*The following course descriptions come directly from the undergraduate course catalog. Assume that the instructors of these courses have come to you for feedback on their syllabi. The instructors have pasted these items verbatim into the syllabi. What advice would you give the instructors about things to keep and things to modify in order to communicate effectively with students?*

**Sample 1:** Literary humor expressed as satire, comedy, and farce--from ancient times to the present--in an international and multicultural context. CMLIT 105CMLIT 105 The Development of Literary Humor (3) (GH;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. [CMLIT 105](http://undergraduate.bulletins.psu.edu/search/?P=CMLIT%20105) is a broadly international course dealing with the nature of comedy and humor in literature. You will read samples from a broad spectrum of humor, including comedy, wit, satire, parody, irony, and farce. Through discussion and writing, you will also examine the techniques through which humor criticizes human nature, analyzes society, and expresses differing world views. The syllabus may be represented chronologically or divided into topics or literary forms that suggest various emphases, functions, and objects of literary humor. This course will provide opportunity to discuss both the widespread, or even universal, aspects of literary humor, and the diversity of literary humor across cultures and time periods. At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to understand and compare various literary forms and social, political, and cultural contexts that define humor and to assess the extent to which literary humor is or is not translatable across cultures or ethnic communities, or other groups. This course fulfills requirements for the Comparative Literature major, the World Literature minor, General Education Humanities, Bachelor of Arts Humanities, and General Education International/Intercultural Competency. Student performance in this course will be measured in a variety of ways, including some or all of the following (always including writing and discussion): -in-class and/or take-home essays/exams -literary diaries or reaction papers -in-class and/or online discussion/participation -individual and/or group in-class presentations/projects -research or topic papers.

**Sample 2:** Introduction to horticulture with emphasis on plant domestication, morphology, classification, world food crops, commodities, gardens, propagation, and agrochemicals. [HORT 101](http://undergraduate.bulletins.psu.edu/search/?P=HORT%20101) Horticultural Science (3) (GN)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. The course content of Horticulture 101, as indicated in the complete course outline, deals with the fundamental concepts and specialty areas, which contribute not only to the science and technology involved in horticulture but also to the art. It provides an overview of the role of various specialties of the natural sciences (e.g. plant morphology, physiology, taxonomy, genetics and nutrition, pest management, management and production of crops, landscaping and technology) relevant to a range of plant uses from medicinals and food production to the aesthetic benefits derived from plants. The course begins with the origin and domestication of plants followed by: A. An Overview of horticulture which includes an explanation of the horticulture industry, how to achieve success in horticulture and the relationship between horticulture and the environment; B. Science in horticulture which includes the classification of plants, plant propagation, plant nutrition, environmental factors affecting plant growth and development, plant growth regulators, post harvest physiology and pest management; C. Management and production of horticultural crops which include nursery, floral, turfgrass, vegetable, fruit and nuts; D. Landscaping including designing landscapes, xeroscapes and sitescapes, establishing and maintaining landscapes; and E. Concluding with Technology in horticulture. The course content additionally includes major areas of knowledge based on the fundamentals, universal concepts and achievements in the cluster of scientific disciplines comprising horticulture and provides students with the opportunity to appreciate that the origins, domestication and production of cultivated plants are the essence of human existence.