

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS**  
**NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**  
**PROGRAM AREA: PSYCHOLOGY**

**1. Catalog Description of the Course.** [Include the course prefix, number, full title, and units. Provide a course narrative including prerequisites and corequisites. If any of the following apply, include in the description: Repeatability (May be repeated to a maximum of \_\_\_\_ units); time distribution (Lecture \_\_\_\_ hours, laboratory \_\_\_\_ hours); non-traditional grading system (Graded CR/NC, ABC/NC). Follow accepted catalog format.]

**PSY 441 THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SPACE (3)**

Three hours lecture per week

Prerequisite: Upper division standing

Examines different psychological views of space and time, including how we define, and organize space and place. The course will examine the idea of psycho-geography as represented in the works of Yi Fu Tuan, Gaston Bachelard's *The Poetics of Space*, and Mircea Eliade's concept of sacred space, and James Hillman's concept of the anima mundi. The course will also look at how different cultures understand space through an examination of traditional philosophies, religions, myths and rituals.

GenEd: D, E, & Interdisciplinary.

	Units:	Hrs/Unit	Benchmark	Enrollment
<b>2. Mode of Instruction:</b> Lecture	3	1		25

**3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course. (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) [Use as much space as necessary]**

Upper-division elective for psychology majors

This course is an examination of the concept of space - internal and external - from a number of social, cultural and psychological perspectives. Students completing this course should be able to do the following:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how human beings experience, conceptualize, organize, and interact with space.

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding how personality and social processes shape concepts of space

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how experience of space is influenced by individual differences related to gender, ethnicity, and culture

Use psychological theory to understand interpersonal and group behavior related to space

Demonstrate self-awareness of their own feelings, emotions, motives, and attitudes about space – internal and external

*Note: All learning objectives in psychology are taken from Allen, Noel, Deegan, Et. al. (2000). Goals and Objectives for the Undergraduate Psychology Major: Recommendations from a Meeting of California State University Psychology Faculty. Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 2).*

**4. Is this a General Education Course? If Yes, indicate GE category:**      Yes

D (Social Perspectives)

E (Human Psychological & Physiological Perspectives)

(Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE)

## 5. Course Content in Outline Form

Psychological Space and Time  
Sacred Space  
Profane Space  
Cultural Conceptions of Space  
Organization of Space  
Dwellings  
Psycho-Geography  
Fear and Space  
Dreamscapes  
Anima Mundi  
Mythology of Space

## 6. References

Tuan, Y.T., Hoelscher, S. (2001). Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Tuan, Y.T. (1981). Landscapes of Fear. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Eliade, M. (1968). The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion. New York: Harvest Books.

Bachelard, G. (1994). The Poetics of Space. New York: Dimensions.

Hillman, J. (1992). Re-Visioning Psychology. New York: Dimensions.

## 7. Qualified Faculty Kevin Volkan

	Fall Semester:	Spring Semester:	Summer Semester:
8. Frequency	No	Yes	No

9. New Resources Required. None

10. Consultation *Attach consultation sheet from all program areas, Library, and others (if necessary)*

11. If this new course will alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program, attach a program modification

Proposer of Course: Kevin Volkan

Date: Wednesday, January 08, 2003