October 1, 2023

Dear Vice Provost Smith,

The Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures (NESA) is proposing to make these changes to the South Asia Studies Minor:

1. The South Asia Studies Minor currently requires 15 credit hours. We would like to reduce this to 12 credit hours. This reduction will put us in line with our peers: Asian American Studies, Classical Humanities, History, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies all of which have minor programs consisting of 12 credit hours.
2. We would like to add new courses developed for the GEN to the minor sheet. When this minor was proposed, the prefix SASIA (South Asia) did not exist and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (department name till 2022) had one South Asia specific class.
3. We would like the remove the requirement that students take at least one course out of the Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures. We are requesting this change because at the time this minor was proposed, we did not have enough courses to offer students within the department. We also did not have a faculty member in South Asia Studies.
4. We would like to remove several classes from the minor program that are offered irregularly or not offered at all.

Included is the current minor program form with the requested changes made in tracked changes in margins and a clean version of the South Asia minor program without track changes. We would like to implement the proposed changes in Spring 2024. We hope that current students in the minor would be grandfathered into the new program requirements at the time of implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ila Nagar

Associate Professor

Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures