

Bard CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HATE

September 26, 2020

To: Faculty members throughout the Bard Network

From: Ken Stern, Director, Bard Center for the Study of Hate

Re: Funding for creation of new hate-specific courses

Dear Colleagues,

As those of you on the Annandale campus know, there is now a new course initiative for Hate Studies, meaning courses that intersect this definition: "Inquiries into the human capacity to define, and then dehumanize or demonize, an 'other,' and the processes which inform and give expression to, or can curtail, control, or combat, that capacity."

With funding from GS Humane Corp, we now have an opportunity to provide stipends for the creation of new hate-specific courses, meaning courses that directly focus on hatred. The goal is to build a robust and intense focus on hate across disciplines, and to do so in ways that give opportunities for faculty to create new courses tailored to their teaching and research interests.

I invite faculty members from across the network to consider creating hate-focused courses (details on the stipend are below). Classes can be from any program or division. Interdisciplinary classes (including team-taught ones) and "big idea" classes are also encouraged. Faculty need not consider themselves "expert" in hate -- a main goal is to help students grapple with this phenomenon.

TYPES OF COURSES: Courses should focus directly on hatred. They can be from a particular discipline (The Sociology of Hate, the Art of Hate, the Literature of Hate, the Politics of Hate, the Economics of Hate, Hate and Religion, etc.). They might be about a particular question of interest to you (Hate and the Environment, Hate and the Media, Hate and the LGBTQ community, Hate and Immigration, Hate and Film, Hate and Pandemics, Hate and Free Speech, Hate and Human Rights, Hate and Iconography, etc.) or multidisciplinary (for example, Hate through the lenses of Social Psychology and Political Science [which would, one hopes, shed some light on why hateful appeals work on individuals, and the political implications thereof], or perhaps Hate through the lenses of Philosophy and History [which might examine what thinkers have thought about hate (as emotion, as a system of ideas, as an attitude, as a

behavior, etc.) and how these manifestations are reflected (or not) in historical events, etc.]. A general interdisciplinary course on hate is also appropriate.

This is also an opportunity for faculty who want to create and teach a class together across network campuses.

If you have other ideas for courses that focus on hate that don't neatly fit the above criteria, I'm eager to hear your thoughts too.

REQUIREMENTS: BCSH will offer \$750 for any new class on hate from a single professor, and \$2000 to be divided among professors for a new team-taught class on hate from different disciplines. The money would be paid only after the class is taught, and the professor has to pledge to teach it a minimum of 3 times in the next 6 years.

DEADLINES: We will continue to fund proposals for as long as our funding lasts, but we encourage one or two-page descriptions of proposed courses detailing their focus and potential readings to be submitted by November 1, 2020.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO YOU IN THINKING ABOUT NEW

COURSES: BCSH maintains a database of hate courses from around the world (including a model interdisciplinary one and the four network courses on hate taught in the Bard network in 2014) here: <https://bcsh.bard.edu/hate-studies-syllabi/>. The reading materials from last year's faculty reading group on hate (in Annandale) are here: <https://bcsh.bard.edu/wp-content/blogs.dir/165/files/2020/01/faculty-readings-on-hate-80619e.pdf>.

For more information, to simply to brainstorm what might be fun for you to consider teaching (and how BCSH can be supportive in the process beyond providing the stipend) please email or call BCSH director Ken Stern – kstern@bard.edu, 718-503-4441.