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**Subject:** Asian American Studies GIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 28, 2023 3:24:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Arts and Humanities Subcommittee 2 of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a proposal to create a new Asian American Studies GIS.

The Subcommittee wishes to recognize the Center's efforts to design a recognizable curricular pathway for graduate students interested in Asian American Studies—particularly given the anticipated expansion of faculty specializing in this area.

The Subcommittee did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed:

- The Subcommittee asks that the Center for Ethnic Studies include in the proposal an estimate of expected enrollment in the GIS. The Center can estimate this by comparing enrollment in similar GIS's and/or graduate enrollment in related courses, qualitative data representing student interest in the GIS, or similar.
- The Subcommittee asks that the Center provide more information regarding how all students will fulfill the goals (purposes) of the GIS given the different paths that students could take through the program. For example, the Subcommittee notes that a student with a major in history could take Chinese 5400, Chinese 5474, Chinese 6451, and History of Art 8811 (or another course whose description focuses on China rather than the Asian American experience) and not necessarily address all of the goals (purposes) listed in the proposal document, especially those concerned with the Asian American experience. [Proposal p. 6]
- The Subcommittee recommends the creation of a seminar course or similar that will be required of all students. Such a course would help students introduce (or synthesize) ideas explored in disparate courses and address the five goals (p. 6) of the GIS.
- Since the GIS encourages students to take a majority of their classes in US Ethnic or Asian American studies (p. 7), the Subcommittee asks that the Center notate which courses they feel have that focus and include in the proposal and the advising sheet the frequency of course offerings for said courses.
- The Subcommittee offers the friendly observation that it may be difficult to enforce students taking particular classes toward the GIS only when taught by a given instructor (as noted on p. 8 of the proposal), as instructors are not readily displayed on student records. Additionally, enshrining the names of particular instructors within the program proposal would necessitate revising the proposal each time additional faculty were hired who could/would teach the courses. As an alternative, the Subcommittee asks that the department list courses as being allowable only by permission of the Program Director of Asian American Studies or the Director of the Center for Ethnic Studies and noting that this permission will be granted based on the course's curricular focus in the semester that the student will take the course.
- Given that students are required to take one of their courses with a faculty member affiliated with Asian American Studies (per p. 7 of the proposal), the Subcommittee asks that the

Center include in the proposal a list of affiliate faculty and include on the advising sheet information on where students can find an updated list.

- The Subcommittee notes that it is unusual to require students to register for a particular section of a cross-listed course, especially because they are often offered in “combined section” format. In such a format, a certain number of seats are assigned to one department’s section, and the remainder of the seats are assigned to the other department’s section, though both class “sections” meet at the same day/time in the same room with the same instructor, and thus all students have the same academic experience. If the center is concerned about the subject matter of the course being appropriate to the GIS, they suggest special permission for these courses based on content (as mentioned above in item “e”). However, the Subcommittee recognizes that the Graduate School may have encountered this situation before and/or that there may be special rules surrounding this for graduate programs, and they recommend that the Center check with the Graduate School concerning its procedure on such matters. [Proposal p. 7]
- Given the specific parameters for the fulfilling the GIS, the Subcommittee asks the Center to consider mandating that students meet with the program director or an advisor instead of simply encouraging them to do so. [Proposal p. 7]
- The Subcommittee asks that the Center remove the reference to online and hybrid courses on the first page of the proposal, given that none of the listed courses are approved for distance learning.
- Though the name of the department previously known as NELC has changed to NESAs (Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures), the abbreviation in the course catalog for NELC courses has not been changed to NESAs. Therefore, the Subcommittee asks that department retitling NESAs 7501 to NELC 7501. [Proposal pp. 9 and 16]

I will return the Asian American Studies GIS to the Center queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Laura Podalsky (faculty Chair of the A&H2 Subcommittee; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers