



October 7, 2014

Dr. John Casterline
Dr. Reanne Frank
Department of Sociology
College of Arts & Sciences

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Demography

John and Reanne,

The Graduate School Curriculum Committee (GSCC) met on October 6th and, among its agenda items, considered the proposal to create a new graduate interdisciplinary specialization in demography. The committee appreciated the need to create this GIS and appreciated the placement of the proseminar in research adjacent to the weekly IPR seminar as a clever idea. The committee noted that although the core curriculum is composed of sociology courses, sociology graduate students could still pursue the GIS by taking an additional elective outside their program. Overall, the proposal was viewed as straightforward and compliant with the Graduate School's academic requirements. The GSCC approved this proposal. However, the committee wished to provide a few comments for your consideration.

- The committee questioned the exclusion of history in the course offerings, given that long-term trends might involve techniques from this discipline.
- The extensive collection of concurrence letters was appreciated. However, a letter of concurrence from public health wasn't evident.
- Many graduate interdisciplinary specializations and minors develop a student advising sheet. I've sent an example with this letter. If you choose to develop one, please include it in the proposal.
- The graduate school is moving towards learning outcomes assessment and will soon be requesting that all programs develop full assessment plans. You are encouraged to develop learning goals for this minor as well as an assessment plan, though neither is required at this stage of the approval process. Ultimately, learning goals should be distributed to students in the minor so that they will have clear vision of the program's expectations.
- We believe the sentence found on page 3 "...to secure a NIH T32 training grant to support pre-and post-doctoral graduate students..." is meant to be "...to secure a NIH T32 training grant to support pre- -doctoral graduate students and post-doctoral associates...."

- Credit hours are missing for the ANTHROP 8892.03 listing.

I will send back the proposal on curriculum.osu.edu so that your program may make revisions, should they wish. Once the proposal has been resubmitted, I will submit it to Graduate Council for their review. The last step in the approval process will be review and approval by the Committee on Academic Affairs.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or clarifications.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Herness". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'S'.

Scott Herness
Associate Dean
The Graduate School