



October 13, 2010

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

Dear Randy:

On October 1, 2010 the Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (CCI) approved a **new interdisciplinary B.A. in Sexuality Studies**. The main contacts for this proposal are Debra Modellmog (modellmog.1@osu.edu) and Mollie Blackburn (blackburn.99@osu.edu). Before this, the proposal was approved by the CCI Interdisciplinary Initiatives Subcommittee on April 16, 2010 after multiple meetings as well as the CCI Arts and Humanities Subcommittee on March 15, 2010. The transmittal history at the end of the attached packet contains detailed information on those deliberations.

The proposed new B.A., devoted to the interdisciplinary analysis of human sexuality, has evolved out of the highly successful minor in Sexuality Studies launched at Ohio State in 2002. (A Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Sexuality Studies was introduced in 2006.) DISCO (Diversity and Identity Collective at OSU) will house the new major. The new major will incorporate ASC and non-ASC course work, which will make Ohio State one of the first universities to offer a truly interdisciplinary major in Sexuality Studies. This new degree was designed to prepare undergraduates for careers in fields related to public policy, sexual health, social work, and for graduate school in the humanities, social sciences, and education. An initial full-time enrollment of 5 students is expected in the first year, with growth to a total of 25 admissions by the fourth year (see table on pages 9-10 of proposal).

As described in the accompanying subcommittee proposal, the major is composed of three parts:

- 10 credit hours of Core Cluster courses (CS/PAES 214 and a GLBT-focused course chosen from a list or an approved GLBT elective);
- 15 credit hours of Focus Area courses (with no more than 10 hours at 300-level or below). Students choose one of nine tracks (adolescent sexuality, intersecting identities, counseling, LGBTQ, education, sociology, health, women, history) or can develop a track with an academic advisor and the approval of the director. Five hours of thesis or internship can count toward the Focus Area.
- and 25 credit hours of Sexuality electives (no more than 5 hours at 200-level) with courses currently available in Anthropology, Classics, Comparative Studies, Education, English, History, Human Development and Family Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, Women's Studies (renamed: Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies), and Sexuality Studies.

Discussions at the ASC Committee on Curriculum and Instruction level identified several areas for revision:

- Developing predefined Focus Areas. A meeting between Terry Gustafson, Valarie Williams, Debra Moddelmog, and Mollie Blackburn yielded a more structured major with nine Focus Areas;
- Rewording learning outcomes. These were resolved in subsequent versions of the proposal;
- Revising and clarifying some of the expectations for course work: Sexuality Studies 620 can no longer be repeated up to 15 hours; Molecular Virology, Immunology, and Medical Genetics 694 was removed from list of electives; rule requiring course work from two or three different colleges was deemed confusing and removed.

The ASC Committee on Curriculum and Instruction was pleased with the revision and concurrence processes undergone by the proposers of this new degree, which have resulted in a strong proposal with support from all parties involved in its creation. The new degree in Sexuality Studies will be unique from other programs at this university (including Women's Studies, renamed: Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies) and will thus fill a gap in the existing undergraduate curriculum at Ohio State.

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

Sincerely,



Larry Kressek
Chair, ASC Committee on Curriculum and Instruction

c: Melissa Soave
Terry Gustafson
Mary Ellen Jenkins