

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.11.30

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 Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Gender and Women's 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: C. Nadeau
A. Mester
S. Vostral

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,

Ann M. Mester
Associate Dean

enclosures

C: Professor Chantal Nadeau
Professor Sharra Vostral



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE:

Revision of Existing Undergraduate BALAS in Gender and Women's Studies, Department of Gender & Women's Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

SPONSOR:

Chantal Nadeau, Professor & Chair, Department of Gender & Women's Studies, 217-333-2990; nadch@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT:

Ann M. Mester, Associate Dean, College of LAS, Phone (217) 333-1350; mester@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

This proposal requests approval to revise the requirements for the undergraduate major in Gender & Women's Studies.

There are three sets of skills that the major will develop and emphasize: critical analyses, theoretical approaches and research methods. The sequencing of the courses and the level structure are designed to develop specific skills required by each of these components. At the 200-level, students will receive exposure to interdisciplinary methods and approaches to undertake feminist and gendered analyses, and learn what it means to use gender, sexuality, race and power as critical lenses through which to view society and culture. Through topic-specific courses at the 300-level, students will investigate the deployment of gender in various locations, such as the media, popular culture, or science and technology. At the 400-level, students will have opportunities to develop in-depth projects in seminars to foster their research skills, with more personal attention from professors.

Structure of the revised major

Under the previous major, the 15 required hours were referred to as “core courses.” Students were required to take: GWS 100, GWS 250, and GWS 498 and choose one course fulfilling the Historical Perspectives and one course fulfilling the Global and Comparative Perspectives categories.

The revised major proposes to:

- 1) Rename prior “Core Courses” as “Required Courses”
 - a. Reduce the number of required hours from 15 to 12 hours.
 - b. Replace GWS 100 Intro to Gender Studies & GWS 250 Intro to Gender Studies in the Humanities with GWS 201 Race, Gender & Power and GWS 202 Sexualities. GWS 100 and GWS 250 will still be offered and may be included toward the hours earned toward the major.
 - c. Discontinue the categories Historical Perspectives and Global and Comparative Perspectives.
 - d. Allow students to choose between GWS 350 Feminist & Gender Theory or GWS 370 Queer Theory
 - e. Maintain GWS 498 as a Senior Seminar and capstone
- 2) Designate “Additional Coursework” (See Appendix B)
 - a. Require 15 hours.
 - b. All courses originate from and are owned by Gender & Women’s Studies.
 - c. No more than one may be counted from the 100 or 200 level.
- 3) Area Electives (See Appendix C)
 - a. Change from 18 hours to 6 hours.
 - b. At least one must be transnational or non-U.S. based (3 hours).
 - c. Includes courses both department controlled and cross-listed with GWS.
 - d. No more than one may be counted from the 100 or 200 level.
- 4) The total required hours remain the same at 33 hours.
- 5) For a comparison of the revisions from the current to proposed major see Appendix D “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 major 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 major was developed at a time when GWS had only 4.0 FTEs; thus the major needed cross-listed courses taught by GWS affiliates to be viable. Within this structure, most of the courses listed to fulfill what were called "core" courses and requirements, including "Historical Perspectives" and "Global & Comparative Perspectives," were generated outside of GWS. Due to this structure, students could select the majority of their requirements from cross-listed (i.e. external) courses. Many students arrived at the final capstone course with widely different exposures to current research in gender and sexuality studies, and some had severe gaps in their understanding of key concepts and theories. The students also demonstrated very different skill levels in critical thinking, reading and writing.

The revised major requires students to complete the majority of their coursework with classes controlled and generated by GWS; these courses offer a variety of interdisciplinary methods and topics while helping students become proficient in their chosen field of study. Advising within GWS will continue to have a crucial role in guiding students toward clusters of interconnected classes, so that students may customize the major to satisfy their interests and needs, and complete the program in a timely fashion. The revised structure provides flexibility for many of the students who delay declaring the major or who chose to double major in Gender & Women's Studies.

Altogether GWS students will receive a more consistent and coherent education without sacrificing interdisciplinary approaches or individual interests.

There are two important reasons why we can no longer rely on cross-listed courses in our curriculum. 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, external 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 major addresses the need for the department to have control over the courses required in the major, to better reflect the expertise of the faculty, and to provide consistent training to students. The revisions to the major represent change at three critical levels: pedagogical approaches, intellectual strands, and renewed management of resources. There exists sufficient faculty strength to offer the courses regularly, which will ease scheduling conflicts and allow students to graduate in a timely fashion. It also distinguishes between courses generated by the department and cross-listed classes originating outside of it by requiring 27 of the 33 hours to be fulfilled with courses offered by the Department of Gender & Women's Studies. The remaining six hours will continue to draw upon cross-listed and meets-with courses offered by affiliates. In addition, new course offerings at all levels, approved and posted in the course catalog, will deepen and broaden students' experiences while fulfilling the major.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: *(Please respond to each of the following questions. Place your response right after each item. See Appendix A for additional information.)*

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed

None.

- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments)

The 100 and 200-level courses have undergone restructuring in the past three years, so that the reallocations will not significantly affect teaching loads. Currently, GWS 100 is offered twice per year. With the revised major it will be offered once per year with sections (with the possibility for a smaller version in the spring). We will reallocate those TAs or graders to support GWS 201 & GWS 202, which are also pending approval for GE credit.

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

Due to the current size of the program and the number of majors, the changes will have minimal impact upon course enrollment in other units. Discussions with other units and instructors have been positive.

- d. Impact on the University Library (*A letter of acknowledgement from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals.*)

No significant change beyond the current needs.

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

No significant change beyond the current needs.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 15, 2011

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

Gender and Women's Studies

www.gws.illinois.edu

Department Chair: Chantal Nadeau

Program Office: 911 South Sixth Street, Champaign, (217) 333-2990

The mission of the Department of Gender & Women's Studies is to examine relationships of power, identity and transformation by: 1) reading narratives and representations; 2) questioning institutions and cultures; 3) challenging discrimination and inequity; and 4) understanding racialized, sexualized, and queer bodies.

A major in Gender & Women's Studies encourages students to think broadly about intersections of race, gender and sexuality while challenging discrimination and inequities. Students majoring in Gender & Women's Studies gain foundational skills to examine gender, race, class, ethnicity, religion and sexuality in relation to local, national, colonial, post-colonial and transnational contexts. The major forges together an array of feminist and intersectional approaches which draw upon social sciences, humanities, sciences, arts and community engagement. Students will sharpen their abilities to critically analyze gender, approach problems theoretically, and utilize cross-disciplinary research methods to question institutions and cultures.

Major in Sciences and Letters Curriculum

E-mail: gws@illinois.edu

www.gws.illinois.edu

Degree title: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Minimum required courses: 33 hours.

General education: The [LAS General Education](#) requirements are designed to automatically fulfill the Campus General Education requirements.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Departmental distinction. To be eligible for graduation with distinction, a student must have a college grade-point average of 3.5 and a Gender and Women's Studies Concentration grade point average of 3.5.

High distinction. To be eligible for graduation with high distinction, a student must have a college grade point average of 3.5, a Gender and Women's Studies Concentration grade-point average of 3.7, and a supervised project, initiative, or intervention beyond the scope of normal coursework.

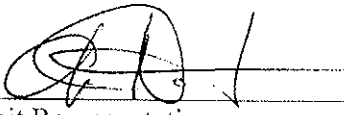
Advising: The Gender and Women's Studies Department provides advising for students to help plan a coherent program of study.

Hours	Requirements
9	Required Courses GWS 201 Race, Gender & Power GWS 202 Sexualities GWS 498 Senior Seminar
3	GWS 350 Feminist & Gender Theory OR GWS 370 Queer Theory
15	Additional Coursework¹ At least 15 additional hours of coursework offered by the Gender & Women's Studies Department, with no more than 3 hours at the 100 or 200 level. Required courses are offered by the Department of Gender & Women's Studies and are on an approved list maintained in the department office and with the GWS advisor.
6	Area Electives Two courses, at least one of which must be transnational, non-U.S. No more than one may be counted from the 100 or 200 level. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department office or the GWS advisor.
33	Total required hours

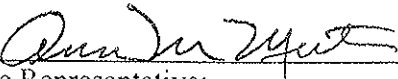
1. Topics courses (GWS 199, 295, 395, 495) may count up to 3 hours toward the additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor. GWS 390 or GWS 490 may count up to 3 hours toward additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) - - These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

Signatures:


Unit Representative:

08/11/10
Date:


College Representative:

11/18/10
Date:

Provost Representative:

Date:

Educational Policy Committee Representative:

Date:

**Appendix A:
(Budgetary and Staff Implications)**

New Degree Programs – Required Budgetary Implication Questions

Not applicable. This is a revision to a currently established major.

Revised Programs – Notes on Budgetary and Staff Implications

There are no budgetary implications to the change in programming. The changes rely on the same number of faculty, who will be teaching the same number of courses. They will be developing some new courses, as well as formalizing courses that have already been taught under the GWS 395 Intermediate Topics and GWS 495 Advanced Topics rubrics. Permanent staff requirements remain the same with the current Associate Director (new title pending) and Office Support Specialist.

Appendix B

Additional Coursework (15 hours)

The following lists currently approved courses to fulfill the “Additional Coursework” requirement.

