

**Fiscal Unit/Academic Org** Comparative Studies - D0518  
**Administering College/Academic Group** Arts and Sciences  
**Co-administering College/Academic Group**  
**Semester Conversion Designation** New Program/Plan  
**Proposed Program/Plan Name** Comparative Studies Minor  
**Type of Program/Plan** Undergraduate minor  
**Program/Plan Code Abbreviation**  
**Proposed Degree Title**

## Credit Hour Explanation

Program credit hour requirements		A) Number of credit hours in current program (Quarter credit hours)	B) Calculated result for 2/3rds of current (Semester credit hours)	C) Number of credit hours required for proposed program (Semester credit hours)	D) Change in credit hours
Total minimum credit hours required for completion of program				12	
Required credit hours offered by the unit	Minimum			12	
	Maximum			12	
Required credit hours offered outside of the unit	Minimum			0	
	Maximum			0	
Required prerequisite credit hours not included above	Minimum			0	
	Maximum			0	

## Program Learning Goals

Note: these are required for all undergraduate degree programs and majors now, and will be required for all graduate and professional degree programs in 2012. Nonetheless, all programs are encouraged to complete these now.

### **Program Learning Goals**

- Read, think, and write across discipline, genre, and culture
- Situate texts within cultural and historical contexts
- Evaluate problems from an interdisciplinary perspective
- Demonstrate facility with use of comparison in research
- Appreciate diversity and difference from a global perspective

## Assessment

Assessment plan includes student learning goals, how those goals are evaluated, and how the information collected is used to improve student learning. An assessment plan is required for undergraduate majors and degrees. Graduate and professional degree programs are encouraged to complete this now, but will not be required to do so until 2012.

**Is this a degree program (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) or major proposal?** Yes

**Does the degree program or major have an assessment plan on file with the university Office of Academic Affairs?** No

**DIRECT MEASURES (means of assessment that measure performance directly, are authentic and minimize mitigating or intervening factors)**

### **Classroom assignments**

- Embedded testing (i.e. specific questions in homework or exams that allow faculty to assess students' attainments of a specific learning goal)
- Pre- and post-testing

- Other classroom assessment methods (e.g., writing assignments, oral presentations, oral exams)

**INDIRECT MEASURES (means of assessment that are related to direct measures but are steps removed from those measures)**

**Surveys and Interviews**

- Student survey
- Student evaluation of instruction

**Additional types of indirect evidence**

- External program review
- Curriculum or syllabus review

**USE OF DATA (how the program uses or will use the evaluation data to make evidence-based improvements to the program periodically)**

- Meet with students directly to discuss their performance
- Analyze and discuss trends with the unit's faculty
- Analyze and report to college/school
- Make improvements in curricular requirements (e.g., add, subtract courses)
- Make improvements in course content
- Make improvements in course delivery and learning activities within courses
- Periodically confirm that current curriculum and courses are facilitating student attainment of program goals

**Program Specializations/Sub-Plans**

If you do not specify a program specialization/sub-plan it will be assumed you are submitting this program for all program specializations/sub-plans.

**Pre-Major**

Does this Program have a Pre-Major? No

**Attachments**

- CS minor cover letter.docx: Cover Letter  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Marsch,Elizabeth)*
- CS Minor proposal.docx: Proposal  
*(Program Proposal. Owner: Marsch,Elizabeth)*

**Comments**

**Workflow Information**

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Marsch,Elizabeth	04/03/2017 04:04 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Shank,Barry	04/03/2017 04:07 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	04/03/2017 07:00 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen,Dawn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Hanlin,Deborah Kay Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler	04/03/2017 07:00 PM	ASCCAO Approval



3 April 2017

To whom it may concern:

Please find attached a proposal for a new minor in Comparative Studies. The minor was approved by the department's undergraduate studies committee on 3 March 2017 and by the department faculty on 27 March 2017.

The minor proposal is a response to a growing number of inquiries from students who have taken one or two courses in our department, would like to take more and have that work formally recognized, but do not have time to pursue a double major. We think the minor will complement a wide range of other majors, in and outside the Arts and Sciences. It can be offered without modifying our existing curriculum, and does not require any additional university resources.

As the proposed minor includes only courses offered by our department, we have not sought concurrence from any other unit.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David Horn  
Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies

# COMPARATIVE STUDIES MINOR

27 March 2017

## 1. Required Information

Name of proposed minor: Comparative Studies  
Proposed implementation date: Autumn 2017

Academic unit responsible for administering the minor program: The Department of Comparative Studies

## 2. Rationale

### Rationale/Purpose

The interdisciplinary minor in Comparative Studies will teach students from a wide variety of majors to investigate how cultures shape the lives of individuals and groups. Interrogating cultural similarities and differences is at the heart of the Comparative Studies program. How, for example, does religion influence social change and stability in different cultures? How do different people express themselves and their concerns through literature and the arts? How do science and technology reflect and transform specific cultural values and beliefs? The questions raised and the skills taught in the Comparative Studies classroom empower students to engage productively with the world around them: to interpret generously, to think critically, and to communicate effectively.

Employers, professional schools, and graduate schools generally value minors as evidence of a breadth of student interests and expertise. More particularly, they value the kinds of cultural competence and critical thinking that a minor in Comparative Studies develops.

### Impetus for the proposal

Comparative Studies has offered a major leading to the BA since 1997. At present, about one in four students who pursue the major are double majors, including several in STEM disciplines. However, many students discover the department only in their junior or even senior year and do not have time to pursue the double major. Surveys of non-major students in our classes and focus group discussions were conducted as part of our 2014 review of undergraduate programs. These revealed that a significant number of students who have taken one or two courses in Comparative Studies in order to satisfy general education requirements, return to take other courses in the

department purely out of interest. Though they might never seriously consider pursuing the *major*, they do wish to take a group of courses that further develop particular curricular interests, that share a student-centered pedagogical style, and that link work in the classroom with issues of social justice.

