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** | Interdisciplinary Option for Academic Minors |
| **Date** | 1/28/22 |
| **Major or Minor** | Minor |
| **Proposer’s Name** | Emile Boone, Sean Macdonald, and Laura Westengard |
| **Department** | African American Studies, Social Science, English |
| **Date of Departmental Meeting in which proposal was approved** | 2/3/22 |
| **Department Chair Name** | Renata Ferdinand, Randall Hannum, Robert Lestón |
| **Department Chair Signature and Date** | Renata Ferdinand: ***Dr. Renata Ferdinand 2/03/2022***  Randall Hannum: 2/4/22  Robert Lestón:A picture containing insect, different, line  Description automatically generated |
| **Academic Dean Name** | Justin Vazquez-Poritz |
| **Academic Dean Signature and Date** | **2/28/22** |
| **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. | Proposal to add a three-credit independent study (IS9010) to the curricula of existing Academic Minors that are inherently interdisciplinary - Black Visual Cultures, Gender & Sexuality Studies, and Environmental Studies. |
| **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). | This change would enable students enrolled in Black Visual Culture, Gender & Sexuality Studies, and Environmental Sciences to fulfill their interdisciplinary course requirement within the Minor curriculum. |
| **Proposal History**  (Please provide history of this proposal: is this a resubmission? An updated version? This may most easily be expressed as a list). | 1/6/22: Consultation with Dean Vazquez-Poritz and Reneta Lansiquot, from the Interdisciplinary Committee  2/2/22: Statements of Support from Architectural Technology and Physics  2/3/22: Departmental Votes of Support (AFR unanimous; ENG 28Yes/1No; SOC 17Yes/1No/1/Abs 1 ) |

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 | 2/3/22 |
| · Chair’s Signature | X |
| · Dean’s Signature | X |
| Evidence of consultation with affected departments (see appendix)  List of the programs that use this course as required or elective, and courses that use this as a prerequisite | X |
| 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). | X |

**EXISTING PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSALS**

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

**Proposal**:

City Tech currently has three Academic Minors that are interdisciplinary in structure and substance: Black Visual Cultures, Gender & Sexuality Studies, and Environmental Studies. In order to support the interdisciplinary nature of these Minors, we are proposing the addition of a 3-credit independent study of an interdisciplinary nature to be completed under the advisement of two faculty members of different departments or two faculty members in different disciplines within the same department. In addition to the existing ID courses already listed in the Minors’ curricular options, this proposal would add IS9010: Interdisciplinary Independent Study.

The Academic Minor coordinators would help facilitate this opportunity for the student. Each independent study can also have more than one student, as long as there are two faculty. The independent study proposal would need to be approved by the ID committee as being interdisciplinary in nature. Each independent study student equals .5 credits for professors (which means .25 credits for each of the two professors advising the student.) Professors will be expected to spend anywhere from 30 minutes to one hour each week with the student providing one on one guidance and mentorship. As the student nears graduation, their official completion of all Academic Minor classes (including the independent study, if applicable) would be indicated on the Academic Minor verification form.

For example, in regards to the Black Visual Cultures Academic Minor, the approved classes pertaining to the minor requirements encompass the following; a study of the history of traditional arts within Africa, the United States and the Caribbean such as painting, sculpture, and printmaking, as well as topics that fall within our more expansive visual culture including the history of photography, illustration, the graphic arts, and media. The independent study would contribute additional options for students needing to complete an interdisciplinary course. It would be student tailored and interdisciplinary in nature, drawing on the expertise of two faculty from different disciplines, who may or may not be faculty from the same department. So, for example, if a student wanted to do an independent study on the visual representations of black motherhood, they could work with a faculty member in the AFR department and a second faculty member in the English department who focuses on gender studies.

Similarly, the Minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies includes courses in African American Studies, Anthropology, English, and Health & Human Services. If a student wanted to do an interdisciplinary independent study course on the racialized constructions of gender in 19th century literature, for example, they could work with a faculty member in the English department and a faculty member in African American Studies or Social Science.

In the Environmental Studies Academic Minor, the approved classes pertaining to the minor requirements include the study of environmental issues from Economic, Sociological, Philosophical, and Historical perspectives, as well as topics relating to sustainable practices such as sustainable energy and architectural design. The independent study would contribute additional options for students needing to complete an interdisciplinary course. The IS would be interdisciplinary in nature, drawing upon the expertise of two faculty members from different disciplines within a multi-discipline department or from two different departments.

**Rationale**:

The proposed change would enable students to have a three-credit independent study (IS9010) course count both toward fulfilling the Academic Minor requirements and their Major’s interdisciplinary course requirement. This would provide students with additional Curricular options while enhancing the interdisciplinary nature of these existing Academic Minors.

