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To: [Sreenivas, Mytheli](#); [Alkhalifa, Ali](#)
Cc: [Soland, Brigitte](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Neff, Jennifer](#)
Subject: WGSS 4520 & 3370
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 1:37:00 PM
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Good afternoon,

On Thursday, August 21st, the Themes II Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed new GEN Theme: Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World request for WGSS 4520 & 3370. Please find their feedback below.

WGSS 4520

I am pleased to report that the Subcommittee unanimously approved the proposal with five contingencies and three recommendations:

- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee ask that the actual word “citizenship” be added to the course description in both the syllabus (page 1) and the curriculum.osu.edu form to further ground the course within the GEN Theme category and signal clearly to students they will be engaging with these concepts.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that, under the Individual Paper assignment description (syllabus pages 7-8), the sentence, “The analyses that will emerge from the Individual Paper should both demonstrate the range of perspectives on activism, citizenship, and how those are informed across various contexts, as well as identify and apply the knowledge of an informed, global citizen” be changed to state “must demonstrate the range...” instead of “should demonstrate the range...”. They ask for this small adjustment so that the final paper, which is a substantial portion (30%) of a student’s final grade, is grounded in the concept of citizenship.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee noted that within the curriculum form on curriculum.osu.edu, the department has removed the legacy General Education (GEL) category this course was previously approved within. However, in the syllabus, the GEL language still appears (syllabus page 2). They would like the department to clarify if they would like to remove the GEL category status entirely or if they would prefer to remove the language from the syllabus in order to remain consistent.
- **Contingency:** As of June 27th, 2025, all syllabi must have a standardized statement on intellectual diversity. This new statement may be found on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#) in an easy to copy-and-paste format.
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that a cover letter be provided that details all changes made as a result of their feedback.
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee kindly notes that, on page 6 of the syllabus,

underneath the Participation assignment description, there is a letter grade of “F”. Ohio State does not award the letter grade of “F” and instead awards the letter grade of “E”.

- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends removing the Diversity Statement (as found on page 11 of the syllabus) and the Title IX statement (as found on page 10 of the syllabus) and replacing these with the new standardized language on creating an environment free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. The Diversity and Title IX statements have been sunset in favor of this statement. You may find the statement on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee notes the inclusion of a Land Acknowledgment on page 11 of the syllabus. As of June 27th, 2025, Land Acknowledgments are no longer permissible on official university documents (including most syllabi) per the university’s SB1 Compliance website. The course instructor(s) should consult with their TIU director/chair regarding whether or not this statement may be included within the syllabus.

WGSS 3370

I am pleased to report that the Subcommittee unanimously approved the request with one contingency and two recommendations:

- **Contingency:** As of June 27th, 2025, all syllabi must have a standardized statement on intellectual diversity. This new statement may be found on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#) in an easy to copy-and-paste format.
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends clarifying which assignments are part of the “Participation” 30% of the final grade (as found on pages 8-9 of the syllabus). They believe the participation breakdown is 10% from attendance, 15% from the Write-Ups, and 5% from the “Hot Take” assignment, but found this to be confusing to deduce. If it is the case that the “Hot Take” assignment is part of the Participation grade, it would be useful to visually display the name of the assignment on p. 11 the same way that Write-Ups and Attendance are written (non-bolded and underlined) instead of bolded and not underlined (like Participation, Reflection Papers etc., are visually presented). The reviewing faculty also recommend adding the Participation breakdown to either the description in the chart on page 8 or the circular chart on page 9 to help clarify for students.
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends updating the syllabus statements to align with current institutional guidance. Per current recommendation, the Diversity Statement (as found on page 18 of the syllabus) and the Title IX statement (as found on page 16 of the syllabus) should be replaced with the new standardized language on creating an environment free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct, provided on the [ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).

I will return both proposals back to the department via curriculum.osu.edu.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Birgitte Sjøland, faculty Chair of the Themes II Subcommittee, or me with any questions.

All my best,

Michael



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Pronouns: he/him/his, they/them/theirs / Honorific: Mx.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

STOP AAPI HATE

DACA/undocumented ally



I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.