George Mason University
Graduate Course Approval/Inventory Form

Please complete this form and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. Complete the Coordinator Form on page 2, if changes in this course will affect other units.

Please indicate:  

_X_ NEW  
___ MODIFY  
___ DELETE

Local Unit:  CSS  
Graduate Council Approval Date:

Course Abbreviation:  CSS  
Number:  640

Full Course Title:  HUMAN AND SOCIAL EVOLUTIONARY COMPLEXITY

Abbreviated Course Title (24 characters max.):  HUM SOC EVOLUT COMPLEXTY

Credit hours:  3:3:0  
Program of Record:  CSS

Repeatable for Credit?  

_D=Yes, not within same term  Up to ___ hours

_T=Yes, within the same term  Up to ___ hours

_N=Cannot be repeated for credit

Activity Code (please indicate):  

_X_ Lecture (LEC)  
_Lab (LAB)  
_Recitation (RCT)  
_Studio (STU)  
_Internship (INT)  
_Independent Study (IND)  
_X_ Seminar (SEM)

Catalog Credit Format  3:3:0  
Course Level:  GF(500-600)  
GA(700+)

Maximum Enrollment:  20  
For NEW courses, first term to be offered: Fall 2006+

Prerequisites:  CSS 600 and CSS 620 or permission of instructor

Catalog Description (35 words or less) Please use catalog format and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses: Examine the long-term evolution of human and societal complexity from a global, cross-cultural perspective, with an emphasis on computational aspects leading towards today’s globalization. Global history from the computational social science perspective.

For MODIFIED or DELETED courses as appropriate:

Last term offered:  
Previous Course Abbreviation:  
Previous number:

Description of modification:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Submitted by:  
__Prof. Claudio Cioffi-Revilla_  
_email: _ccioffi@gmu.edu

Department/Program:  
_Center for Social Complexity_  
_Date: ___2/3/2004___

College Committee:  
_________________________  
_Date: _____________________
Course Name and Number: CSS 640 Human and Social Evolutionary Complexity (3:3:0)

Catalog Description: Examines the long-term evolution of human and societal complexity from a global, cross-cultural perspective, with an emphasis on computational aspects leading towards today’s globalization. Global history from the computational social science perspective. Prerequisite: CSS 600, CSS 620, or permission of instructor.

Syllabus Topics:
Review of complexity-theoretic
Global chronology
Principles of evolution
Evolutionary models of human and social complexity
Data and inference methods
Human and social computation
Organizational strategies
Adaptation in social and physical environments
Time scales
Synchronous and asynchronous processes
Civilizational dynamics
Globalization

This course also involves field visits and research at selected cultural sites in the Washington metropolitan area: Smithsonian museums, Dumbarton Oaks, Library of Congress

Reading Resources:
Long-Term Change in World History http://www.longtermchange.net/