

American Studies Minor

Establish initial assessment standards

Goal Description:

Coordinator will work with interdisciplinary faculty to establish program goals related to the following:

Critical Thinking

Student understanding of diverse American Experiences.

Student understanding of the intersection of various disciplines in American Studies

Providing Department: American Studies Minor

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Critical Thinking

Learning Objective Description:

Students will gain the ability to apply critical thinking to an analysis of the American Experience through interdisciplinary coursework.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Develop indicators for critical thinking

Indicator Description:

Program will development instruments/assessments/indicators for critical thinking within the disciplines.

Criterion Description:

Criteria will be established after Indicators are developed.

Findings Description:

no findings at this time

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Critical Thinking

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Diverse American Experience

Learning Objective Description:

Students will gain an understanding of the varied and diverse American experiences, often differentiated by race, economic status, religion, sexual identity, and other factors

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Establish Assessment/Indicators for Diverse American Experience

Indicator Description:

The program will develop assessment measures for students' understanding of the varied and diverse American experiences, often differentiated by race, economic status, religion, sexual identity, and other factors

Criterion Description:

There will be no set criteria until assessment/indicators are developed.

Findings Description:

no findings at this time

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action/Diversity--Committee Meeting

Action Description:

Through CHSS, the American Studies committee will meet to discuss and establish appropriate indicators for the minor with an implementation in Fall 2023.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Interdisciplinary intersections

Learning Objective Description:

Students will gain an understanding of the various ways diverse academic disciplines add to a more comprehensive discussion of American Studies.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Establish Indicators/Assessments for Interdisciplinary Intersections

Indicator Description:

The program will develop measures for students' understanding the various ways diverse academic disciplines add to a more comprehensive discussion of American Studies.

Criterion Description:

Criteria will be established once Indicators/assessments are developed.

Findings Description:

no findings at this time

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Interdisciplinary Intersections

New Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

Due to change of coordinators in the minor and COVID disruptions in the previous year's cycle, among other challenges with coordinating interdisciplinary inputs across the college in such conditions, no PCI was established in the year prior--or at least none is currently visible in the above text box. PCI will be established in the upcoming year when the interdisciplinary AmSt committee convenes to develop the assessment plan for the minor.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Closing Summary

The plan for approving the minor includes building the assessment tools and updating the curriculum:

The steps to be taken this year:

- 1)Developing specific instruments to assess the minor's objectives and the performance of students across the disciplines.
- 2)Adjusting the curriculum to best achieve the objectives of critical thinking, understanding American diversity, and understanding the intersections among disciplines. Course options will be evaluated on their ability to help students achieve those objectives.

The items for continuous improvement include the following:

- 1)Establishing an advisory committee
- 2)Continuing to revise and improve options within the curriculum

3)Increasing the visibility of the program

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Closing Summary:

In Fall 22 and Spring 23 the American Studies minor committee will meet to establish a more robust PCI. In particular, the program coordinator will propose some ideas for recruitment strategies and student retention for the American Studies minor and open a dialogue for input and feedback on those strategies. In addition, the American Studies committee will need to develop criteria and methods for program assessment. This is especially important when considering the program is cross-disciplinary and students have different majors and therefore different disciplinary homes.