THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

April 28, 2021

Associate Professor Maria Miriti

Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of English

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Re: Approval of Proposal for a Certificate in Spanish in Health Care and Human Services

Dear Maria,

At its meeting on Monday, March 12, 2021, the ASCC Arts & Humanities Panel 2 unanimously approved a proposal to create a certificate in Spanish in Health Care & Human Services (type 1B and 3B). Similar certificate programs in Spanish and the health professions exist at a number of universities across the United States. The proposed certificate will be unique, however, in being available both to undergraduate majors and minors in Spanish, and to graduate students in the professional colleges of Social Work, Public Health, Nursing, Pharmacy, Medicine, and Dentistry.

Building on faculty strength in Latinx research, teaching and outreach in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, the certificate will provide graduate and undergraduate students a credential representing linguistic skills and cultural knowledge that are in high demand in the health care and human services fields.

Students seeking the certificate will need to demonstrate Intermediate High level language proficiency as a pre-requisite for acceptance into certificate coursework, and the certificate itself will require completion of a minimum of 12 credit hours: two core courses (SPAN 5201 and 5202: Spanish in the Health Care Professions I & II), a service learning course (SPAN 5689S: Spanish in Ohio), and one elective chosen from among five 5000-level courses in the Spanish Department. With one exception, all required and elective courses already exist; an elective, SPAN 5203 (Sociolinguistics and Latino Health) is currently in the approval process.

Students undertaking the coursework required for the certificate will gain context-specific advanced proficiency in Spanish in health and human services settings, as well as theoretical grounding in the history of health disparities and language access in Hispanic/Latinx populations in the United States. Practical experience in actual health care settings will be provided by SPAN 5689S: Spanish in Ohio, which maintains partnerships with several Latinx-focused health care organizations in the Columbus area.

Panel 2 found the proposed certificate an important and timely enhancement to Spanish language and health-related academic programs at Ohio State. The Panel now advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

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Luke Wilson

Associate Professor

Department of English

Chair, ASCC Arts & Humanities Panel 2