

From: [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#)
To: [Smith, Randy](#); [Reed, Katie](#)
Cc: [Martin, Andrew](#); [Nagar, Ila](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Jenkins, Mary Ellen](#); [Romero, Eugenia](#)
Subject: Informational items for CAA
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2026 10:38:14 AM
Attachments: [Informational Item -- Update Russian certificate.pdf](#)
[Informational item -- Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Dear Randy and Katie,

Please find attached the following informational items to share at an upcoming CAA meeting:

- Informational Item: Essential Russian Language and Culture Skills Certificate
- Informational Item: Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate

Professor Eugenia Romero, , Chair-for-the-day of ASCC, shared the proposed changes as informational items at the ASC Curriculum Committee meeting on Friday, May 8, 2026.

Best regards,
Bernadette



Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.

Assistant Dean, Curriculum

College of Arts and Sciences

114F University Hall, 230 North Oval Mall

Columbus, OH 43210

Phone: 614-688-5679

<http://asccas.osu.edu>



May 1, 2026

Dear Council on Academic Affairs,

The steering committee of the Department of Sociology's DEI Certificate, with support from the Department of Sociology, wishes to change the name of the DEI Certificate to "Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference." We have elected to pursue this name change for two main reasons.

First, the proposed name change is better aligned with the learning outcomes of the certificate, which speak more broadly to an interdisciplinary approach toward understanding identities, difference, and power. For instance, people who complete the certificate should be able to:

- Develop a quantitative understanding of the magnitude of social diversity, particularly with respect to the three dimensions that are often responsible for major divisions in society: social class and economic inequalities, race/ethnicity, and gender;
- Articulate the relationship between individuals, groups, organizations and societies;
- Identify and communicate the major patterns and trends in group-based inequality across time and place;
- Understand the evolution of these social cleavages across time and the roots of divisions, e.g. the nature of their social construction; and
- Summarize the major theories of social inequality, particularly the *how* and *why* of societal divisions.

Other learning outcomes, as well as the associated classes in the certificate, are likewise tied to identity, difference, and power, hence the proposed name change.

Second, the certificate has seen, over the last few years, a decrease in enrollments. We believe this is due in part to the limited nature of the name. Specifically, there are currently 22 students pursuing the certificate. Last spring, there were 42 students pursuing the certificate, and the four springs prior all had between 53 and 59 students. As such, the certificate has seen a decline—one that is mirrored in fall enrollments as well. We hope that changing the name to better encapsulate the certificate, and communicate what it offers, will help with this.

We are using this opportunity to update the certificate advising sheet with regard to small changes (e.g., title changes, number changes) and we have removed courses that are in limbo or are withdrawn.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Professor, Sociology

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
NAVIGATING SOCIAL IDENTITIES,
POWER, AND DIFFERENCE
CERTIFICATE**

The 12-credit hour Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate introduces students to an interdisciplinary approach to understanding identity, power, and difference. * indicates potential online course option

Required core courses (6 credits):

- **SOCIOL 2463/**: Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender* (3)
- **Choose ONE from the following three courses**
 - **AFAMAST 1101**: Introduction to African American and African Studies (3)
 - **COMPSTD 1100/1100H**: Intro to the Humanities: Cross-Cultural Perspectives (3)
 - **WGSST 1110/1110H**: Gender, Sex, and Power* (3)

Elective courses (6 credits):

In addition, students will select two or more courses from those listed below (temporally, the elective courses can be taken before or after the required courses). Students must choose their electives from at least **TWO** of the different groups listed below.

Group 1: Social Class/Economic Inequality

- SOCIOL 1101(H) or 1102- Introductory Sociology or Social Foundations of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Social Class*
- SOCWORK 1120 Introduction to Social Welfare
- GEOG 2400.01 or.02/GEOG 2400H Economic and Social Geography
- SOCWORK 3201 Social Justice & Social Welfare Policy
- SOCIOL 3306 Sociology of Poverty
- SOCIOL 3464 Work, Employment and Society
- POLITSC 4282 The Politics of Income Inequality
- WGSST 4404 Regulating Bodies: Global Sexual Economies
- WGSST 4524 Women's Work? Sex, Race, Class & Labor
- ECON 4553 Economics of Population
- GEOG 5401 Economies, Space, and Society
- SOCIOL 4462 Advanced Social Stratification

