

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.11.17

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



January 5, 2011

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the Undergraduate Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies.

This proposal has been approved by the Committee on Courses and Curricula in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz  
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: Mester

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Dean  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
294 Lincoln Hall  
702 South Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801-3631



November 18, 2010

Kritsi Kuntz  
Assistant Provost  
Swanlund Administration Building  
MC-304

Dear Kristi:

The Committee on Courses and Curricula on behalf of the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has voted to approve the following proposals:

**Revision of the Existing Undergraduate BALAS in Gender and Women's Studies**  
**Revision of the Existing Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in Gender and Women's Studies**  
**Revision of the Existing Undergraduate Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies**

Please address all correspondence concerning these proposals to me. These proposals are now ready for review by the Senate Educational Policy Committee for proposed implementation Fall 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ann M. Mester'.

Ann M. Mester  
Associate Dean

enclosures

C: Professor Chantal Nadeau  
Professor Sharra Vostral

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

## **Title of the proposed minor:**

Revision of Existing Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Studies) Department of Gender & Women's Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

## **Sponsoring unit(s):**

Gender & Women's Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Chantal Nadeau, Professor & Chair, Gender & Women's Studies, 217-333-2990;  
nadch@illinois.edu

## **Brief description of the program of study:**

This proposal requests approval to modify the requirements and remove "Interdisciplinary" from the title for the existing undergraduate minor in LGBT/Queer Studies. These changes will align the minor with proposed changes to the Gender & Women's Studies major and additions to the curriculum. The minor advocates understanding gender, sexualities, identities and queer politics. A minor in LGBT/Queer Studies provides complementary tools for many majors in the humanities, arts and sciences.

The revised minor proposes to:

- 1) Change the "Required Courses"
  - a. Maintain 6 required hours, from which students must take two courses.
  - b. Replace the choice of GWS 470 Trans Bodies & Politics or GWS 459 Postcolonial/Queer with GWS 202 Sexualities or GWS 255 Queer Lives, Queer Politics.
  - c. Change the name of GWS 370 Intro to Queer Studies to GWS 370 Queer Theory.
- 2) Designate "Additional Coursework"
  - a. Require 9 hours at the 300 & 400 level.
  - b. All courses originate from and are owned by Gender & Women's Studies.
- 3) Area electives (See Appendix A)
  - a. Change to 3 hours
  - b. Consists of courses both department controlled and cross-listed with GWS.
- 4) The total distribution of hours will be 18.

5) For a comparison of the revisions from the current to proposed minor see Appendix B “crosswalk table.”

**Justification:**

Gender and Women’s Studies is a vibrant interdisciplinary department that coordinates a wide range of research, teaching and public service activities emphasizing intersectional approaches to the study of gender, race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality in national and transnational contexts. Forging an array of approaches drawing on social sciences, humanities, sciences, education, design and engineering, architecture, and law, to name a few, our various methods aim to enable our undergraduate and graduate students to have a better understanding of gender as an intrinsic part of the ways we interpret and shape the competing landscapes that we inhabit.

Gender and Women’s Studies has 16 faculty members totaling 8.75 FTE; all but one is jointly appointed. Six professors have GWS as a home department. Professors at all ranks are nationally and internationally recognized for their scholarship, receive outstanding teaching evaluations, and are frequent recipients of fellowships and awards. Faculty members hold doctorates in many different fields including African Economic History, Communication Studies/Film Studies, Educational Policy Studies, English, Ethnic Studies, History, Political Science, Sociology, Sports Studies and Sociology of Culture, and Women’s Studies. The current chair hold a 100% appointment in GWS, and all other faculty members hold joint appointments from 25% to 75% with nine different unit including: African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Communication, Education Policy, Organization and Leadership, English, History, Media and Cinema Studies, and Political Science.

With the recent approval of the change from program to departmental status, Gender & Women’s Studies is poised to restructure its major and minors and better define its mission in light of faculty additions and promotions. Faculty members have defined signature areas to guide the future growth and direction of the department, and align both developing scholarship with attention to undergraduate education and graduate training. The mission of the department of Gender & Women’s Studies is to examine relationships of power, identity and transformation by: 1) reading narratives & representations; 2) questioning institutions & cultures; 3) challenging discrimination and inequity; 4) understanding racialized, sexualized, and queer bodies. This mission encourages students to think broadly about intersections of race, gender and sexuality while challenging discrimination and inequities. The revised LGBT/Q Studies minor will not only reflect current scholarship in the field, but also it will meet the students’ needs for a more comprehensive program of study.