### Unique characteristics and resources for OSU

Comparative Studies offers more than 60 interdisciplinary courses on topics ranging from “Literature and Society” to “Religious Diversity in the United States” to “Cultures of Medicine.” The program of study in the minor can easily be tailored to specifically complement almost any major offered at Ohio State, or (if a student prefers) to pursue a second area of interest unrelated to the major.

### Benefits for students, the institution, the region and the state

Courses in Comparative Studies encourage students to read, think, and write across traditional boundaries of discipline, genre, culture, and language. Students completing the minor would be able to engage people from diverse backgrounds, to question conventional assumptions about intractable problems, to think creatively about their solution, and to communicate effectively with a broad range of stakeholders. This is consistent with the university’s goal of fostering informed and engaged citizenship – of the state of Ohio and the global community. The minor might, for example, be valuable to a business major seeking employment in a corporation with a culturally diverse workforce, to an engineer concerned with the social or environmental implications of her projects, or to a nurse or therapist working in neighborhoods identified with a particular ethnic or religious community.

### **3. Relation of Proposed Minor to Existing Majors and Minor**

The Comparative Studies minor does not duplicate any current minor at the university. It shares a general orientation with the existing major in the Department of Comparative Studies, but is likely to attract students who would not consider the major for practical reasons. The minor is also distinct from other interdepartmental minors administered by the department: the minors in American Studies, Folklore, Religious Studies, World Literature, and Science and Technology Studies. Unlike those other minors, the minor in Comparative Studies relies exclusively on courses offered in our department.

### **4. Student Enrollment**

Conversations with faculty, students, and advisors across campus suggest that there will be steady demand for the Comparative Studies minor. There is relatively little useful information from peer institutions, which do not have departments that match

the mission and scope of Comparative Studies. We expect an initial group of 10-15 students and foresee an annual total of approximately 40 minors after three years.

## 5. Curricular Requirements

- ASC minor advising sheet (see Appendix)
- List the courses (department, title, credit hours, description) that constitute the requirements and other components of the minor.

This is a 12-credit minor comprising the following distribution of classes:

### Required Core Course (3 credits) (Offered every semester)

CMPSTD 2360: Introduction to Comparative Cultural Studies

Introduction to interdisciplinary field of cultural studies; emphasis on relation of cultural production to power, knowledge, and authority, globally and locally. *GE Cultures and Ideas*.

### Electives (9 credits)

Any three courses in Comparative Studies at the 2000 level or above. At least two of the electives must be at the 3000 level or above.

- Minimum number of credits required for completion of the minor: 12
- Describe existing facilities, equipment, and off-campus field experience and clinical sites to be used: N/A
- Advising: Advising and approval through the ASC advisors who can refer students for additional advising to David Horn (Comparative Studies)
- Describe additional university resources (including advisors and libraries) that will be required for the new minors: N/A
- Describe the minor as it would appear in the appropriate college bulletin.

The interdisciplinary minor in Comparative Studies will teach students from a wide variety of majors to investigate how cultures shape the lives of individuals and groups. Interrogating cultural similarities and differences is at the heart of the Comparative Studies program. How, for example, does religion influence social change and stability in different cultures? How do different people express themselves and their concerns

through literature and the arts? How do science and technology reflect and transform specific cultural values and beliefs? The questions raised and the skills taught in the Comparative Studies classroom empower students to engage productively with the world around them: to interpret generously, to think critically, and to communicate effectively.

Appendix: ASC minor advising sheet  
The Ohio State University, Arts and Sciences  
Comparative Studies Minor

Program Coordinator, David Horn  
Department of Comparative Studies  
451 Hagerty Hall  
1775 College Road  
Columbus, OH 43210  
614-292-2559

**Program Advisors:** David Horn (Comparative Studies)

**Descriptive paragraph(s) for students**

The interdisciplinary minor in Comparative Studies will teach students from a wide variety of majors to investigate how cultures shape the lives of individuals and groups. Interrogating cultural similarities and differences is at the heart of the Comparative Studies program. How, for example, does religion influence social change and stability in different cultures? How do different people express themselves and their concerns through literature and the arts? How do science and technology reflect and transform specific cultural values and beliefs? The questions raised and the skills taught in the Comparative Studies classroom empower students to engage productively with the world around them: to interpret generously, to think critically, and to communicate effectively.

**Required core course** (3 credit hours)

CMPSTD 2360: Introduction to Comparative Cultural Studies

**Electives** (9 credit hours)

Choose three from courses offered at the 2000 level or above. At least two electives must be at the 3000 level or above.

### **Comparative Studies Minor program guidelines**

The following guidelines govern this minor:

**Required for graduation** No

**Credit hours required** A minimum of 12 hours. 1000-level courses may not be counted toward the 12 credit hour minimum.

**Transfer credit hours allowed** No more than one half of the credit hours required on the minor.

**Overlap with the GE** A student is permitted to overlap up to 6 credit hours between the GE and the minor.

### **Overlap with the major and additional minors**

- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The minor must contain a minimum of 12 hours distinct from the major and/or additional minor(s).

### **Grades required**

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count toward the minor.
- No more than 3 credit hours of course work graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory may count toward the minor.

**Minor approval** The minor course work must be approved by the Department of Comparative Studies or the ASC advisor.

**Filing the minor program form** The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school counselor.

**Changing the minor** Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by the Department of Comparative Studies or the ASC advisor.