Group 2: Gender/Sexuality

- WGSST 2230 Gender, Sexuality and Race in Popular Culture*
- WGSST/ENGLISH 2282 Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies*
- WGSST 2305 A World of Genders and Sexualities
- WGSST 2325 Health and Inequality*
- AFAMAST 3230: Black Women, Culture, and Politics
- SOCIOL 3435 Sociology of Gender
- COMM 3662 Communication and Gender
- ECON 3820 The Economics of Gender in Labor Markets
- POLITSC 4138 Women and the Law
- POLITSC 4170 Gender and Politics
- SOCIOL 4510 Gender, Crime, and the Criminal Justice System
- WGSST 4513/POLITSC 4175 Women, Government and Public Policy
- AFAMAST 4535: Topics in Black Masculinity
- WGSST 4597/POLITSC 4597.03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World
- SOCIOL 4635 Gender and Society
- WGSST/COMPSTD 4845 Gender, Sexuality, and Science

- RELSTDS 4875 Gender, Sexuality and Religion
- SOCWORK 5006 Sexualities, Diversity and Social Work
- SOCIOL 5605 Sociology of Sexuality

Group 3: Race/Ethnicity

- COMPSTD 2105: Literature and Ethnicity
- AFAMAST 2218: Black Urban Experience
- AFAMAST 2270: Introduction to Black Popular Culture
- COMPSTD 2321 Introduction to Asian American Studies
- COMPSTD/ETHSTD/SPAN 2242 Introduction to Latinx Studies
- COMPSTD 2323 Intro to American Indian Studies
- COMPSTD 2367.02 U.S. Latino Identity
- AFAMAST/ENGL 2367.07S: Literacy Narratives of Black Columbus
- AFAMAST/HIST 3083: Civil Rights and Black Power Movements
- SOCIOL 3200.01 or 3200.02 Sociology of Immigration*
- PSYCH 3375 Stereotyping and Prejudice
- SOCIOL 3380 Racial and Ethnic Relations in America*
- AFAMAST/PHILO 3440 Theorizing Race
- POLITSC 3596 Nationalism and Ethnicity
- POLITSC 4143 Race, Ethnicity, and American Politics
- WGSST 3612/HIST 3612 Asian American Women: Race, Sex, Representation
- WGSST 4402 Black Women: Representations, Politics, and Power
- WGSST 4405 Race and Sexuality
- COMM 4445 Stereotypes in Media*
- AFAMAST 4504/POLITSC 4140 Black Politics
- WGSST 4520 Women of Color and Social Activism
- AFAMAST 4610: African Americans and the Law
- COMPSTD 4804 Studies in Latino Literature and Culture
- COMPSTD 4822 Native American Identity
- COMPSTD/WGSST/AFAMAST 4921 Intersections: Approaches to Theorizing Difference
- POLITSC 4940 The Politics of Immigration
- AFAMAST/PUBAFRS/COMSTD 5240 Race and Public Policy in the U.S.
- SOCIOL 4629 Health Disparities in Social Context
- AFAMAST 5650 Blackness and the Body in Science and Medicine

Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate guidelines

The following guidelines govern the Navigating Social Identities, Power, and Difference Certificate.

Credit hours required: Minimum of 12 semester credit hours.

Overlap with a major/minor

- All courses applied toward the certificate must have been taken at Ohio State.
- Max 50% overlap with major/minor program courses is permitted.

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the certificate
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA for all certificate course work

Filing the certificate program form: The certificate program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school advisor

Coordinating Staff: Sociology Undergraduate Advising (socadvising@osu.edu)

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services
306 Dulles Hall, 230 Annie & John Glenn Ave.
<http://artsandsciences.osu.edu>
Update 6-9-21 DH
Updated 11-5-21 DH

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION CERTIFICATE

The 12-credit hour Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Certificate (DEI) introduces students to an interdisciplinary approach to understanding diversity and social inequality. * indicates potential online course option

Required core courses (6 credits):

- **SOCIOL 2463/2463H:** Social Stratification: Race, Class, and Gender* (3)
- **Choose ONE from the following three courses**
 - **AFAMAST 1101:** Introduction to African American and African Studies (3)
 - **COMPSTD 1100/1100H:** Introduction to Cross-Cultural Perspectives (3)
 - **WGSST 1110/1110H:** Gender, Sex, and Power* (3)

Elective courses (6 credits):

In addition, students will select two or more courses from those listed below (temporarily, the elective courses can be taken before or after the required courses). Students must choose their electives from at least **TWO** of the different groups listed below.