The current minor was developed at a time when GWS had only 4.0 FTEs, thus the minor needed cross-listed courses taught by GWS affiliates to be viable. With growth in the number of faculty and new courses added to the course catalog, the department is well suited to serve the needs of students who choose the minor. The proposed addition of 200-level courses addresses the dire need to better prepare students for upper-level

coursework. It will greatly benefit each student to have grounding in the field before undertaking rigorous and in-depth senior-level coursework.

The revised minor allows students to choose their elective from GWS cross-listed courses; these courses offer a variety of interdisciplinary methods and topics while helping students become proficient in their chosen field of study.

However, there are two important reasons why we can no longer solely rely on cross-listed courses to fulfill requirements. First of all, we cannot ensure the quality of courses controlled by another unit. Many of the faculty who originally proposed and taught these courses no longer teach on this campus, or no longer teach that particular course. Too often students report that cross-listed courses seem outdated or irrelevant compared to the courses they take from GWS professors, or that the instructor seems uninformed about key issues and questions in feminist and gender studies.

Secondly, we cannot guarantee that cross-listed courses are offered regularly. The unexpected cancellation of needed courses puts GWS in the difficult position of relying on last minute substitutions or independent studies. The revised GWS major and the GWS and LGBT/Queer minors give our department control over the curriculum. We will be able to guarantee that students will have access to the courses they need so that they can graduate on time. We are also committed to continue interdisciplinary cooperation with other units through listing "meets with" courses. We have had great success with this model. For example, from Fall 2007 to the present, Gender and Women's Studies Faculty and affiliates have taught courses that "meet with" the following units: African Studies, African American Studies, American Indian Studies, Anthropology, Art and Design, Asian American Studies, Communication, English, Educational Policy Studies, History, Latina/Latino Studies, Media and Cinema Studies, and Psychology.

The proposed revision to the LGBT/Q Studies minor addresses the need for the department to have control over the courses required in the minor, to better reflect the expertise of the faculty, and to provide consistent training to students. The revisions to the minor represent change at three critical levels: pedagogical approaches, intellectual strands, and renewed management of resources. Our faculty has expanded sufficiently to offer the courses in a regular rotation, which will ease scheduling conflicts, reduce the need for independent studies, and allow students to graduate in a timely fashion. The revised minor reflects an appropriate match of faculty to student need, while still relying upon cross-listed courses offered by affiliates to fulfill elective requirements. In addition, new course offerings at all levels, approved and posted in the course catalog, will deepen and broaden students' experiences with the minor.

#### **Budgetary and Staff Implications:**

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed

None.

- b. Internal reallocations (e.g. change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.)

None. The LGBT/Queer Studies minor helps provide structure to better regularize course offerings and teaching rotations.

- c. Effect on course enrollment in other departments and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments

These changes should not substantially affect enrollments in other departments.

- d. Impact on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.

No significant change beyond the current needs.

**Requirements:**

Students must complete a total of 18 hours:

6 hours of required coursework.

- GWS 202 Sexualities OR GWS 255 Queer Lives, Queer Politics
- GWS 370 Queer Theory

9 hours of additional coursework offered by the GWS department at an advanced level (300 & 400) selected from the approved list (below) available in the department office and from the department advisor. Other courses offered by GWS may be approved by the GWS advisor (e.g. GWS 395 or GWS 495).

- GWS 325 Lesbian/Queer Media Cultures
- GWS 385 Transnational Sexualities
- GWS 387 History of Sexuality in the US
- GWS 459 Postcolonial Queer
- GWS 467 Locating Queer Culture
- GWS 470 Trans Bodies & Politics
- GWS 478 Sex, Power & Politics

3 hours of electives at any level. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department office or the GWS advisor.

At least 6 hours of advanced coursework must be distinct from credit earned for the student's major or another minor.

Students may choose to major in Gender & Women's Studies and Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies, but classes may not count towards both.

**Prerequisites for the minor:**

None.

**Expected enrollment in the minor:**

An estimated 15-20 students are expected to choose the minor once it achieves its full enrollment.

