



April 3, 2015

Dr. Theresa Delgadillo,
Assoc. Professor, Comparative Studies
College of Arts & Sciences

GIS in Latina/o Studies

Theresa,

The Graduate School Curriculum Committee (GSCC) met on March 26th and, among its agenda items, considered the proposal to update the existing Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Latina/o Studies. Proposed changes included a name change (Latino to Latina/o), credit hour adjustments, and modification of eligible courses. Overall, the GSCC was supportive of changes to this GIS and provided its approval. However, a few small clarifications were requested prior to moving the proposal forward in the approval process:

- The committee would like to clarify that in Item 7, the proposal mentions they will “allow new courses to be provisionally added.” A GIS operates on a defined curriculum and the addition of new courses requires the additional approval of the Graduate School.
- The committee suggests that the program add language from the Graduate School regarding GIS requirements to their website and/or program announcements:
“The total credit hours must include at least 3 different courses, 9 credit hours of which must be taken outside of the student's home program. A grade of B or better (or S when applicable) is required in each course comprising the specialization. The graduate interdisciplinary specialization will appear on the student's transcript.”
- On this note, the elective list on page 2 states that “at least one [elective must be] outside your department”. With 10 total credit hours, to satisfy the Graduate School, it appears that **both** electives will have to be outside the unit.

I will arrange for the GIS listing on curriculum.osu.edu to be returned for revision (it looks as if it will be returned to Rachael Sanabria). Once received, you can update the name and curriculum listing in our system. I will forward the proposal for review by the Graduate Council followed by final review with the Committee on Academic Affairs. As always, I am available for any questions or clarifications.

Many thanks,

Scott Herness
Associate Dean
The Graduate School

Spring 2015
Updated GIS Approved by Graduate School

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Latina/o Studies

The graduate specialization requires 10 credit hours of coursework, including the four credit hour core course **CS 6425/SPAN 6705: Graduate Introduction to Latina/o Studies**, and two additional electives from the courses listed below. The goal of the GIS is to assist graduate students in gaining advanced knowledge of Latina/o Studies and training in its interdisciplinary methods.

Per Graduate School guidelines, “The total credit hours must include at least 3 different courses, 9 credit hours of which must be taken outside of the student's home program. A grade of B or better (or S when applicable) is required in each course comprising the specialization. The graduate interdisciplinary specialization will appear on the student's transcript.”

All courses that count for the GIS must be at the 5000 - 8000 level, however, only one course at the 5000 level will count toward the GIS. All other courses must be at the 6000-8000 level. In this way, students are strongly encouraged to take courses at a level that puts them in conversation with other graduate students across disciplines.

In courses focused on culture, literature, or the arts, students will study multiple forms of Latina/o creative expression with a focus on analysis of expressive forms themselves; theoretical frameworks for the interpretation of culture, literature, and art; the historical, social, and aesthetic contexts of Latina/o cultural production; and its intertextualities. Students will also consider the reception, impact and transformative power of Latina/o creative expression.

In courses focused on history and social issues, students will examine the histories and lived experiences of multiple Latina/o groups in the U.S., gaining greater understanding of the relationship between power and difference (Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Salvadoran American, Dominican American and others). Students will learn about the experiences of communities who had been rendered invisible by canonical histories in the U.S. and Latin America as well as acquire new methodologies for historical research. Students will also consider the complexity of current issues affecting the Latina/o population in the U.S. such as immigration, educational policy, language, labor, voting trends, etc.

Required Core Course – 4 Credits: Comparative Studies 6425 / Spanish 6705: Graduate Introduction to Latina/o Studies

Required Elective Courses – 6 Credits: Two additional courses at the 5000-8000 level, but only one of these may be at the 5000 level.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that the course only counts for the GIS when the syllabus contains significant Latina/o Studies readings and content. Students may confirm this by consulting with the instructor prior to enrollment or by submitting syllabus to Latina/o Studies Faculty Coordinator. In general, a course must include at least 30% Latina/o Studies content in order to be counted in the GIS, and this will normally be the case when the course is taught by Latina/o Studies Affiliated Faculty.

Directed Reading or Independent Study courses in any Department may count for GIS credit provided that the focus of Directed Reading or Independent Study is in Latina/o Studies, and that the student submits a copy of the course contract to Latina/o Studies Program Coordinator for approval.

