



Curriculum and Assessment Office
4132 Smith Laboratory
174 W. 18th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone (614) 292-7226
Fax (614) 688-5678
artsandsciences.osu.edu

January 27, 2010

W. Randy Smith
Vice Provost
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall, 190 N. Oval Mall
CAMPUS

Dear Randy:

The Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (CCI) unanimously approved a **new minor in Andean and Amazonian Studies** on January 22, 2010. The main contacts for this proposal are Abril Trigo (trigo.1@osu.edu), Fernando Unzueta (unzueta.1@osu.edu), and Carol Robison (robison.26@osu.edu). This proposal was also approved by the CCI Interdisciplinary Initiatives Subcommittee on November 2, 2009 (see transmittal history at end of packet for details.)

This proposed minor is derived primarily from an articulation between the existing undergraduate offerings in this area and the new M.A. in the same area that also under consideration. The undergraduate Andean and Amazonian Studies Minor requires the completion of 10 prerequisite hours in Portuguese, Spanish or Quechua at the 200 level or above (not taught in English) as well as a minimum of 25 hours for the minor. Required in the 25 minor hours are 10 hours in History 368.02(5) and Spanish 332(5). Students then choose 10 hours from the core courses, in which at least 75% of the content deals with the Andean and Amazonian region, and 5 hours from a list of elective courses which contain a minimum of 25% content in the Andean and Amazonian region.

Despite the high level of prerequisite work, which is addressed in the CCI Interdisciplinary Initiatives subcommittee memo and subsequent responses to their questions, the proposers of this minor maintain that it will fulfill the needs of students majoring not only in Spanish and Portuguese, but also in areas such as History, Anthropology, Geography, International Studies, and Political Science. The introductory Quechua language courses, for example, already have 21 students enrolled, a number far above peer institutions offering similar language programs. As stated in the proposal, no peer institutions have a formalized program in Andean and Amazonian Studies, despite the fact that such studies span a region of 9 countries and more than 70 million people, and that both Quechua and Portuguese are designated Priority Languages by the U.S. government.

The CCI felt that this new minor would be a ground-breaking and exciting addition to the curriculum for students because the interdisciplinary minor not only helps students identify and structure a specialization from related courses in many fields, but also potentially allows students to capitalize on developing language programs and areas of faculty expertise at Ohio State.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance as CAA considers this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen M. Hallihan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen M. Hallihan
Director, Curriculum and Assessment

c: Randy Smith
Melissa Soave
Terry Gustafson
Mary Ellen Jenkins