

**Proposals**  
**CLAS Committee on Curricula and Courses**  
**September 10, 2002**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2002-78** Ratify letter sent to the Chancellor regarding CLAS curriculum policy:

16 July 2002

John D. Petersen, Chancellor & Provost  
Gulley Hall, U-2086  
Campus

Dear Chancellor Petersen,

We understand that you intend to review the effects upon the whole University of changes now likely to be made to the Senate's General Education Requirements. Several of our faculty have inquired if such changes by the Senate will have any 'automatic' effect upon the curricular requirements of CLA&S. There has been talk of 'adding on' specific CLA&S requirements to the newly-revised university-wide requirements, in order to preserve certain desirable features of the 'general' requirements now followed by students in this college.

Put another way, elements of the GER debate appear to have provoked the (unwarranted) assumption that the Senate's rules trump the College rules; that is, a reduction or alteration of university-wide GE Requirements will automatically mean fewer or different College requirements.

This is of course not so, but we believe that there is sufficient misunderstanding and misinformation abroad about the relationship between Senate and college regulations to warrant extra caution as we turn to implementation of any campus-wide innovations. Accordingly our Committee on Curricula and Courses, the ordinary voice of the CLA&S faculty on all curricular matters, is writing you with a view toward ensuring broad agreement upon where CLA&S requirements will stand after the Senate completes its work on this project.

The Committee asks you to ensure that the various parties to GER review -- **including those administratively charged with implementing the Senate's innovations** -- be reminded of how curricular authority and responsibility in the University is distributed in UConn's governing arrangements.

Briefly put, the Senate can of course legislate requirements for all University students. Such requirements, however, neither replace nor supersede requirements enacted by the several faculties for the highly divergent curricula of their individual schools and colleges. This is true even of requirements conceived by college faculties as suited to the 'general education' of students in their particular instructional units.

Our University and Senate by-laws clearly divide authority for various curricular matters, including requirements, rules and regulations, among legislative authorities that are quite independent of each other. Although there has been considerable overlap during the past couple of decades among some university-wide and college requirements, the Senate's authority governs only those common to all schools and colleges on a 'one-size-fits-all' basis. Only on this level is the 'universality' of Senate legislation recognized. **The freedom (and, indeed, the obligation) of the several faculties to establish rules peculiar to the various colleges and disciplines is explicitly assigned and protected.**

It is the expressed duty of each school or college faculty **‘to set up and administer curriculum and undergraduate degree requirements for its own students; standards less rigid or less specific than [the Senate’s] may not be set up, but by vote of the faculty, standards more rigid or more specific than those outlined for the University as a whole may be imposed.’**(*By-Laws*, XI, B, 2.)

The Senate (X,C) **‘is a legislative body and concerns itself with *minimum rules and general regulations* pertaining to all undergraduate schools and colleges and with policy as it pertains in a general way to the educational program of the institution and is not reserved to the Board of Trustees, to the administration, or to the several faculties** (italics added).’ Further, the Curricula & Courses Committee of the Senate **‘shall prepare legislation *within the jurisdiction of the Senate* on course requirements for general education of all undergraduate schools and colleges ....’** (Senate, I,C,2,e; italics added)

To summarize, once new GER are adopted by the Senate for application to all students, **the default mode of all pertinent legislation will continue to be that college requirements remain in force exactly as they now are**, until action (if any) is initiated by a college faculty (in CLA&S, by this Committee) to reform such *college* requirements. This College may, in the spirit that prompted some of the Senate’s decisions this year, wish to reduce the scale or burden of such college requirements accordingly, but nothing of that sort can happen automatically. Furthermore, there is no sense in which the CLA&S requirements can be described as ‘additions’ or ‘supplements’ to the Senate’s. It is to be remembered that the lower-division requirements of this College antedate those adopted university- wide, when the Senate applied the CLA&S requirement template to the development of its own universal pattern.

It should further be noted that while it is the Chancellor’s (Provost’s) duty to ‘interpret [the Senate’s] by-laws, rules and regulations [and] administer its rules and regulations in ways designated by the Senate,’ such authority is clearly limited to matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Senate in the first place. VIII, B, 2, d.

We therefore wish to remind all parties to GER reform **that the separations of curricular authority described above will remain an important principle governing this Committee’s approach to any adjustment of College requirements that may be proposed as useful or reasonable, consequent upon the Senate’s university-wide GER reform. Our students will naturally follow any new Senate requirements. Meanwhile, College requirements remain unchanged.**

We trust, therefore, that you will undertake to prevent misapprehensions pertinent to the above from intruding upon GER reform as it enters its implementation stage. A representative subcommittee appointed by the CLA&S Committee on Curricula and Courses, whose names appear below, continues its work on these matters during the summer months, and will be pleased to meet with you if you feel further discussion to be useful.

