
AAAS 2295

From Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

Date Fri 9/20/2024 9:08 AM

To Beckham, Jerrell <beckham.4@osu.edu>; Rucker-Chang, Sunnie <rucker-chang.1@osu.edu>

Cc Fletcher, Richard <fletcher.161@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Hilty, Michael <hilty.70@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

Good morning/afternoon,

On Tuesday, September 10th, the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for African American and African Studies 2295 for inclusion in the GEN Foundation: REGD category

The Subcommittee unanimously approved the request with four contingencies and two recommendations:

- a. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the department add mention of the intersectional study of ethnicity to the course description in curriculum.osu.edu (under “General Information”) and on the syllabus (p. 1).
- b. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the departments include in the course syllabus a more explicit engagement with topics surrounding ethnicity. While they acknowledge that coverage of ethnicity may be implicit in the readings and texts that are discussed in the course, specifically addressing ethnicity in the course description (p. 1), assignment descriptions (pp. 3-4), and/or the topics listed in the course schedule (pp. 8-9), will help students to gain a better understanding of how the study of ethnicity is situated within the course. They acknowledge that Gomez’s text may be doing some of this work, but they would like more specificity about how the text is being used. In addition, the Subcommittee offers the friendly suggestion that some attention to the diverse societies of Central and South America and the Caribbean, as well as indigenous communities (perhaps including the ethnically and racially diverse people of the Seminole tribe), could be a possible way to engage issues of ethnicity more directly, but any way ethnicity could be addressed further would work. Finally, they note that some mention of ethnicity in the course ELOs (pp.1-2) may be helpful in “signposting” the coverage of ethnicity in the course for the student.
- c. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the department correct the heading on pg. 1 of the syllabus which reads “GE Theme: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Diversity”, as REGD is not a part of the GEN Themes. Instead, the heading should read “GEN Foundation: Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity”.
- d. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the department relocate the Course Learning Outcomes (syllabus pp. 1-2), as they are currently listed under the GEN category heading.
- e. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the department engage with gender in a more intersectional manner, rather than “siloeing” gender into weeks 8 and 10 (Course Schedule, pp. 8-9). Additionally, they offer the friendly suggestion that some discussion of gender beyond the feminine (masculine whiteness, privatized or personalized moments of resistance in a gendered environment, etc.), could strengthen the course.
- f. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that all courses seeking approval in the GEN Foundations: REGD category include a Land Acknowledgement. A sample Land Acknowledgement, information about the purpose of such a statement, and further action steps can be found here: <https://cbasc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before this course can move forward in the approval process to OAA. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be

implemented when the course is next taught. I will return AAAS 2295 to the department 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 Richard Fletcher (faculty Chair of the REGD Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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