

Department of English

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Memorandum


To: Dr. Sarah Fishman, Associate Dean, CLASS

From: Dr. Maria C. Gonzalez, Associate Professor

Date: 30 November 2007

Re: Proposal for a GLBT Studies minor in Women's Studies

RECEIVED DEC 06 2007

Handwritten: CLASS U.S.C. 11/30/07


As requested, here is the version of the GLBT Studies minor with the changes requested and approved by the CLASS Undergraduate Studies Committee on Friday, November 30, 2007.

Since Dr. Guillermo De Los Reyes is currently on leave, I have been tasked with being the contact person for this proposal. My contact information is as follows: email, mgonzalez@uh.edu; phone, 713-743-2979.

**A Proposal to Create a New Minor
 in the Women's Studies Program:
 GLBT Studies**

The Women's Studies Program at the University of Houston currently has one minor and a graduate certificate in Women's Studies. By adding a new minor, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) Studies, the Women's Studies Program would house not only gender studies but sexuality studies. Since Women's Studies already offers an interdisciplinary undergraduate minor with courses drawn from the humanities, fine arts, and social and health sciences, the addition of a second interdisciplinary minor would complement the work already done in the program. While gender is the focus in the Women's Studies minor, sexuality would be the focus in the GLBT Studies minor.

Currently, there is no declared GLBT studies program in the Houston area. While schools like the University of Texas do offer GLBT courses and a sexualities concentration in their Women and Gender Studies program, the University of Houston would have the first GLBT Studies minor in this area. This minor would be available to all University of Houston students. The GLBT studies minor would be an interdisciplinary undergraduate program directed to organize the diverse sexuality courses already established at the university and create new courses.

Proposed minor and catalog language

Director: Elizabeth Gregory

Associate Director: Guillermo De Los Reyes

Housed in Women's Studies, the minor in GLBT Studies will be available to all University of Houston students. Academic advising is coordinated through the Women's Studies Program.

The minor would consist of the following 18 hour requirement:

- I. 3 hours in Introduction to GLBT Studies (course is currently being developed under the ILAS rubric)
- II. 9 hours in approved GLBT studies advanced courses
- III. 3 hours from the list of approved Women's Studies courses
- IV. 3 hours in an approved capstone course (supervised research, field-based service, internship, or an additional 3 hours in elective GLBT studies course)

At least twelve (12) of the eighteen hours must be taken in residence of which 6 must be advanced. A minimum 2.00 grade point average is required for all courses attempted in the minor.

The interdisciplinary nature of this minor requires students not to confine course work to any one department. A minimum of nine (9) hours of approved coursework (including the Introduction to GLBT Studies course) from the Humanities and a minimum of six (6) hours approved coursework from the Social Sciences must be taken. A maximum of six (6) hours approved transfer substitutes will be accepted toward the minor, and no more than six (6) semester hours in a student's major may apply to a minor in GLBT Studies.

Current and future GLBT Catalogue Courses at the University of Houston

The following is a partial listing of current catalogue courses that can be counted toward the GLBT Studies minor. In addition, courses currently listed as Women's Studies courses would be vetted to determine if they met the GLBT Studies minor needs. Finally, an introduction to GLBT Studies is being prepared and will be offered out of the Women's Studies program.

Women's Studies

23XX: Introduction to GLBT Studies (will be taught in fall 2008 as ILAS 2396)

43XX: Supervised research, field-based service, or internship (appropriate courses will be proposed in the fall of 2008 for each of the categories: research, service, and internship)

Anthropology

3306: Sex and Culture

Classical Studies

3380: Epic Masculinity: Ideologies of Manhood in Ancient Epic and Modern Film

English

3367: Gay and Lesbian Literature

4341: Queer Theory

Hispanic Studies

6397: Gender and Sexuality in Colonial Latin America (an undergraduate 43XX course will be proposed)

History

3300: History of Private Life

3302: Sex and Society in American History

3387: Freud and Psychoanalysis

Psychology

3337: Psychology of Human Sexuality

Sociology

3315: Sexuality and Society

A partial listing of Faculty currently working in the field of GLBT Studies

Dr. Norris Lang, Anthropology

Dr. Margot Backus, English

Dr. Maria C. Gonzalez, English

Dr. Natalie Houston, English

Dr. James Zebroski, English

Dr. Eduardo Contreras, History

Dr. Guillermo De Los Reyes, Spanish

Dr. Tracy X. Karner, Sociology