We remain,

Very truly yours,

Robert Henning, Chair, CLA&S Committee on Curricula & Courses

Arnold Dashefsky, Sociology

Jane Knox, Chemistry

Gerald Leibowitz, Mathematics

Veronica Makowsky, Associate Dean, CLA&S

Jack Manning, English

cc: Fred Maryanski, Vice Chancellor  
Ross MacKinnon, Dean, CLA&S  
Peter Halvorson, Chair, Senate Executive Committee  
Representatives to the CLA&S Committee on Curricula and Courses

Notes:

- 1) letter also cc'd on 7/22/02 to Harry Frank, new Chair of the Senate C&C
- 2) distributed via email to all known CLAS Senators on 9/4/02:

GREGORY.ANDERSON  
LARRY.BOWMAN  
MARIE.CANTINO  
KAREN.CHOW  
MAUREEN.CROTEAU  
HARRY.FRANK  
Paul.Goodwin  
PETER.HALVORSON  
LAWRENCE.HIGHTOWER  
ANNE.HISKES  
KENT.HOLSINGER  
JUDITH.KELLY  
DEBRA.A.KENDALL  
QUENTIN.KESSEL  
PHILIP.MANNHEIM  
JUDITH.P.MEYER  
SHERRI.OLSON  
JERRY.R.PHILLIPS  
CARL.SCHAEFER  
JEROME.SEHULSTER  
STUART.SIDNEY  
JOHN.SILANDER\_JR  
WINTHROP.SMITH  
LINDA.STRAUSBAUGH  
W.Stwalley  
THOMAS.TERRY  
ROBERT.THORSON  
CHARLES.VINSONHALER  
Katharina.Von.Hammerstein  
DAVID.WAGNER  
Cyrus.Zirakzadeh  
James O'Donnell

NEW BUSINESS

**2002-82** Re-instate INTD 276, Introduction to American Studies for fall 2002 only

Professor Henning:

As you may remember, the CLAS C&C eliminated INTD 276 ("Introduction to American Studies") during the Fall, 2001 semester. It was done early enough so that the course does not appear in the listings in the 2002-2003 undergraduate catalogue.

However, no one told the people who listed the courses for Fall, 2002 registration. Because the course had been taught (I thought for the final time) last fall, they simply "rolled it over" into this year's offerings.

Upon my return from a sabbatic leave I was asked by a student if she could OVERENROLL into INTD 276 this Fall. I looked into the matter and to my horror found that the course was indeed listed and that 35 students had signed up for it.

Rather than have to tell these students that the course that they wish to take no longer exists, I would prefer to offer the course one last time. I have made arrangements within my department so that I will be able to teach INTD 276 this coming semester.

I therefore request that the CLAS C&C reinstate INTD 276 for the Fall 2002 semester only.

If I can provide you with any further information, or if you would like me to come to a meeting of your committee to explain this in person, please let me know.

Thank you for your time.

Yours,  
Bob Tilton

**2002-83** Proposal to: CHANGE A COURSE

Date: August 28, 2002

Department: Communication Sciences

Nature of Proposed Change: Change COMM 135 from recommended to required prerequisite for COMM 239.

Effective Date of Change: As soon as possible.

## JUSTIFICATION

1. Reasons for changing this course: This is an advanced course that assumes students have a certain level of familiarity with the media. Students who have not taken COMM 135 are at a disadvantage and tend to struggle with the material.
2. Effect on Department's Curriculum: It will enable the course to provide a more advanced explanation of communication technology. Students will all begin with at least a minimal understanding of the topic, which will benefit student learning.
3. Other Departments Consulted: None
4. Effects on Other Departments: None
5. Effects on Regional Campuses: This is also taught at the Stamford campus and the instructor there agrees with the need to change this to a prerequisite.
6. Approvals Received and Dates: Approved by Communication Processes CCC on November 9, 2001.
7. Names and Phone Numbers of Persons for the CCC to contact: Kristine Nowak, 6-4080.
8. Staffing:

## **2002-84** Authorization to CHANGE A Major

1. **Department Name:** Women's Studies
2. **Title of Major:** Women's Studies
3. **Nature of Change:** Maintain Core Requirements for the WS major while changing the supporting course list to better reflect the expanding offerings of WS and Cross-listed courses

### **4. Existing Catalogue Description of the Major:**

Women's Studies

The Women's Studies Program is a flexible interdisciplinary academic program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women. Combining the methods and insights of traditional academic disciplines with the special insights of Women's Studies scholarship, our courses yield fresh perspectives which help us to understand the origins of and changes in diverse cultural and social arrangements. The Women's Studies major is broad as well as flexible, and the student's program can readily reflect individual interests or complement a second major.

Gender is a common thread in our offerings, but it always interweaves with race, class, and other factors which contribute to the diversity of women's lives. The Women's Studies Program is committed to a vision of women and gender that is truly international and cross-cultural. Without this perspective, our view of the world is profoundly impoverished and stereotypes will continue to distort our understanding.