**Admission to the minor:**

Students self-select the minor based upon interest in the field and completed coursework. At this time, we plan to accommodate those students who seek to fulfill the requirements of the minor without limiting enrollment. There is sufficient flexibility to increase the number of minors without harming the scope and quality of the curriculum.

Students who wish to declare a GWS major and LGBT/Queer Studies minor will be permitted. There is sufficient content difference in the LGBT/Queer courses to justify declaring both. In other institutions, LGBT/Queer composes a stand-alone major. The intellectual landscape of this minor places queer methodologies, theory, and approaches at the core of every class, with attention to gender, nation, family, history, identity formation, sexology, the state and capital as vectors of analysis.

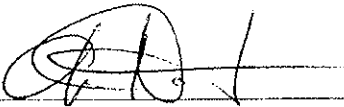
**Minor advisor:**

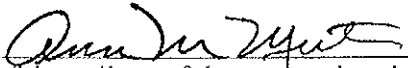
The Department of Gender and Women's Studies must approve a student's minor course plan. Students must register their minor with the Gender and Women's Studies advisor.

**Certification of successful completion:**

The college of the student will confirm whether the minor has been completed, based on the course work designated by LAS and Gender and Women's Studies.

CLEARANCES

 08/11/10  
Head/chair of the sponsoring department or unit:

 11/18/10  
Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unit:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee:

**Proposed Effective Date:**

August 15, 2011



## Statement for the Programs of Study Catalog:

### Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies

The LGBT/Queer Studies minor provides students the opportunity to explore how various political, social, and cultural definitions of sexual identities and their expression have been constructed and challenged in different places and points in time. Attention is given to queer politics, and interactions with nation, race, ethnicity, and gender. A minor in LGBT/Queer Studies provides complementary tools for many majors in the humanities, arts and sciences.

The Department of Gender and Women's Studies must approve a student's minor course plan. Students must register their minor with the Gender and Women's Studies advisor.

E-mail: [gws-email@illinois.edu](mailto:gws-email@illinois.edu)

Hours	Requirements
3	GWS 202      Sexualities OR GWS 255      Queer Lives, Queer Politics
3	GWS 370      Queer Theory
9	<b>Additional Coursework<sup>1</sup></b> Choose 3 courses offered by the Gender & Women's Studies department from the list below:  GWS 325      Lesbian/Queer Media Cultures GWS 385      Transnational Sexualities GWS 387      History of Sexuality in the U.S. GWS 459      Postcolonial/Queer GWS 467      Queer Inquiry, Local Stories GWS 470      Trans Bodies and Politics GWS 478      Sex, Power and Politics
3	Area electives at any level. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department office or the GWS advisor.

18	Total hours
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1. Topics courses (GWS 395, 495) may count up to 3 hours toward additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor. GWS 390 or GWS 490 may count up to 3 hours toward additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor.

At least 6 hours of advanced coursework must be distinct from credit earned for the student's major or another minor.

Students may choose to major in Gender & Women's Studies and Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies, but classes may not count towards both.

## Appendix A

### Area Electives (3 hours)

The following lists current courses that fulfill the “Area Electives” requirement.

3 hours of electives at any level. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department office or the GWS advisor.

Boldface indicates the controlling unit for cross-listed courses not controlled by GWS.

#### **GWS controlled courses**

GWS 100	Intro to Gender & Women’s Studies
GWS 199	Undergraduate Open Seminar
GWS 250	Intro to GWS Humanities
GWS/SOC 255	Queer Lives, Queer Politics
GWS 265	Gender, Place & Space
GWS 295	Beginning Topics in GWS
GWS 301	GWS Lab, Studio & Practicum
GWS 325	Lesbian/Queer Media Cultures
GWS 330	Bodies and Technologies in Popular Culture
GWS 333	Writing Lives
GWS 337	Interrogating Masculinities
GWS 350	Feminist & Gender Theory
GWS 355	Beauty & Makeovers
GWS 363	Gender, Health & Popular Culture
GWS 365	Gender, Science and Technology
GWS 370/SOC 320	Queer Theory
GWS/ENG 378	Fairy Tales & Gender Formation
GWS/AFRO 380	Black Women: Histories and Cultures
GWS 382	Black Women & Popular Culture
GWS/HIST 385	Transnational Sexualities
GWS/ HIST 387	History of Sexuality in the U.S.
GWS 390	Individual Study
GWS 395	Intermediate Topics in GWS
GWS 455	Girls and Popular Culture
GWS 459	Postcolonial/Queer
GWS 460	Transnational Feminisms
GWS 462	Hip-Hop Feminism
GWS 467	Locating Queer Culture
GWS 470	Trans Bodies and Politics
GWS 478/ PS 413	Sex, Power and Politics
GWS/AAS 485	The Politics of Fashion
GWS 490	Individual Study
GWS 492	Senior Thesis
GWS 495	Advanced Topics in GWS