​​**Chancellor’s Report:**

**Section AIII: Changes in Degree Programs**

**AIII.1. The following revisions are proposed for the African American Studies Department’s Academic Minor in Black Visual Cultures**

**Program: Black Visual Cultures**

**Effective Date: Fall 2022**

**A change of required courses**

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| --- | --- |
| **From** | **TO** |
| **FOUNDATIONAL COURSE GROUP**  **3 CREDITS**  AFR 1460: Early African History 3  AFR 1461: Modern African History 3  AFR 1465: Early African American History 3  AFR 1466: Modern African-American History 3  AFR 1467: Afro-Caribbean History 3    **BLACK VISUAL CULTURES GROUP**  **9 CREDITS**  AFR 1301: Introduction to the Art of Africa 3  AFR 1304: African American Art 3  AFR 1308: Caribbean Art 3  AFR 2000: Blacks in Media: Race, Gender, & Cultural Representations 3  AFR 2302: Art and Architecture of Africa 3  AFR 3000ID: Black New York - Interdisciplinary 3  AFR 3301ID: Around the Dinner Table: The Visual Culture & Art of African Diaspora Foodways 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** | **FOUNDATIONAL COURSE GROUP**  **3 CREDITS**  AFR 1460: Early African History 3  AFR 1461: Modern African History 3  AFR 1465: Early African American History 3  AFR 1466: Modern African-American History 3  AFR 1467: Afro-Caribbean History 3    **BLACK VISUAL CULTURES GROUP**  **9 CREDITS**  AFR 1301: Introduction to the Art of Africa 3  AFR 1304: African American Art 3  AFR 1308: Caribbean Art 3  AFR 2000: Blacks in Media: Race, Gender, & Cultural Representations 3  AFR 2302: Art and Architecture of Africa 3  AFR 3000ID: Black New York - Interdisciplinary 3  AFR 3301ID: Around the Dinner Table: The Visual Culture & Art of African Diaspora Foodways 3  IS9010: Interdisciplinary Independent Study 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** |

**Section AIII: Changes in Degree Programs**

**AIII.1. The following revisions are proposed for the English Department’s Academic Minor in Gender & Sexuality Studies**

**Program: Gender & Sexuality Studies**

**Effective Date: Fall 2022**

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| **From** | **TO** |
| **REQUIRED COURSE**  **3 CREDITS**  ENG 2180: Studies in Identity and Orientation 3  **ELECTIVE COURSES (CHOOSE THREE) 9 CREDITS**  AFR 2000: Blacks in Media: Race, Gender, & Cultural Representations 3  ANTH 1103: Gender, Culture and Society 3  ENG 1773ID: Weird Science: Interpreting and Redefining Humanity 3  ENG 2150: Introduction to Women Writers 3  ENG 2160: Introduction to Women's Studies 3  ENG 2170ID: Introduction to Studies in Maleness and Manhood 3  ENG 2190: Expressions of Identity: Representations of Gender and Space in Literature 3  HEA 1110: Human Sexuality 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** | **REQUIRED COURSE**  **3 CREDITS**  ENG 2180: Studies in Identity and Orientation 3  **ELECTIVE COURSES (CHOOSE THREE) 9 CREDITS**  AFR 2000: Blacks in Media: Race, Gender, & Cultural Representations 3  ANTH 1103: Gender, Culture and Society 3  ENG 1773ID: Weird Science: Interpreting and Redefining Humanity 3  ENG 2150: Introduction to Women Writers 3  ENG 2160: Introduction to Women's Studies 3  ENG 2170ID: Introduction to Studies in Maleness and Manhood 3  ENG 2190: Expressions of Identity: Representations of Gender and Space in Literature 3  HEA 1110: Human Sexuality 3  IS9010: Interdisciplinary Independent Study 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** |

**Section AIII: Changes in Degree Programs**

**AIII.1. The following revisions are proposed for the Social Science Department’s Academic Minor in Environmental Studies**

**Program: Environmental Studies**

**Effective Date: Fall 2022**

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| **From** | **TO** |
| **CHOOSE 12 OR MORE CREDITS FROM:**  GEOG 11O1: Elements of Physical Geography 3  PHYS 1002ID: Introduction to Physics of Natural Disasters 3  ECON 2505ID: Environmental Economics 3  SOC 3302ID: Environmental Sociology 3  ESCI 1110; ESCI 1210: Environmental Science I and II 3  ESCI 2000ID: Energy Resources 3  PHIL 3400: Environmental Philosophy  ARCH 3551: Sustainability: History and Practice 3  HIS 3310: Environmental History of North America 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** | **CHOOSE 12 OR MORE CREDITS FROM:**  GEOG 11O1: Elements of Physical Geography 3  PHYS 1002ID: Introduction to Physics of Natural Disasters 3  ECON 2505ID: Environmental Economics 3  SOC 3302ID: Environmental Sociology 3  ESCI 1110; ESCI 1210: Environmental Science I and II 3  ESCI 2000ID: Energy Resources 3  PHIL 3400: Environmental Philosophy  ARCH 3551: Sustainability: History and Practice 3  HIS 3310: Environmental History of North America 3  IS9010: Interdisciplinary Independent Study 3  **TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMIC MINOR: 12** |

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# Appendix

Consultation with Affected Departments and Statements of Support

