

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN

Proposed Name of Degree: Gender Studies

Faculty Proposing New Program: Julia Balén, Renny Christopher

Review and Approval:

Date of Proposal: _____

Date of Faculty Meeting: _____

Date of Consultation with Academic Affairs: _____

1. Curriculum Committee Approval:

Curriculum Chair: _____ Date: _____

2. Academic Senate Approval:

Chair, Academic Senate: _____ Date: _____

3. Administration Approval:

President (or designee): _____ Date: _____

1. Definition of the Proposed Degree Major Program

a. Name of the proposed degree major program, and academic year of intended implementation.

BA in Gender Studies, 2007

b. Name of the department, departments, division or other unit of the campus that would offer the proposed degree major program. Identify the unit that will have primary responsibility.

The program would draw on relevant courses offered by faculty housed within a number of disciplines, including English, History, Art History, Psychology, Biology, and others.

c. Name, title, and rank of the individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program.

Julia Balén, Assistant Professor of English
Renny Christopher, Professor of English

d. Objectives of the proposed degree major program.

- To examine women's and men's roles and positioning within modern society
- To familiarize students with educational issues affected by gender
- To provide opportunities to explore the meaning of being engendered
- To provide insights into the social, economic and political issues of gender
- To qualify students to work in careers in which a knowledge of the social construction of gender is vital
- To provide insight into the nexus of engendered roles, careers, home and leisure
- To support and assist students who want to specialize in women's or men's issues
- To expose students to the accomplishments of women
- To involve students from diverse backgrounds with a multidisciplinary faculty
- To provide a coherent program in gender and women's studies, integrated with other disciplines and departments

2. Justification for the Proposed Degree Major Program

Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary field, an innovative, 21st-century major, and therefore fits well with the mission of the university. In addition to serving as a useful major for students, it will also provide general education courses of benefit to all students.

a. List of other California State University campuses currently offering or projecting the proposed degree major program; list of neighboring institutions, public and private, currently offering the proposed degree major program.

Chico and Pomona offer a BA in Gender, Ethnicity and Multicultural Studies
Fresno, Fullerton, Long Beach, Northridge, San Marcos and Sonoma offer a BA in Women's Studies
San Diego State and San Francisco State offer BAs and MAs in Women's Studies

UCSB offers a BA in Women's Studies

b. Differences between the proposed program and programs listed in Section 2a above.

None of the programs above is a program in critical gender studies, allowing a focus on women's studies, critical masculinity studies, and/or glbt studies.

c. Professional uses of the proposed degree major program.

Gender Studies would be a useful major for students seeking greater understanding of the social construction of gender and how gendering affects the lives of everyone; in the course of such a program of studies, a student will gain methodological competence in the social sciences as well as sharp analytical skills. Students should graduate well prepared to undertake advanced study in Women's Studies or Cultural Studies, and to embark on careers in such fields as journalism, social services, education, eco-feminist activism, international relations, counseling, politics, family planning services, family law.

d. Community/Regional/Statewide need for the proposed program.

The Gender Studies program will supply the region with students trained in critical thinking and with knowledge of issues that are of importance to everyone's lives. It will be a model program in the CSU, innovative and forward-looking.

e. The expected number of majors in the year of initiation and three years and five years thereafter. The expected number of graduates in the year of initiation and three years and five years thereafter.

	<u>Number of Majors</u>	<u>Number of Graduates</u>
Initiation Year		
Third year		
Fifth year		

3. Resources Needs for the Proposed Degree Major Program (faculty, instructional, library, other)

a. Existing.

A number of existing faculty are able to teach courses relevant to this program. Two faculty, Balén and Christopher, have extensive experience with Gender Studies programs at other campuses, and could serve as core faculty for instituting the program.

The program needs no physical facilities not already in existence.

b. Future.

As the program grows, it will need additional faculty, additional library resources, and staff support when it becomes an autonomous department.