**Cross-listed Courses**

<b>AFRO/GWS 103</b>	Black Women in the Diaspora
<b>GWS 150</b>	Contemp Women's Issues
<b>AAS/GWS 215</b>	US Citizenship Comparatively
<b>THEA/GWS 218</b>	Intro to Social Issues Theatre
<b>ANTH/GWS 225</b>	Women in Prehistory
<b>AFRO/GWS 226</b>	Black Women Contemp US Society
<b>CLCV/GWS 240</b>	Sex & Gender in Antiquity
<b>HIST/GWS 245</b>	Women & Gender Pre-Mod Europe
<b>ANTH/GWS 258</b>	Sex in Nature and Culture
<b>SOC/GWS 261</b>	Gender Transnational Perspective
<b>ANTH/GWS 262</b>	Women's Lives
<b>HIST/GWS 263</b>	US History of Medicine
<b>GER/GWS 270</b>	Sexuality and Literature
<b>PS/GWS 272</b>	Women and Politics
<b>ENG/GWS 280</b>	Women Writers
<b>ENG/GWS 281</b>	Women in the Lit Imagination
<b>HIST/GWS 285</b>	US Gender History to 1877
<b>HIST/GWS 286</b>	US Gender History Since 1877
<b>HIST/GWS 287</b>	African-American Women
<b>AAS/GWS 315</b>	War, Memory, and Cinema
<b>LLS/GWS 320</b>	Gender & Latina/o Migration
<b>PORT/GWS 334</b>	Brazilian Women's Lit Trans
<b>HDFS/GWS 340</b>	Gender, Relationships & Society
<b>MS/GWS 356</b>	Sex & Gender in Popular Media
<b>ARTH/GWS 360</b>	Women and the Visual Arts
<b>EALC/GWS 361</b>	Women in East Asia
<b>SCAN/GWS 375</b>	Scandinavian Sexualities
<b>AFRO/GWS 383</b>	Hist of Blk Women's Activism
<b>LLS/GWS 392</b>	Chicanas&Latinas: Self&Society
<b>RLST/GWS 403</b>	Women in Muslim Societies
<b>CHLH/GWS 409</b>	Women's Health
<b>AFRO/GWS 415</b>	Africana Feminisms
<b>THEA/GWS 417</b>	Leading Post-Perform Dialog
<b>THEA/GWS 418</b>	Devising Social Issues Theatre
<b>EPSY/GWS 421</b>	Sex Role Theory in Counseling
<b>ARCH/GWS 424</b>	Gender & Race in Contemp Arch
<b>CMN/GWS 432</b>	Gender & Language
<b>LLS/GWS 435</b>	Commodifying Difference
<b>KIN/GWS 442</b>	Body, Culture & Society
<b>LLS 442/GWS 445</b>	US Latina Lit and Iconography
<b>CWL/GWS 450</b>	Topics in Bodies and Genders
<b>LLS/GWS 465</b>	Race, Sex, and Deviance
<b>HIST/GWS 469</b>	Women, Autobiography & History

## Appendix B

### LGBT/Queer Studies Minor “Crosswalk Table”

Current (18 hours)

Required Courses (2 courses; 6 hrs)

GWS 370 Queer Theory  
GWS 470 Trans Bodies and Politics OR  
GWS 459 Postcolonial Queer

Electives (4 courses, 12 hrs)

Includes both dept. controlled and  
cross-listed courses  
(list provided in POS)

Proposed (18 hours)

Required Courses (2 courses; 6 hrs)

GWS 370 Queer Theory  
GWS 202 Sexualities OR  
GWS 255 Queer Lives, Queer Politics

Additional Coursework (3 courses, 9 hrs.)

Choose from list of LGBTQ courses  
offered by dept.  
(list provided in POS)

Area Electives (1 course, 3 hrs)

Includes both dept. controlled and  
cross-listed courses  
(list maintained by dept.)