Elective Courses (choose two, both must be outside of your home Department):

- *African American & Africana Studies 7756: Theorizing Race and Ethnicity
- *Comparative Studies 5691: Topics in Comparative Studies
- *Comparative Studies 6390: Approaches to Comparative Cultural Studies I
- *Comparative Studies 6391: Approaches to Comparative Cultural Studies II
- *Comparative Studies 7256: Complex Ethnography
- *Comparative Studies 7300: Theorizing Genre
- *Comparative Studies 7301: Theorizing Literature
- *Comparative Studies 7320: Theorizing Race and Ethnicity
- Comparative Studies 7380: Theorizing America
- *Comparative Studies 7340: Theorizing Science and Technology
- *Comparative Studies 7360: Theorizing Culture
- *Comparative Studies 7370: Theorizing Religion
- *Comparative Studies 7380: Theorizing Performance
- *Comparative Studies 7465: Introduction to Trauma Studies
- *Comparative Studies 7888: Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities (for example, Survey of Latina/o Literature for Graduate Students)
- *Comparative Studies 8792: Seminar in Interdisciplinary Theory
- *Comparative Studies 8888: Interdepartmental Seminar in Critical Theory
- *Comparative Studies 8822: Seminar in Race and Citizenship
- *English 6758 Intro to US Ethnic Literature and Culture
- *English 6760 Intro to Postcolonial Lit and Theory
- *English 7858 US Ethnic Literatures and Culture
- *English 7864 Postcolonial/Transnational Literatures
- *English 7850 Seminar in US Literatures before 1900
- *English 7888 Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities
- *History 5750: Special Topics in the History of Ethnicity, Race, and the Nation
- *History 7100: Readings in Latin American History
- *History 7630: Studies in the History of Sexuality
- *History 7600: Transnational History of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- *History 8010: Seminar in Modern U.S. History
- *City and Regional Planning 6310: Law and Planning II: Environment and Society

- *English 6791.01: Introduction to Graduate Study in Critical Theory: Contemporary Move
- *English 7864.01: Postcolonial/Transnational Literatures
- *English 7888: Interdepartmental Studies in the Humanities
- *Political Science 7140: Race and Ethnicity
- *Political Science 7910: Identity Politics
- Sociology 7756: Sociology of Immigration
- Spanish 5640: Globalization and Latin America: Multidisciplinary Approaches
- *Spanish 5689S: Spanish in Ohio (service learning/language)
- *Spanish 8580: Seminar in Contemporary Spanish American Literature
- Spanish 5389: US Latino Languages and Communities
- *Spanish 5660: Seminar in Latin American Literatures and Cultures
- *Women's Studies 5620: Topics in Feminist Studies
- *Women's Studies 7710: Theorizing Race, Sexualities, and Social Justice
- *Teaching and Learning 6808: Multicultural and Global Perspectives on Teaching and Learning
- *Teaching and Learning 8420: Professional Seminar in Reading and Literacy in Early and Middle Childhood Education
- *Teaching and Learning 7364: Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults
- Teaching and Learning 7344: Bilingualism & Biliteracy
- *Teaching and Learning 8015: Diversity and Equity in Education
- *Teaching and Learning 8890: Advanced Seminar: Bilingual and Biliterate Development in Children and Adolescents

For Advising Contact:

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February 3, 2015

Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen
Program Manager
Curriculum and Assessment Services
College of Arts and Sciences
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen:

Thank you for the report from the College of Arts and Humanities Curriculum Committee on its preliminary review of our proposed changes to the GIS.

Adhering to the suggestions made and questions raised in the preliminary review, I would like to submit the attached revision to our proposal for changes to the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Latina/o Studies. Our proposal eliminates discrepancies in the requirements for the GIS that emerged with semester conversion and enhances the opportunity for students to complete the GIS without excessive delay in time to degree. We believe that a key revision of adding a pedagogical component to the Intro course, which has never been done before here at OSU, will make a significant difference in student preparation for post-graduate academic careers, and a testament to the value of involving all interdisciplinary faculty in decision-making in this program. The changes are as follows:

1) Change the name of GIS from "Latino Studies" to "Latina/o Studies." This brings the name in line with the name change of the Program and Minor, and employs a now standard method in the field for indicating gender inclusiveness in the Program.

2) Correct the discrepancy that emerged during Semester Conversion in credit hours for the Introduction to Latina/o Studies at graduate level. The College Curriculum Committee approved this as a four (4) credit course at Semester Conversion; however, it remains on the books as a three (3) credit course. We have filed requests with the Graduate School/Registrar from both Comparative Studies and Spanish to officially change this to a four (4) credit course. We have also worked out a standard syllabus for the Introduction course at graduate level (with all faculty who might teach it) that provides an Intro to interdisciplinary study and prepares students to teach Latina/o Studies at the undergraduate level. This is the first time every that faculty who might teach the course were invited to jointly shape it, and the first time ever that we will incorporate teacher training in interdisciplinary studies in the course. Copies of these requests are attached.

