I. Women’s Studies Major

Proposed New Catalog Description

The interdisciplinary major and minor program in Women’s Studies includes courses that introduce women’s and gender issues in academic study, consider feminist perspectives and philosophy, open historical inquiry about women, and challenge cultural assumptions about women and gender.

Requirements

The major in women’s studies requires a minimum of ten courses. *(N.B. The minor sequence will remain unchanged.)*

Major Sequence:
A minimum of ten courses in Women’s Studies, to include:

1) Women’s Studies 101   Introduction to Women’s Studies
2) History 244    Women and American Experience
3) Women’s Studies 490   Senior Seminar

4) one course focused on non-western, minority, or immigrant women, to be chosen from among the following:

   Anthropology 350        Birthing, Healing, Dying in Cross Cultural Perspective
   Anthropology 352        Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective
   Economics 230          Economics of Gender, Race, and Immigration
   English 170            Third World Women Speak
   English 259            Sex, Text and Tradition in Black Women’s Fiction
   History 343            U.S. Immigration History
   Lit/Cult 207           Language and Gender: U.S. and Japan
   Lit/Cult 233           Hysterically Speaking: Representations of Madness in Women’s Literature from the African Diaspora
   Lit/Cult 274           Women and Minorities in German Culture
   Sociology 354         Women in International Development

5) Six additional courses designated as Women’s Studies courses, at least three of which must be at the 300 level

Courses must be chosen from at least two different divisions, schools or program, and within those, from at least three different departments or disciplines.
Rationale for requirements for new major

In the last ten years, the trend in Women’s Studies programs nationwide and in Illinois has been expansion from minors to majors; this request to add a major in women’s studies at IWU places us squarely in the middle of the development of women’s studies as a field.

A survey of the major requirements of Women’s Studies Programs across the nation supports the shape of this program. Most programs offering a major in Women’s Studies require four out of the following five types of courses: an introductory course; a women’s history course; a course on non-western and/or minority women; a course in feminist or gender theory; and a senior seminar. Virtually all programs require an introductory course, a women’s history course, and a senior seminar. Some programs additionally require feminist/gender theory, while others have chosen to require a course with non-western or minority emphasis. (Our sources for information on the requirements for women’s studies major programs: National Women’s Studies Association; list-serv for Women’s Studies Program Administrators; Illinois Consortium of Women’s Studies Programs.)

Three of these elements—an introductory course, Women’s Studies 101:Introduction to Women’s Studies, a women’s history course, History 244 Women and the American Experience, and numerous courses focusing on non-western, minority or immigrant women—are already in place and together with this request for a major we are submitting a request for Senior Seminar in Women’s Studies, WS 490. We expect this course to serve both as a capstone experience and to provide the Writing Intensive element required of all academic majors here at IWU.

In addition, in academic year 2001-02, David Fryer of Religion, offered a trial version of a course in gender theory under the WS 370 special topics number. This course, with some revisions, is expected to be offered again in 2004-05. This course may become part of our regular women’s studies offerings; if so, it will then be available as a regular part of the major, should we wish at a later date to require it.

II. CC recommends to the General Faculty that we approve the following changes to curriculum procedures:

From Academic Standards:

A. That transfer credit for distance learning courses will be awarded on a case-by-case basis after determination of the course’s merit.

B. For students who elect to pursue two or more majors, AS and CC recommend that the student be required to take a Writing Intensive course in each major, as well as one other Writing Intensive course. CC recommends that the Course Catalogue be amended to reflect this clarification of the University’s intent in this matter.

From Curriculum Development:

A. Regarding course proposals that fall within CC’s charge, as expressed in the Faculty Handbook, that “it may call attention to budget needs to the extent to which they affect academic affairs,” CC recommends the following procedure:
   a. CC recommends that no curricular proposal will fail to earn the Council’s recommendation for approval solely based on resource issues.
   b. A proposal that CD determines has raised a resource issue will be turned over to the ex-officio administrative member of CD, who will consult with administrator(s), chair(s), and other relevant
university personnel regarding the issue. The ex-officio administrator will then report back to CD on the matter.

c. CD will consider both the merit of the proposal and the information about its resource issue(s) to make the following possible determinations:
   i. Resource issue question has been cleared up; curricular proposal looks strong; and CD sends it on to full Curricular Council recommending approval.
   ii. Resource issue question remains; curricular proposal still looks strong; and CD sends it onto CC recommending approval, but noting the outstanding resource questions.
   iii. Resource issue question remains; CD has other questions about the curricular proposal and communicates these concerns to the submitting faculty member, who has the opportunity to revise or withdraw the proposal.
   iv. Each semester a record of those curricular proposals that raised resource questions for CD during its deliberations will be prepared by the Chair of CC, who will submit the report to CUPP and to the Provost.

From the Full Council:

These items were brought to the Council’s attention by Acting Dean Tom Griffiths. The discrepancies were discovered while proofing the 2003-2004 University Catalog.

MCLL French 204: Intermediate Composition & Conversation in Quebec

CC recommends that this course be deleted from the list of Approved Courses for Second Language listed on page 53 of the current General Education Handbook, as the course’s intent involves more advanced studies than courses that are part of the Second Language General Education category. While MCLL French 204 will no longer receive Second Language credit, it will retain its Global Diversity flag.

MCLL French 202: Intermediate French in Quebec

CC recommends that this course, as other Second Language courses do, have its Global Diversity flag removed. CD determined, and CC concurred, that the G flag was awarded inappropriately. For example, OCS 227, Studies in a Second Language, is offered in the Madrid Study Abroad Program, but it does not receive a G flag. MCLL French 202 has yet to be offered. CC recommends we clear up this inconsistency in its General Education designation.