PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY TO ESTABLISH OR MODIFY AN UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

Title of minor: Interdisciplinary Minor in Asian American Studies

Sponsoring unit:
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College sponsor: Ann M. Mester, 3-1350, mester@uiuc.edu

Brief description of the program of study:
The Interdisciplinary Minor represents a coherent program for students who wish to deepen their study of Asian American experiences and issues as a complement to their majors in liberal arts and other curricula such as education, economics, urban and regional planning, social work, health education, and business. The minor curriculum currently consists of 21 hours of courses in five categories, restricting the Humanities and Social Sciences requirements to lower level courses. (See attached from Program of Study description.) Revised modification seeks to allow students to select from a wider range of courses, including upper level courses. Course limits are set for a maximum of three (3) 100-level courses and a minimum of two (2) advanced (300- or 400-) level courses.

Justification:
With the growth in the Asian American Studies curriculum, we anticipate a larger number of courses to become available at the upper level. Further, as an interdisciplinary program, many students minoring in Asian American Studies can benefit from the opportunity to take upper level courses.
As a result, we are revising our undergraduate minor curriculum to reflect this growth as well as to allow maximum flexibility for both teaching and learning situations at the undergraduate level.

Budgetary and Staff Implications:
No budgetary and staff implications are anticipated as a result of the proposed modification.

Requirements:

Total: Minimum of 21 hours from the approved list of courses

a) Required: AAS 100 Introduction to Asian American Studies (3 hours)
b) Social Sciences courses
A minimum of 3 courses from approved list (9 hours)
c) Humanities courses
A minimum of 3 courses from approved list (9 hours)
f) Other criteria

No more than 6 hours (beyond AAS 100) may be at the 100 level. At least six hours of 300- or 400-level courses are required.

Prerequisites for the minor:
No prerequisites for the minor.

Expected enrollment in the minor:
Each academic year an average of 5-7 students are expected to graduate with an interdisciplinary minor in Asian American Studies. During 2006-2007, 10 students graduated with a minor.

Admission to the minor:
Students are required to meet with the Asian American Minor advisor to plan a study program, and approval is required to submit the statement of intent to declare a minor.

Minor advisor:
Assistant Director of Asian American Studies Program acts as the Minor Advisor. (S)he communicates with students in person initially to develop a plan of study and also in an ongoing basis to ensure students make satisfactory progress toward completing the minor. The advisor also coordinates with faculty members to review minor modification requests from students.

Certification of successful completion:
The college of the student will confirm whether the minor has been completed, based on the course work designated by Asian American Studies and LAS. If a Minor Modification Form is needed, LAS will review the course substitutions, in consultation with Asian American Studies if needed, and approve completion of the minor with the college of the student.

Proposed Effective Date: upon completion

CLEARANCES:

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Head/chair of the sponsoring department or unit:

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Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unit:

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Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee: