

DATE: September 13, 2021

TO: Anne Marie Sowder, Chair of the College Council Curriculum Committee

FROM: Curriculum Subcommittee

Yu-Wen Chen (Chair), Lubie Alatrisme, Tasha Rhodes

RE: Final Report for Proposal 20-11: Academic Minor in Spanish Language

PROPOSAL OVERVIEW:

The Humanities Department proposes a 12-18 credit academic minor comprising Spanish language courses. This academic minor consists of two to four required courses and two additional courses from a selection of three electives focused on Health and Literature. The main objective of the Spanish Language Minor is to equip students with the knowledge that will help them reach an advanced proficiency level in Spanish. In addition, the program is designed to provide students with a better understanding of the Spanish language and culture to enhance their professions and augment their career opportunities in the country's multilingual settings and other parts of the world. The program will be taught completely in Spanish and ensures that students reach advanced proficiency level in Spanish upon graduation.

RATIONALE:

This program would benefit individuals interested in studying Spanish as a foreign language and heritage speakers of Spanish who have prior knowledge of the language. Regardless of their proficiency level upon entry, students will end the program with an advanced proficiency level in Spanish, which will allow them to understand and communicate fluently with native speakers of Spanish. Students will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills in Spanish needed to apply for national and international certifications. This minor will become the first and only one taught entirely in a language other than English at City Tech. Its existence will be a step in the direction of meeting the diversity goals established by the College and CUNY and would be consistent with the college's mission to encourage open-mindedness and diversity in education.

STRENGTHS:

- fulfills many General Education requirements
- engages well with a variety of technological and professional disciplines
- enhances students' ability to gain employment in the multicultural and diverse urban area of New York City, where opportunities for bilingual individuals who speak Spanish and English are growing in multiple fields.
- equips students with the necessary knowledge and skills in Spanish needed to apply for national and international certifications.

WEAKNESSES:

None

ISSUES AND CONCERNS DISCUSSED:

Several minor changes and modifications were suggested during the subcommittee review and meeting with the Provost's office. Suggestions and comments were mainly related to the clarification of rationale and the program requirements. In addition, suggestions were made to include the supporting letters, reference links for other similar programs, program assessment statement, course sequence without the hidden prerequisite, designated program coordinator, staffing support, and the diversity and inclusive education syllabus statement. The proposer thoroughly and carefully addressed all individual comments, with changes made as requested and clarification provided.

SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

The proposal was assigned to the subcommittee on Aug. 18, 2021. The subcommittee read and reviewed the proposal and compared them to the *Resolution for Criteria and Process for Proposing a Discipline Minor* document. The subcommittee met on Aug. 30, 2021, to finalize the comments and suggestions. The subcommittee presented and discussed the comments with Prof. David Sánchez Jiménez and Dean Vazquez-Poritz on Aug. 31, 2021. The first revision was received on Sept. 2, 2021. On Sept. 10, 2021, the subcommittee met with Prof. David Sánchez Jiménez, Prof. Ann Delilkan, Provost Pamela Brown, Associate Provost Reginald Blake, Kim Cardascia (Provost's Office), and Dean Vazquez-Poritz. The final version was received on Sept. 13, 2021.