



May 7, 2014

To: The College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (ASCC)

Re: Support for Global Option in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (GO WGSS)

As part of the strategies to internationalize student learning experiences at The Ohio State University, the Global Option (GO) is a curriculum enhancement program through which Ohio State students are able to acquire documented international knowledge integrated into participating majors without adding time to graduation. The Global Option is a key component of Ohio State's strategy for institutional internationalization as presented in the President's and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization.

Recently, the department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, completed its design for a unique Global Option curriculum for its students using the general framework endorsed by the Council of Deans and approved by the Council of Academic Affairs in October 2012.

The faculty in the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) are committed to deepen students' knowledge of the histories, experiences and ideas of populations outside of the United States. The undergraduate curriculum committee has identified eight global competencies in WGSS that they think students will acquire as a result of completing the Global Option in their field. The program will focus on an in depth analysis of women, gender and transnationalism, students' first-hand international learning experiences and the ways to become an active global citizen.

The Office of International Affairs along with the University Center for Advancement of Teaching (UCAT) will support the WGSS Global Option as part of our ongoing work with other colleges such as Public Health, Social Work, Engineering and Business, in order to enhance students' international learning experiences through this certificate course of studies.

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies' proposal meets three core criteria for the Global Option:

- The proposal follows closely the global option framework we have developed, which was endorsed and approved by the Council on Academic Affairs (October 2012) and can be viewed at <http://go.osu.edu/Global-Option>;
- The proposal adopts the university's desired global competencies and incorporates an additional three competencies deemed important in their own discipline;
- The proposal outlines a concrete plan to move forward by capitalizing on the department's numerous courses on women, gender and transnationalism already in place, as well as department faculty members who have carried out extensive research in Latin America, South Asia, Africa, Europe and elsewhere.

Specifically, the proposal submitted by WGSS undergraduate curriculum committee outlines strategies for its implementation. By obtaining the GO WGSS certificate, students in the College of Arts and Sciences will enhance their global competencies and be better prepared to apply feminist and gender principles to pressing environmental issues and participate as educated global citizens.

The Office of International Affairs and its constituent units are committed to continuing their support of WGSS Global Option curriculum's efforts to internationalize students' learning experience within the College of Arts and Sciences. The Office of International Affairs' Dr. Esther E. Gottlieb, who has been



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working to implement the Global Option with other units, stands ready to assist with the department's continuing work on its global curriculum for Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies students.

The Office of International Affairs fully endorses the GO WGSS curriculum and remains ready to collaborate with the College of Arts and Sciences to internationalize the learning experiences of their students at Ohio State, consistent with the goals of the President's and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization.

Sincerely,

William I. Brustein
Vice Provost
for Global Strategies and International Affairs

Kelechi Kalu
Associate Provost
for Global Strategies and International Affairs



Proposal for a Global Option in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (GO WGSS)

Background and Rationale

The Global Option is a curriculum enhancement program through which Ohio State students may acquire documented international expertise integrated into participating majors without adding time to graduation. The Global Option is a key component of Ohio State's strategy for institutional internationalization as presented in the President and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization.

University Approval: The Provost's Council approved the Global Option concept on October 17, 2011 and the Council of Academic Affairs (CAA) approved the general framework on October 9, 2012.

The undergraduate curriculum of the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) offers numerous courses on women, gender and transnationalism. Moreover, the faculty of WGSS are deeply committed to exposing students to the histories, experiences and ideas of populations outside of the United States. Our department has professors who have carried out extensive research in places such as Latin America, South Asia, Africa, Europe and elsewhere. Given the global scope of our teaching and research, we are confident that we already have most of the resources in place to offer a Global Option in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. We think having this plan of study in place will further help our students to think of gender and feminism as global and transnational issues. Moreover, offering such an option will also attract more students to our classes, students who might not be interested in pursuing a WGSS major or minor but would be willing to pursue the Global Option.

