UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>

Making modifications to the AMAS minor

5 messages

Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu> Sat, Sep 26, 2015 at 1:04 PM
To: Anthony Mora <apmora@umich.edu>, June Howard <jmhoward@umich.edu>
Cc: Tammy Zill <tzill@umich.edu>
Bcc: Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>

Hi June and Anthony,

The AMAS Advisory Board met last week and discussed modifying the minor requirements in two ways:

1. Rather than offering only two options as a required survey course (AMCULT/ARABAM 215, "Introduction to Arab American Studies" and AMCULT/ARABAM 235, "The Middle East in Hollywood) to open it up to any 200-level AMCULT/ARABAM course. There are two reasons for this: First, we would like to include Charlotte courses in the curriculum. Therefore, we would like for "Arab America: Art, Culture, and Activism" to count as a course that could fulfill the survey requirement. This course is currently a topics course (204) and will likely become its own course in the next year or two. Therefore, rather than specifying 204, we would like to keep it open to any 200-level course offered by AMCULT/ARABAM. The second reason is that if we are successful in making a target of opportunity hire, we want to keep the options open and not have to modify the minor yet again. If we were to hire someone in Muslim American Studies, then we would offer either Rima's old course, AMCULT/ARABAM 236, "Muslims in America" as a regular offering or something similar like an "Introduction to Muslim American Studies" course at the 200-level. We would want that to have the option of incorporating a 200-level course on Muslim Americans if a new faculty member were to join us.

2. Getting rid of the option that one upper-level Arabic course can count towards the minor. The AMAS advisory board said that when we were Arab American Studies, this made sense, but since we are Arab and Muslim American Studies now, why only Arabic and not Urdu, Farsi, Bengali, or other languages? They suggested getting rid of this option and to keep students focused on completing five non-language courses. They also noted that APIA and Latino/a Studies do not count languages towards their minors. NAS is the only one that does and it because we are unique in offering Ojibwe.

I have filled out the attached form. Please feel free to modify it in any way you see fit and to send any questions my way. Tammy has informed me that it is due to the Curriculum Committee by October 22.

Thank you,

Evelyn

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AMAS_Minor_Modification_Proposal.doc
59K

Anthony Mora <apmora@umich.edu> Sat, Sep 26, 2015 at 1:15 PM
To: Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>
Cc: June Howard <jmhoward@umich.edu>, Tammy Zill <tzill@umich.edu>, Judith Gray <judygray@umich.edu>

Thanks, Evelyn --

I am happy to help with this request. We are not likely, however, to meet the October 22 LSA Curriculum Committee deadline. As you likely remember, modifications to AC's minors travel from the ES/DS unit, to the AC Undergraduate Committee, and finally to the full AC faculty for a vote. That has been our internal procedure as we are all considered stewards of AC's vast curriculum. AC's undergraduate committee is scheduled to meet October 19. Tammy will add this to that agenda. Assuming everything proceeds as expected, we would be looking for these changes to take effect Fall 2016.

Let me know if I can help in other ways.

Anthony
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Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu> Sun, Sep 27, 2015 at 11:11 AM
To: Anthony Mora <apmora@umich.edu>
Cc: June Howard <jmhoward@umich.edu>, Tammy Zill <tzill@umich.edu>, Judith Gray <judygray@umich.edu>

Hi Anthony,
I had forgotten the process. Thanks for the reminder. It would be good to know the deadline to the curriculum committee for Fall 2016 approval.
Best,
Evelyn

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June Howard <jmhoward@umich.edu> Sun, Sep 27, 2015 at 3:18 PM
To: Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>

Hi Evelyn-- just wanted to add that the advisor for the minor does have the power to make exceptions, so I hope the delay won't have a lot of impact on what students can and can't do? Yes? June

***
June Howard
Chair, Department of American Culture
734-615-6473
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of English, American Culture and Women's Studies
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
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Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu> Sun, Sep 27, 2015 at 3:47 PM
To: June Howard <jmhoward@umich.edu>

Hi June,

Yes! No worries about the delay. It is not that pressing since, as you note, I can make exceptions. We just want to incorporate Charlotte into the curriculum (and leave space in case the target of opportunity hire works out). So we will plan for Fall 2016.

I hope you are having a good weekend. I am still sick! Ugh.
Evelyn

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