

APPENDIX D: Student Comments

Notes on survey minor proposal:

-Overall, I think the minor itself will provide a very useful set of skills to the undergraduate students that choose to participate in it. I agree that the program will attract students from a variety of fields, particularly from the social & behavioral sciences. Also, I like the flexibility of the minor program- I think students will find it easier to tailor to the minor to their own interests with a large portion of the 23 hour total coming from a list of electives.

-Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the minor, it is likely that the type of student that will be enrolled in the program will already have multiple academic interests (I wouldn't be surprised if most of the students that express interest are double majors or are pursuing one or more minors). I believe that, in order for a high percentage of interested students to actually be able to complete the minor, the core courses will (at least eventually) need to either be offered every quarter or at multiple times within a designated quarter.

-However, because there are not a lot of prerequisite courses for the core, a student could potentially begin work on the minor as a freshman (ie. take the core courses early and choose electives as they further develop their academic interests). I would recommend that information about the minor be introduced in several early, major-specific classes, or in an introductory statistics course.

-Along the same lines, I think it will be much easier for a student to complete the minor if courses counted toward the minor can also be applied to GEC requirements. Many students I know have found it very difficult to complete a minor that does not allow overlap with GEC requirements unless they planned carefully and early in their undergraduate program.

-For the 'practical applications' portion of the minor, I would propose a third possible option: for students with demonstrable and appropriate research experience (ex. a research internship or some other intensive program where the student does not receive academic credit), the practical applications requirement is waived, and the total credit requirement for the minor is reduced to 20.