The faculty and staff in WGSS, in consultation with Esther Gottlieb from the Office of International Affairs, have developed this proposal. The final proposed program was worked out by the WGSS Undergraduate Studies Committee chaired by Professor Guisela Latorre. The basis of structuring a certificate which will cluster the students international learning experiences are the global competencies. The program will focus on an in depth analysis of the literature on students' learning and the ways to educate global citizens. Our deliberations have identified the following eight global competencies in WGSS that we think our students will acquire as a result of completing the Global Option in our field:

Global Competencies

- 1- Understanding of global cultural diversities and their impact policy decisions that affect women and gender minorities
- 2- Ability to make ethical and equitable decisions amidst cultural and national differences
- 3- Proficiency in a second language
- 4- Ability to communicate across cultural and linguistic boundaries
- 5- Sensitivity when working in ethnically and culturally diverse social environments



- 6- Understanding of the interconnectedness of the world and the inner workings of global processes
- 7- Understanding how transnational and global phenomena affect the lives of women and other gender minorities
- 8- Gaining knowledge of how certain global phenomena like immigration, flows of capital and goods, labor, trafficking, among others, are effected by gender considerations.

Goals

The goal of the GO WGSS is for students to enhance their global competencies and thereby better prepare them to apply feminist and gender principles in a global environment. We seek to educate students to become global citizens. Even though we currently offer almost all the courses listed in this proposal, most of our WGSS majors and minors do not take more than one or two of our classes with a global or transnational focus. With the GO WGSS, however, more students would seek out these courses and would thus graduate with a heightened consciousness and knowledge about transnational realities. Moreover, the international experiences they will gain, such as studying abroad for a semester or taking the Global May general education abroad course for 4 weeks, will further enforce the knowledge they gained in the classes through their studies. The GO WGSS will provide the students completing the program with a certificate upon graduation and designation on the student’s transcripts.

Framework and Components for WGSS

Students participating in the GO WGSS program will plan an undergraduate curriculum with elements related to international themes and global dimensions as described in the following components. Courses, international experiences, language, and reflection in the components constitute a special engagement well beyond the standard requirements for graduation

Component	Description	Credits
A. Introductory Exposure	Global May GE Course ¹ or other new WGSS Education Abroad Course	3
B. Language	Advanced proficiency in a language, other than English, (one course in addition to GE requirements).	3
C. Three Global and Transnational Courses	WGSST 2305 Gender and Sexuality in Global Perspective* WGSST 3302 Engendering Peace and Conflict WGSST 3322H Natives and Newcomers: U.S. Immigration and Migration WGSST 3505 Feminist Perspectives on Globalization	9

¹ Initially, students will be encouraged to take one of the existing Global May courses, but WGSS plans to eventually propose one of the their own.



	WGSST 3530 Women, Environment and Development WGSST 4404 Regulating Bodies: Global Sexual Economies WGSST 4576 Women & Visual Culture in Latin America WGSST 4597 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World	
D. Capstone Project	WGSS 4998 Capstone Project (focused on international theme)	3

Additional program requirements include:

- 1- Pre and Post evaluation of global competencies on a standard assessment (pre-evaluation when joining the GO WGSS; post-evaluation before graduation) in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, and/or other GO programs.
- 2- Maintaining an e-portfolio or record of activities addressing the A-D components.
- 3- Students must earn a C or better in all graded components of the GO WGSS and satisfactorily complete all S/N courses.
- 4- Completion of all degree requirements for bachelor degree at an OSU college.
- 5- Students are expected to remain in good academic standing at OSU to continue and to receive the certificate.

Students who have declared the WGSS major and minor will be encouraged to pursue the GO WGSS. Nevertheless, the certificate will be open to all OSU students. Moreover, students enrolling in the program may abandon it without penalty.

Procedure and Oversight

The GO WGSS will be managed by the Global Studies Office and the Undergraduate Studies Committee in WGSS. These two units will be responsible for the following:

- Assure students of the college are aware of the program
- Establish a system for communicating program goals and requirement to students and to help management of student participation
- In cooperation with academic advisors in the College, advise students regarding the program
- Maintain records of student participation in the program
- Continually seek to improve the program with program approvals for change being processed through the Undergraduate Studies Committee
- Establish and maintain an assessment plan for the program including longitudinal tracking of participants
- Collaborate with the Office of International Affairs and other GO Options with the University
- Seek funding to support student and faculty participation



- Report at least annually on the program to the College of Arts and Sciences

Metrics and Milestones

- Goal for initial approval is June 2014.
- Enroll students in the program beginning 2014/2015
- Up to 10% of WGSS majors/minors participating in the program by 2020.