can help shape their paths.</p>
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	<p>ENGL 103 (Stretch Composition II) and ENGL 105 (Composition and Rhetoric I)</p> <p>ENGL 103 and 105 share the same learning outcomes, which fall under the categories of Critical Thinking, Communication Skills, Research Skills and Personal Growth. While all ENGL 103 and 105 work from common syllabi, their theme and assignments vary according to the course theme. The theme is intended to contextualize the learning experience for students. In this case, the theme of the Channel Islands will deepen students' ability to develop as readers, writers, thinkers, and members of our community of learners as well as the campus culture at large. Having the opportunity immerse themselves in the space they have been researching and writing about, to write, think, and collaborate in a space with a rich cultural and environmental legacy, and to retreat from the distractions of electronic and social media will foster both personal and intellectual discovery in the students. They will connect with nature, their classmates, and faculty in a manner that will enhance their connection to CI and increase their chances of retention and success at the University.</p>
Description of	Students will complete pre- and post-trip surveys and reflective writing assignments that assess their expectations for and outcomes from the trip.

Assessment Process	These assessments will focus on sense of place, sense of isolation, and sense of community (which are the three principles that undergird CI student trips to SRIRS). Students will answer questions before and after the trip that assess their understanding of the Channels Islands as a site for exploring interdisciplinarity and sustainability. Ultimately, the research papers that this trip will inform will be included in their final portfolios, which will be assessed via holistic team scoring by other faculty in the composition program.
Activity Budget	AndersonSRIRSIRABudget2017.xlsx
CIA Budget	---
CIA Proposal	---
Course Syllabus	---
CIA Certification	---
Other Sources of Funding	n/a
Target Audience/Student Marketing	The intended audience is the students who will enroll in my classes. The students who are currently in ENGL 102 and will be in the corresponding ENGL 103 course have already been told that my intention is to take them to Santa Rosa Island in the spring if we are able to secure funding through IRA. If funding is secured before students enroll for spring courses, I will be able to use our composition program social media outlets to advertise the class and the trip to prospective students.
Bring Benefit to Campus	---
Sustainability	This activity is integrally connected to the sustainability mission of CI. The Santa Rosa Island Research Station is an ideal and formative setting for helping students understand their relationship to the earth and its resources. Islands in general are fascinating sites for exploring the resources that can be taken for granted on the mainland. Visitors to SRIRS are challenged to reflect on their own imprint in terms of energy and water usage and the production of waste. The new Sustainability Platform at SRIRS measures the water and electricity used and waste generated by each visiting group and compares that to state, national, and international averages. This can be a transformative experience for students who are not accustomed to making a mindful decision every time they flip a light switch or flush a toilet. Students become more mindful of their resources, which in turn allows them to become more efficient with their time and personal energies as well. Time that would be wasted on long showers and blow drying sessions is spent connecting with their classmates and the environment of the island. Rather than focusing on charging their phones, students focus on recharging their intellectual and spiritual energies. They come to realize how much of the "stuff" they think is essential to every day living they can actually live without.
Program Chair/Director	brad.monsma
Dean	james.meriwether
Acknowledgement	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

Program Chair/Director Review

Recommendation	---
Name	---
Date/Time	---
Validation	---
Comments	---

Dean Review

Recommendation	---
Name	---
Date/Time	---
Validation	---
Comments	---

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	---
Comments	---

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
Review from brad.monsma, Program Chair/Director	10/3/2016 8:13:11 PM	Bradley Monsma
Edit Request	10/3/2016 8:13:11 PM	Stacey Anderson

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Fill out Request	10/3/2016 7:53:54 PM	10/3/2016 8:13:11 PM	Stacey Anderson

Actions

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