The Program prepares students to employ critical learning in their private lives, in their public roles as citizens and as members of the work force, and enhances their ability to work with and for women to create a more humane society. Women's Studies fosters interdisciplinary breadth and critical thinking and thus opens the way to a wide variety of career choices and graduate programs. Women's Studies students are flourishing in social service agencies, business, law, education, and journalism, and employers appreciate the broad interdisciplinary perspective of a Women's Studies education.

#### Core Courses

Students are required to take the following Core Courses:

- \* One 100 level Prerequisite Course: WS 103, WS 104, or WS 124
- \* WS 265 - Women's Studies Research Methodology
- \* PHIL 218 - Feminist Theory or WS 250 - Feminisms
- \* WS 261/262 - Women's Studies Internship Program
- \* WS 289W - Senior Seminar in Women's Studies.

#### Supporting Courses

Students are required to take five Supporting Courses.

Two courses must be taken from Group One which comprises courses on women and gender taught in other departments.

- \* COMM 226 or WS 268
- \* ECON 279
- \* ENGL 227 (specified sections), 264 (appropriate authors), 267 (appropriate themes), 268W (appropriate authors), 285, 286
- \* FREN 280
- \* HDFS 250, 259, 260, 270, 271, 272, 279
- \* HIST 209, 266
- \* POLS 204
- \* PSYC 246 or 246W
- \* SOCI 241, 252 or 252W
- \* SPAN 207, 224 (appropriate sections)
- \* WS 217/ENGL 217
- \* WS 231/ANTH 231

Three courses must be taken from Group Two which comprises courses with Women's Studies

numbers and their cross-listed departmental equivalents.

- \* WS 210 or History 210
- \* WS 215 or History 215
- \* WS 203W or Political Science 203W
- \* WS 263, 264, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 278, 298, 299
- \* WS 290 or ARTH 290

Note that special topics courses with Women's Studies content are offered from time to time in various departments and may be applied to the major with approval of the Program Director.

Students must take an additional 12 credits at the 200 level or above in fields closely related to the major. No required course in the major or in the related area may be taken pass/fail.

## **5. Proposed Catalogue Description of the Major:**

### Women's Studies

The Women's Studies Program is a flexible interdisciplinary academic program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women. Combining the methods and insights of traditional academic disciplines with the special insights of Women's Studies scholarship, our courses yield fresh perspectives which help us to understand the origins of and changes in diverse cultural and social arrangements. The Women's Studies major is broad as well as flexible, and the student's program can readily reflect individual interests or complement a second major.

Gender is a common thread in our offerings, but it always interweaves with race, class, and other factors which contribute to the diversity of women's lives. The Women's Studies Program is committed to a vision of women and gender that is truly international and cross-cultural. Without this perspective, our view of the world is profoundly impoverished and stereotypes will continue to distort our understanding.

The Program prepares students to employ critical learning in their private lives, in their public roles as citizens and as members of the work force, and enhances their ability to work with and for women to create a more humane society. Women's Studies fosters interdisciplinary breadth and critical thinking and thus opens the way to a wide variety of career choices and graduate programs. Women's Studies students are flourishing in social service agencies, business, law, education, and journalism, and employers appreciate the broad interdisciplinary perspective of a Women's Studies education.

### Core Courses

Students are required to take the following Core Courses:

- \* One 100 level WS Introductory Course
- \* WS 265 - Women's Studies Research Methodology
- \* PHIL 218 - Feminist Theory or WS 250 - Feminisms
- \* WS 261/262 - Women's Studies Internship Program

\* WS 289W - Senior Seminar in Women's Studies.

#### Supporting Courses

Students are required to take five Supporting Courses.

In addition majors must complete at least 15 credits of 200 level courses that should be selected with the guidance of their faculty advisor. At least three of these courses will be Upper Division Women's Studies or cross listed courses. Two of the five supporting courses may include cross-referenced courses that cover special topics relevant to feminist scholarship in various departments. Such cross-referenced courses will be applied to the major with approval of the Program Director.

#### Related courses:

Students must take an additional 12 credits at the 200 level or above in fields closely related to the major. No required course in the major or in the related area may be taken pass/fail.

6. Effective Date (semester, year): immediately

(Note that changes will be effective immediately unless a specific date is requested.)

#### JUSTIFICATION

#### 7. Why is a change required?

Many Women's Studies courses have been added to the curricula since the original list of courses was outlined for the major requirements. All new courses have been approved with permission to count toward the major.

#### 8. What is the impact on students?

The change will reflect the current practice for students. All Women's Studies and cross-listed courses are currently allowed with special permission.

#### 9. What is the impact on regional campuses?

No impact since regional campuses do not offer a WS major.

#### 10. Dates approved by:

Department Curriculum Committee: 5/02

Department Head: 5/02

Department Faculty: 5/02

#### 11. Name and Phone Number and email address of Departmental Contact:

Marita McComiskey

Interim Director

486-1133

marita.mccomiskey@uconn.edu

— FINIS —