At least 15 additional hours of coursework, with no more than 3 hours at the 100 or 200 level. Required courses are offered by the Department of Gender & Women’s Studies and are on an approved list, reviewed by the GWS curriculum committee, and maintained in the GWS department office and with the GWS advisor.

Topics courses (GWS 199, 295, 395, 495) may count up to 3 hours toward the required coursework with consent of the GWS advisor. GWS 390 or GWS 490 may count up to 3 hours with consent of the GWS advisor.

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

Appendix C

Area Electives (6 hours)

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

Two courses, at least one of which must be transnational, non-U.S. No more than one may be counted from the 100 or 200 level. These courses, currently as listed below, are reviewed by the GWS curriculum committee, and maintained in the GWS department office and with the GWS advisor.

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

Area Elective

AFRO/GWS 103	Black Women in the Diaspora
GWS 150	Contemp Women’s Issues
AAS/GWS 215	US Citizenship Comparatively
THEA/GWS 218	Intro to Social Issues Theatre
ANTH/GWS 225	Women in Prehistory
AFRO/GWS 226	Black Women Contemp US Society
CLCV/GWS 240	Sex & Gender in Antiquity
HIST/GWS 245	Women & Gender Pre-Mod Europe
ANTH/GWS 258	Sex in Nature and Culture
SOC/GWS 261	Gender Transnational Perspective
ANTH/GWS 262	Women’s Lives
HIST/GWS 263	US History of Medicine
GER/GWS 270	Sexuality and Literature
PS/GWS 272	Women and Politics
ENG/GWS 280	Women Writers
ENG/GWS 281	Women in the Lit Imagination
HIST/GWS 285	US Gender History to 1877
HIST/ GWS 286	US Gender History Since 1877
HIST/ GWS 287	African-American Women
AAS/GWS 315	War, Memory, and Cinema
LLS/GWS 320	Gender & Latina/o Migration
PORT/GWS 334	Brazilian Women's Lit Trans
HDFS/GWS 340	Gender, Relationships & Society
MS/GWS 356	Sex & Gender in Popular Media
ARTH/ GWS 360	Women and the Visual Arts
EALC/GWS 361	Women in East Asia
SCAN/GWS 375	Scandinavian Sexualities
AFRO/GWS 383	Hist of Blk Women's Activism
LLS/GWS 392	Chicanas&Latinas: Self&Society
RLST/GWS 403	Women in Muslim Societies

CHLH/GWS 409	Women's Health
AFRO/ GWS 415	Africana Feminisms
THEA/GWS 417	Leading Post-Perform Dialog
THEA/GWS 418	Devising Social Issues Theatre
EPSY/GWS 421	Sex Role Theory in Counseling
ARCH/GWS 424	Gender & Race in Contemp Arch
CMN/GWS 432	Gender & Language
LLS/GWS 435	Commodifying Difference
KIN/GWS 442	Body, Culture & Society
LLS 442/GWS 445	US Latina Lit and Iconography
CWL/GWS 450	Topics in Bodies and Genders
LLS/GWS 465	Race, Sex, and Deviance
HIST/GWS 469	Women, Autobiography & History

Transnational or non-U.S. based Elective

GWS/HIST 385	Transnational Sexualities
GWS/HIST 459	Postcolonial/Queer
GWS 460	Transnational Feminisms
GWS/AAS 485	The Politics of Fashion
PORT/GWS 334	Brazilian Women's Lit Trans
SCAN/GWS 375	Scandinavian Sexualities
AFRO/GWS 415	Africana Feminisms
EALC/GWS 361	Women in E. Asia

Appendix D

Gender and Women's Studies Major "Crosswalk Table"

Current (33 hours)

Required Courses (3 courses, 9 hrs)

GWS 100 Intro to GWS OR
 GWS 250 Gender Studies Humanities
 GWS 498 Senior Seminar
 GWS 350 Feminist & Gender Theory

Electives (6 courses, 18 hrs)

Select from list maintained by dept.
 Includes both dept. controlled and
 cross-listed courses

Historical/Global Perspectives

(2 courses, 6 hrs; 1 from each category)

Historical Perspectives
 Global & Comparative Perspectives
 Includes both dept. controlled and
 cross-listed courses
 (list provided in POS)

Proposed (33 hours)

Required Courses (4 courses, 12 hrs)

GWS 201 Race, Gender, and Power
 GWS 202 Sexualities
 GWS 498 Senior Seminar
 GWS 350 Feminist & Gender Theory OR
 GWS 370 Queer Theory

Additional Coursework (5 courses, 15 hrs)

Select from any course controlled by dept.
 (list maintained by department)

Area Electives

(2 courses, 6 hrs; 1 from each category)

Area Electives
 Transnational or Non-U.S. Based Electives
 Includes both dept. controlled and
 cross-listed courses
 (list maintained by department)