Section 1. Course Title and Description

If the course contains a lecture and laboratory component, identify both the lecture and laboratory numbers (xxx and xxxL) and credit hours associated with each. Provide the complete description as it will appear in the system common or unique database, including pre-requisites, co-requisites, and registration restrictions.

Prefix & No.  Course Title  Credits
Soc 702  Sociological Inquiry  3

Course Description: The course focuses on the use of sociological theory in both basic research and sociological practice. It examines the nature and uses of the broad orienting theories that guide sociological work, and also the production and application of unit theories which provide answers to specific research questions. Students participate in class activities through which they learn various aspects of theorizing.

Section 2. Review of Course

Will this be a common or unique course? (select the appropriate option below)

X This course will be a unique course. (Go to Section 3.)

Indicate universities that are proposing this common course:
BHSU  DSU  NSU  SDSMT  SDSU  USD

Section 3. Other Course Information

1. Are there instructional staffing impacts?

X No. Replacement of Soc 716, Symbolic Interaction, 3 which is (prefix, number, name of course, credits) being deleted. Effective date of deletion: January 1, 2013 (Spring semester, 2013)

2. Existing program in which course will be offered: Master’s Program in Sociology

3. Proposed instructional method: E - Seminar
4. Proposed primary delivery: **001 - Face to Face**

5. Term in which change will be effective: **Spring, 2013**

6. Can this course be repeated for additional credit?
   
   _____ Yes, total credit limit: _____  X _____ No.

7. Will the grade for this course be limited to S/U (pass/fail)?
   
   _____ Yes  _____ X _____ No

8. Will section enrollments be capped?
   
   _____ X _____ Yes, maximum per section 20 _____  No

9. Will this course be equated (i.e. considered the same course for degree completion) with any other unique or common course in the course database?
   
   _____ Yes  _____ X _____ No

   If yes, indicate the course(s) to which it will be equated.

10. Is this prefix already approved for your university?
    
    _____ X _____ Yes  _____ No

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**Section 4. To be completed by Academic Affairs**

1. University department code: **SRSOC**
1. Provide specific reasons for the proposal of this course and explain how the changes enhance the curriculum.

This course is one of two new courses that are being proposed to reinforce the Master’s degree program in sociology. Taken together these courses will result in a greater emphasis on the development of marketable research skills by Master’s level students. This course will emphasize the uses and importance of theory in conducting research and will be a replacement for Soc. 712, Sociological Theory I, and Soc 713, Sociological Theory II, as required theory courses for Master’s students.

This course will address a number of consistently identified difficulties that students experience as they attempt to understand sociological theory and as they attempt to complete the coursework required for their programs.

1. As students gain understanding of the different types of theory and uses for theory they will be able better able to apply different types of theory appropriately in their own work.

2. Students will be better able to use the results of empirical research as they gain practice at abstracting theoretical statements from the analysis of empirical generalizations.

3. The course will create a more clear distinction between Master’s and Ph.D. level coursework and will provide a needed improvement in the availability of courses for Master’s level students who continue to enroll in the Ph.D. program.

4. The course will also be available for students entering the Ph.D. program. When otherwise good students from other disciplines are admitted to the Ph.D. program this course will provide a more suitable alternative for remediating deficiencies relating to working with sociological theory than the current practice of requiring them to take additional undergraduate coursework.

2. Note whether this course is:  
   - X  Required  
   -  Elective

3. In addition to the major/program in which this course is offered, what other majors/programs will be affected by this course?
4. If this will be a dual listed course, indicate how the distinction between the two levels will be made.

5. Desired section size  

6. Provide qualifications of faculty who will teach this course. List name(s), rank(s), and degree(s).

Qualifications:
Ph.D. in Sociology
Specialization / expertise in Sociological theory & theory construction.

Potential Faculty:
Donald Arwood, Professor, Ph.D.
Jake Janzer, Assistant Professor, Ph.D.
Meredith Redlin, Professor, Ph.D.
Peter Froelich, Assistant Professor, Ph.D.

7. Note whether adequate facilities are available and list any special equipment that will be needed for the course.

Yes, adequate facilities are available and no special equipment will be needed.

8. Note whether adequate library and media support are available for the course.

Yes, library resources and media support are adequate for this course.

9. Will the new course duplicate courses currently being offered on this campus?

_________ Yes  _______ X____ No

If yes, provide justification.

10. If this course may be offered for variable credit, explain how the amount of credit at each offering is to be determined.

This course will not be offered for variable credit.

11. Add any additional comments that will aid in the evaluation of this request.

This course is being proposed as part of a more comprehensive initiative to upgrade and strengthen the graduate curriculum in sociology. Strong research skills are needed in order for Master’s level students to be successful in either the job market or in the pursuit of a more advanced academic degree. This course will provide greater emphasis on the uses and application of theory in the context of research and as such will strengthen students’ understanding of sociological theory, their ability to develop and conduct meaningful research, and their ability to effectively generalize and communicate research results.