

**From:** [Steele, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Shank, Barry](#); [Dew, Spencer](#); [Arceno, Mark Anthony](#)  
**Cc:** [Fletcher, Richard](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Comparative Studies 2281  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023 3:22:42 PM

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Good afternoon,

On Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for Comparative Studies 2281.

The Panel unanimously approved the request with two contingencies, five recommendations, and one comment:

1. **Comment:** The Panel thanks the department for their work on the course, and appreciates their response to the Panel's earlier feedback.
2. **Contingency:** The Panel requests that some foundational exploration of the intersectional study of race, gender, and ethnicity be included in the first few weeks of the course, so as to demonstrate how any/all American icon(s) will be considered through an REGD lens and ensure continuity and consistency in all iterations of the course.
3. **Contingency:** The Panel asks that the Course Description (found under "General Information" in curriculum.osu.edu) and the Course Goals or Learning Objectives/Outcomes and Content Topic List (both found under "Course Details" in curriculum.osu.edu) be modified to include mention of the intersectional study of race, gender, and ethnicity, so that it is clear to registering students and other stakeholders that all iterations of the course will include some study of all of these topics.
4. **Recommendation:** The Panel recommends that the department include in the syllabus an explanation of how the various icons and iconic ideas connect to race, ethnicity, and or gender. For example, they note that the idea of "the frontier" is often associated with subject matter that, on the surface, may seem antithetical to the goals of the REGD category.
5. **Recommendation:** The Panel suggests that the department expand the study of ethnicity in the course. They note that in this particular iteration, this could be done either within the Black diaspora or more broadly.
6. **Recommendation:** The Panel recommends that the department include an assignment that engages with REGD concepts earlier in the course, perhaps through an assessment of the foundational exploration mentioned in item #1 above.
7. **Recommendation:** The Panel recommends that the department consider expanding the Black icons studied in the course beyond sports and entertainment to show the full range of contributions by Black Americans.
8. **Recommendation:** The Panel recommends that the department update the Mental Health Statement (syllabus pg. 11 under "Your Mental Health"), as there is a new phone number for the National Crisis/Suicide Hotline. The most up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via

curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught. I will return Comparative Studies 2281 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Richard Fletcher (faculty Chair of the REGD Panel; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel