New York City College of Technology, CUNY

CURRICULUM MODIFICATION PROPOSAL FORM

This form is used for all curriculum modification proposals. See the [Proposal Classification Chart](http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/collegecouncil/files/2014/08/2013-10-09-Proposal_Classification_Chart.pdf) for information about what types of modifications are major or minor. Completed proposals should be emailed to the Curriculum Committee chair.

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| --- | --- |
| **Title of Proposal** | Academic Minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| **Date** | May 15, 2020 |
| **Major or Minor** | Major |
| **Proposer’s Name** | Laura Westengard |
| **Department** | English |
| **Date of Departmental Meeting in which proposal was approved** | May 14, 2020 |
| **Department Chair Name** | Robert Lestón, 5/19/20 |
| **Department Chair Signature and Date** |  |
| **Academic Dean Name** | Justin Vazquez-Poritz |
| **Academic Dean Signature and Date** |  **8/25/20** |
| **Brief Description of Proposal**(Describe the modifications contained within this proposal in a succinct summary. More detailed content will be provided in the proposal body. | Proposing the creation of a 12 credit academic minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies using existing courses.  |
| **Brief Rationale for Proposal**(Provide a concise summary of why this proposed change is important to the department. More detailed content will be provided in the proposal body).  | Each of the eleven Senior Colleges within CUNY grants a wide range of academic minors, and City Tech currently grants one academic minor in physics. Gender & Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary cluster of courses sponsored by the English Department that has existed at the college since 2016. All courses in the proposed academic minor currently hold an Articulation Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding with CUNY BA (see appendix). Offering Gender & Sexuality Studies as an academic minor would allow student work in Gender & Sexuality Studies courses to be officially recognized on their transcripts, give students an opportunity for academic exploration as well as additional depth of focus, widen their academic and professional perspectives beyond their academic majors, and offer them increased opportunities in their careers and graduate education. |
| **Proposal History**(Please provide history of this proposal: is this a resubmission? An updated version? This may most easily be expressed as a list). | Updated submission 11/8/2020 based on comments from Minors Subcommittee and Provost’s Office. |

Please include all appropriate documentation as indicated in the Curriculum Modification Checklist.

For each new course, please also complete the New Course Proposal and submit in this document.

Please submit this document as a single .doc or .rtf format. If some documents are unable to be converted to .doc, then please provide all documents archived into a single .zip file.

**ALL PROPOSAL CHECK LIST**

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| --- | --- |
| Completed CURRICULUM MODIFICATION FORM including: |  |
| * Brief description of proposal
 | X |
| * Rationale for proposal
 | X |
| * Date of department meeting approving the modification
 | X |
| * Chair’s Signature
 |  |
| * Dean’s Signature
 | X |
| Evidence of consultation with affected departmentsList of the programs that use this course as required or elective, and courses that use this as a prerequisite. |  |
| Documentation of Advisory Commission views (if applicable). |  |
| Completed [Chancellor’s Report Form](http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/collegecouncil/files/2014/08/2013-10-09-Chancellor_Report_Quick_Reference_Guide1.doc). |  |

**EXISTING PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSALS**

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| --- | --- |
| Documentation indicating core curriculum requirements have been met for new programs/options or program changes.  |  |
| Detailed rationale for each modification (this includes minor modifications) |  |

Draft Proposal for an Academic Minor in Gender in Sexuality Studies Sponsored by the English Department

Minor Curriculum Modification

Rationale

Each of the eleven Senior Colleges within CUNY grants a wide range of academic minors, and City Tech currently grants one academic minor in physics. A working group of the General Education Committee has recently recommended that City Tech students would be best served by the creation of new academic minors offering students from various academic majors and departments the possibility supplementing their academic major curriculum with an additional area of focus.

Gender & Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary cluster of courses sponsored by the English Department that has existed at the college since 2016. All courses in the proposed academic minor currently hold an Articulation Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding with CUNY BA that would remain in effect (with appropriate revisions) once the academic minor is created. Offering Gender & Sexuality Studies as an academic minor would allow student work in existing Gender & Sexuality Studies courses to be officially recognized on their transcripts, give students an opportunity for academic exploration as well as additional depth of focus, widen their academic and professional perspectives beyond their academic majors, and offer them increased opportunities in their careers and graduate education. In addition to the General Education learning outcomes that students achieve through Common Core and Elective coursework, an academic minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies will offer several additional programmatic learning outcomes that will serve as a formal acknowledgement and endorsement of pursuing educational goals motivated by intellectual interest and curiosity, both independent of and complementary to career goals.

Gender and Sexuality Studies at City Tech will be an interdisciplinary academic minor exploring issues of gender and sexuality from various perspectives, with classes in English, African American Studies, Health & Human Services, and Social Science. The academic minor offers students a critical lens for analyzing socially constructed expectations, assumptions, and biases around gender and sexuality in courses that focus on humanity, sexuality, gender, identity, public/private space, and representations of genders in literature, film, and media. The courses in the academic minor offer knowledge of the complex intersections of gender, sexuality, race, class, and ability in various social and historical contexts. A critically informed and historically situated understanding of gender and sexuality provides timely and valuable insights applicable to a variety of  technological and professional disciplines, including communication design, architectural technology, professional and technical writing, nursing, law and paralegal studies, education, hospitality management, human services, business and technology of fashion, entertainment technology, emerging media, dental hygiene, construction management, and biomedical informatics. Nine of the eleven CUNY senior colleges currently offer a academic minor in Women’s/Gender & Sexuality Studies, and City Tech students would particularly benefit from information around issues of gender and sexuality as it would provide them with valuable skills and knowledge to apply to their career fields. Because the academic minor is interdisciplinary, students will be exposed to a variety of approaches and scholarly conversations on the topics of gender and sexuality, and students who complete the academic minor learn to become complex critical and analytical thinkers, skills that will enhance their undergraduate education, post-graduate work, careers, and the communities and organizations with which they are involved. A academic minor in gender and sexuality studies directly supports the college’s mission to provide multidisciplinary education to a diverse urban population while nurturing an atmosphere of inclusion, respect, and open-mindedness in which all members can flourish.

Description of the Proposed Academic Minor

An academic minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies will be available to students in academic major programs with 12 or more credits available in General Education Flexible Common Core and College Option Requirements. Students should be advised by their academic major departments as to how to how to take academic minor courses in a way that would help fulfill their contributory credits. Advising for the academic minor will be conducted by a member of the English department designated as the program director/point person.

The only prerequisite not included in the Gender & Sexuality Studies curriculum is English 1101; therefore, students should be able to declare and begin working on academic minor courses as soon as their second semester.

Students must earn a C or above in all academic minor course work in order to be granted an academic minor designation on their transcripts.

REQUIRED COURSES for THE ACADEMIC MINOR:

* ENG 2180 - Studies in Identity and Orientation (3 cr, US Experience in its Diversity; Writing Intensive; Prereq: ENG 1101)
* Three additional courses chosen from: (9 cr)
	+ HEA 1110 - Human Sexuality (3 cr, Prereq: CUNY proficiency in reading and writing)
	+ ANTH 1103 - Gender, Culture and Society (3 cr, World Cultures and Global Issues; Prereq: CUNY proficiency in reading and writing)
	+ ENG 1773ID - Weird Science: Interpreting and Redefining Humanity (3 cr, Individual and Society; Writing Intensive; Interdisciplinary; Prereq: ENG 1101, CUNY proficiency in mathematics; students must also have a level of computer competency necessary for taking an online course)
	+ AFR 2000 - Blacks in Media: Race, Gender & Cultural Representations (3 cr, Individual and Society; Writing Intensive; Prereq: ENG 1101)
	+ ENG 2150 - Introduction to Women Writers (3 cr, Individual and Society; Writing Intensive; Prereq: ENG 1101)
	+ ENG 2160 - Introduction to Women’s Studies (3 cr, World Cultures and Global Issues; Writing Intensive; Prereq: ENG 1101)
	+ ENG 2170ID - Introduction to Studies in Maleness and Manhood (3 cr, Creative Expression; Writing Intensive; Interdisciplinary; Prereq: ENG 1101)
	+ ENG 2190 - Expressions of Identity: Representations of Gender and Space in Literature (3 cr, US Experience in its Diversity; Writing Intensive; Prereq: ENG 1101)
* Total Credits: 12

Programmatic Learning Outcomes

 Students will:

* Demonstrate a working knowledge of key concepts in gender and sexuality studies
* Critically analyze, interpret, and communicate about one’s complex subject position and social location in relation to gender and sexuality norms
* Identify expectations, assumptions, and effects of social constructions of gender and sexuality, including an awareness of how gender, race, class, ethnicity, ability, and sexual orientation intersect and how these intersections influence constructions of human identity in historical, cultural, and geographic contexts
* Demonstrate the ability to connect scholarly inquiry about gender and sexuality to technological and professional contexts

Sample Curriculum Map

Below is a sample curriculum map for a student majoring in Architectural Technology with an academic minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies:

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| --- | --- |
| **Gen Ed Requirements for Architectural Technology** | **Courses for Proposed Academic Minor** |
| World Cultures and Global Issues | ANTH 1103 |
| Individual and Society | AFR 2000 |
| Additional Liberal Arts | ENG 2180 |
| Additional Liberal Arts (Advanced) | ENG 2190 |

As the Sample Curriculum Map illustrates, an Academic Minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies can be completed in all BS degrees and most BTech degrees within the required credits of the degree program.