Group 1: Social Class/Economic Inequality

- SOCIOL 1101(H) or 1102- Introductory Sociology or Social Foundations of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Social Class*
- SOCWORK 1120 Introduction to Social Welfare
- GEOG 2400/GEOG 2400H Economic and Social Geography
- SOCWORK 3201 Social and Economic Justice
- SOCIOL 3306 Sociology of Poverty
- SOCIOL 3464 Work, Employment and Society
- POLITSC 4282 The Politics of Income Inequality
- WGSST 4404 Global Sexual Economies
- WGSST 4524 Women and Work
- ECON 4553 Economics of Population
- GEOG 5401 Economies, Space, and Society
- SOCIOL 5463 Advanced Social Stratification

Group 2: Gender/Sexuality

- COMPSTD/SXLTYST 2214 Introduction to Sexuality Studies
- WGSST 2230 Gender, Sexuality and Race in Popular Culture*
- WGSST/ENGLISH 2282 Introduction to Queer Studies*
- WGSST 2305 Gender and Sexuality in Global Perspective
- WGSST 2325 Health and Inequality*
- AFAMAST 3230: Black Women, Culture, and Politics
- SOCIOL 3435 Sociology of Gender
- COMM 3662 Communication and Gender
- ECON 3820 The Economics of Gender in Labor Markets
- POLITSC 4138 Women and the Law
- POLITSC 4170 Gender and Politics
- SOCIOL 4510 Gender, Crime, and the Criminal Justice System
- WGSST 4513/POLITSC 4175 Women Government and Public Policy
- AFAMAST 4535: Topics in Black Masculinity Studies
- WGSST 4597/POLITSC 4597.03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World
- SOCIOL 4635 Men and Women in Society
- WGSST/COMPSTD 4845 Gender, Sexuality, and Science

- COMPSTD/RELSTDS 4875 Gender, Sexuality and Religion
- SOCWORK 5006 Sexualities, Diversity and Social Work
- SOCIOL 5605 Sociology of Sexuality

Group 3: Race/Ethnicity

- COMPSTD 2105: Literature and Ethnicity
- AFAMAST 2218: The Black Urban Experience
- AFAMAST 2270: Introduction to Black Popular Culture
- AFAMAST 2300: Issues in the Contemporary Black World
- COMPSTD 2321 Introduction to Asian American Studies
- COMPSTD 2322 Introduction to Latino Studies
- COMPSTD 2323 Intro to American Indian Studies
- AFAMAST 2367.02: Debates in African American Studies
- COMPSTD 2367.02 U.S. Latino Identity
- AFAMAST/ENGL 2367.07S: Literacy Narratives of Black Columbus
- AFAMAST/HIST 3083: Civil Rights and Black Power Movements
- SOCIOL 3200 Sociology of Immigration*
- PSYCH 3375 Stereotyping and Prejudice
- SOCIOL 3380 Race in America*
- AFAMAST/PHILOS 3440 Theorizing Race
- POLITSC 3596 Nationalism and Ethnicity
- POLITSC 4143 Race, Ethnicity, and American Politics
- WGSST 4401/HIST 3612 Asian American Women: Race, Sex, Representation
- WGSST 4402 Black Women: Race, Sex, Representation
- WGSST 4405 Race and Sexuality
- COMM 4445 Stereotypes in Media*
- AFAMAST 4504/POLITSC 4140 Black Politics
- WGSST 4520 Women of Color and Social Activism
- AFAMAST 4610: African Americans and the Law
- COMPSTD 4685 Comparative Ethnic and American Studies
- COMPSTD 4804 Studies in Latino Literature and Culture
- COMPSTD 4822 Native American Identity
- COMPSTD/WGSST/AFAMAST 4921 Intersections: Approaches to Race, Gender, Class and Sexuality
- POLITSC 4940 The Politics of Immigration
- AFAMAST/PUBAFRS/COMSTD 5240 Race and Public Policy in the U.S.
- SOCIOL 5629 Health Disparities in Social Context
- AFAMAST 5650: The Black Body in Race and Medicine

DEI Certificate guidelines

The following guidelines govern the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Certificate.