3) Eliminate the three tracks previously outlined in the GIS. Since the GIS is only 10 credit hours, we see more benefit to graduate students in providing interdisciplinary training at the graduate level to supplement the discipline-specific work in their Departments.

4) Eliminate all 4000 level courses from counting for the GIS. Strongly encourage students to enroll in 6000-8000 level courses.

5) Addition of new courses in 6000-8000 levels that may count for GIS.

6) Add the option of taking Directed Reading or Independent Study with Latina/o Studies faculty in any Department that may count for GIS when the focus of work is in Latina/o



Studies. This allows students to study in a focused way with Latina/o Studies faculty who may only rarely teach an entire graduate course in the area.

7) Allow for new courses that emerge from recently hired or future faculty to be added provisionally to counting for GIS, with approval of Faculty Coordinator, until the next revision of GIS.

I would like to respond to the Committee's request for information on whether the GIS is sustainable by supplying you with the information you requested and communicating to you our views based on faculty and student experiences:

Frequency of Offerings

- The Introduction to Latina/o Studies will be offered every year at most, every other year at worst. Current enrollment in this course is seven (7) graduate students. This has long been offered on a yearly basis and previous enrollments have been approximately 5-8.
- Of the seven Comparative Studies courses listed as electives, two are offered every year, and two are offered every other year, and three are offered infrequently but serve as general course topic under which a faculty member could offer a new course on current research topics.
- Of the four History courses listed as electives, one is offered every year, two are offered every other year, and the fourth is offered every third year.
- Of the two Political Science courses listed as electives, neither has been offered for two years and they are not current plans to staff these.
- Of the five Spanish courses listed as electives only two are taught in the Spanish language and/or require written work in Spanish. This list includes a course not yet approved, and three 5000 level courses. Of the latter, are offered every semester and one is offered every year. The one graduate level course in Latin American literature has been lately offered once a year.
- Of the two WGSS courses listed as electives, each is offered once a year.
- Of the six Teaching and Learning courses listed as electives, three are offered once every year, two are offered once every two years, and one is offered twice a year.

Current enrollments in the GIS

- Since I became Faculty Coordinator in July 2014 I have enrolled three (3) students officially in the GIS. I also met with three (3) additional students who have or are completing coursework in the GIS but have not yet filed official declaration on gradforms. In part, the latter delay is due to creation of new gradforms system and efforts to familiarize students with it as well as ensure that forms are routed properly.
- Given enrollments this term in key courses in the GIS, including Intro and Theorizing the Americas, we expect to gain additional three (3) students in the GIS this term. Therefore, we have an expected total enrollment in the GIS for 2014-2015 of nine (9).
- Consultations with faculty members in other Departments and Colleges currently involved in Graduate Admissions suggest that we can expect several new students in the GIS each year in the future. This is due to faculty hiring in multiple Departments that also attracts graduate students interested in working on Latina/o Studies.

We feel it is important to list a wide range of possible courses for the GIS so that neither faculty nor students are circumscribed from pursuing Latina/o Studies research in a variety of disciplinary settings and on diverse topics, nor are cut off from resources for building this interdisciplinary field by its concentration in one discipline. Given the increase in numbers of faculty for whom Latina/o Studies is the primary focus of research and teaching and in a variety of disciplines (History, WGSS, Nursing, Political Science, Teaching and Learning,



Nursing, Architecture, Spanish, Comparative Studies, English) we are confident that students taking the GIS will have several options for study each semester. Our affiliated faculty list (see <https://latino-astudies.osu.edu/>) is comprised of faculty who responded affirmatively to my Autumn 2014 invitation to join the interdisciplinary Latina/o Studies Program. As such, I believe it reflects faculty investment in and support for an interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate program housed in DISCO that follows the long-standing development of the field as one based on the critical analysis of the experiences, histories, cultures, arts, and languages of Latinas/os, rather than the notion that Latinas/os share a common language or culture.

We have also reconfigured the Introduction to Latina/o Studies course at the graduate level, changing this from what had been primarily a literature and art course to a truly interdisciplinary introduction to the field. We have heard from several current and former graduate students in different Departments that that earlier shape of the Intro course did not serve. Therefore, we are confident that the reconfigured GIS will be attractive to multiple disciplines. The addition of a teaching component to our Intro course makes the GIS even more attractive to graduate students since there are few avenues for students to gain training in teaching an interdisciplinary course, yet this is precisely what many will be asked to do when they graduate.

We have no doubt that the GIS will not only be sustainable, but will continue to grow because we have such significant faculty investment from multiple Departments in ensuring its success and collaborating in the work of training graduate students for the 21st century.

Sincerely,

Theresa Delgadillo
Coordinator, Latina/o Studies Program
Associate Professor, Comparative Studies