Credit hours required: Minimum of 12 semester credit hours.

Overlap with a major/minor

- All courses applied toward the certificate must have been taken at Ohio State.
- Max 50% overlap with major/minor program courses is permitted.

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the certificate
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA for all certificate course work

Filing the certificate program form: The certificate program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school advisor

Coordinating Staff: Sociology Undergraduate Advising (socadvising@osu.edu)

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services
306 Dulles Hall, 230 Annie & John Glenn Ave.
<http://artsandsciences.osu.edu>
Update 6-9-21 DH
Updated 11-5-21 DH
Updated 11-15-2023 RLS



Outlook

Re: Certificate Name Change--Please Reply!

From Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>**Date** Mon 5/4/2026 1:34 PM**To** Sreenivas, Mytheli <sreenivas.2@osu.edu>; Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>; Nzitatira, Hollie <nzitatira.1@osu.edu>**Cc** Martin, Andrew <martin.1026@osu.edu>

Responding in support on behalf of Comparative Studies!

Thank you,
Ashley

[Note: this is a message sent from my phone. Please pardon my thumbs for any typos and excuse my brevity.]

Ashley Hope Pérez (she/her/hers)

The Ohio State University

Associate Professor of Comparative Studies

Director of Undergraduate Studies

World Literatures Program Coordinator

451 Hagerty Hall, 1775 S. College Rd., Columbus, OH 43210

perez.390@osu.edu

Listen to this [Voices of Excellence podcast](#) to learn more about my research, fiction, and advocacy for readers' rights.

Interested in defending young people's access to diverse literature? Check out advocacy opportunities through the [Unite to Read Project](#), a 3-year initiative I'm directing at The Ohio State University.

Non-Fiction

[Banned Together: Our Fight for Readers' Rights](#) (2025), editor and contributor

[*Deformative Fictions: Cruelty and Narrative Ethics in Twentieth-Century Latin American Literature*](#) (2024), winner of the [MLA Matei Calinescu Award](#) for a distinguished work of scholarship in twentieth- or twenty-first-century literature; available in print and as a [FREE open access.pdf](#)

Novels

[Out of Darkness](#) (2015), winner of the Américas Book Award, the Tomás Rivera Book Award, and an ALA Printz Honor

[The Knife and the Butterfly](#) (2012)

[What Can't Wait](#) (2011)

From: Sreenivas, Mytheli <sreenivas.2@osu.edu>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 12:50:57 PM

To: Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>; Nzitatira, Hollie <nzitatira.1@osu.edu>; Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>

Cc: Martin, Andrew <martin.1026@osu.edu>

Subject: RE: Certificate Name Change--Please Reply!

Dear Hollie,
On behalf of WGSS, I support these changes. Thank you!

Best,
Mytheli



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Mytheli Sreenivas, PhD

Designated Professor and Chair, Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Professor, Department of History

286 University Hall

230 North Oval Mall, Columbus , OH 43210

Pronouns: she/her

Recent book: [Reproductive Politics and the Making of Modern India](#)



Hear my name

From: Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 11:17 AM

To: Nzitatira, Hollie <nzitatira.1@osu.edu>; Sreenivas, Mytheli <sreenivas.2@osu.edu>; Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>

Cc: Martin, Andrew <martin.1026@osu.edu>

Subject: Re: Certificate Name Change--Please Reply!

I am fine with this letter, Hollie. Thanks.
S

From: Nzitatira, Hollie <nzitatira.1@osu.edu>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 9:20 AM

To: Sreenivas, Mytheli <sreenivas.2@osu.edu>; Dew, Spencer <dew.50@osu.edu>; Perez, Ashley <perez.390@osu.edu>

Cc: Martin, Andrew <martin.1026@osu.edu>

Subject: Certificate Name Change--Please Reply!

Dear Steering Committee,

As a follow-up to our recent meeting, I'm attaching a letter regarding the proposed name change and the updated advising certificate. Could you reply to this email to let me know that you agree so I can upload this email chain to the portal?

Thank you!

Hollie

Dr. Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, she/her
Professor of Sociology
Director of Undergraduate Studies
hollienysethnzitatira.com



Land Acknowledgement: The Ohio State University occupies the ancestral and contemporary lands of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe, and Cherokee peoples. The university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and obtained via the forced removal of tribal nations through the Indian Removal Act of 1830.