MEMORANDUM

TO: Donna Hamilton
    Dean, Undergraduate Studies

FROM: Phyllis Peres
    Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to add a Minor in Asian-American Studies (PCC log no. 06005)

At its meeting today, the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee approved your proposal to add a Minor in Asian American Studies. A copy of the approved proposal is enclosed.

The Minor is effective Fall 2007. The College should ensure that the Minor is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure

cc: Richard Ellis, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
    Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid
    Mary Giles, University Senate
    Barbara Hope, Data Administration
    Kathy McAdams, Undergraduate Studies
    Anne Turkos, Archives
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
    Larry Shinagawa, Asian American Studies Program
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED: February 19, 2007

COLLEGE/SCHOOL: UGST

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM: Asian American Studies (AAST)

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD X DELETE CHANGE

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

We propose to add a new Minor in Asian American Studies, requiring 15 credits of coursework, which includes a semester-long internship at an Asian American organization or governmental unit that relates to Asian Americans.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

Asian American Studies allows students to use an interdisciplinary approach to examine the histories, communities, and cultures of Asian Americans as both distinctive from and connected to the broader themes of diversity, ethnicity, race, gender, and migration in the Americas. A minor in Asian American Studies would complement a number of majors on campus, especially those in the areas of education, the humanities, and the social sciences.

We propose using existing AAST courses at both the lower level and upper level. We do not anticipate the need for any new resources.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

1. Department Committee Chair

2. Department Chair

3. College/School PCC Chair

4. Dean

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)

6. Chair, Senate PCC

7. Chair of Senate

8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

VPAAP 8-05
Minor in Asian American Studies

I. Description:
The Minor in Asian American Studies will provide students with the opportunity to study critically the experiences of Asian Americans. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students will examine the histories, communities, and cultures of Asian Americans as both distinctive from and connected to the broader themes of diversity, ethnicity, race, gender, and migration in the Americas. The Minor, which requires a total of 15 credits, is intended for students who wish to develop a specialization in Asian American studies alongside their degree pursuits. Please note that the Minor does not replace the existing 21-credit certificate, which will remain as an academic option until the major is developed. Students interested in the program should contact the Program Director in the AAST office.

II. Requirements:

A. Two Lower-Level Courses (6 credits)
All students are required to take the two foundational courses, AAST 200: Introduction to Asian American Studies (3 cr., cross-listed with AMST 298C) and AAST 201: Asian American History and Society (3 cr., cross-listed with HIST 219M). AAST 200 fulfills one of the two CORE Behavioral and Social Sciences (SB) requirements as well as the Diversity (D) requirement. AAST 201 fulfills the CORE Social or Political History (SH) and Diversity requirements. These courses engage students with the disciplines, debates, and methods that constitute the field of Asian American Studies. Students acquire an understanding of why various Asian peoples immigrated to the United States, how Asian immigrants and their descendants have been treated in American history, and how they have responded to such treatments. This approach is not merely additive, but potentially revisionist and transformative in the manner in which it expands the boundaries and revises the conceptualization of United States history.

B. Two Upper-Level Courses (6 credits)
In addition to the two required foundational courses, students will also select two additional upper-level (300/400) courses, one of which would be at the 400 level, from a number of regular and special topics courses AAST offers each semester, as well as courses cross-listed with AAST. Courses in this category will explore the historical, cultural, political, economic, and sociological dimensions of Asian American experiences.

Students will be able to choose from the following list of regularly offered AAST courses, with the expected semester (F=Fall, S=Spring, W=Winter, SU=Summer) and frequency of course offerings (E=Even/Offered every 2 years; O=Odd/Offered every year) provided below:
• AAST 398L: Asian Americans in Film (3 cr., W/SU, E)
• SOCY 424/AAST 424: Sociology of Race Relations (3 cr., F, O)
• HIST 419J/AAST 498C: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Ethnicity (3 cr., S, E)
• EDCP 418A/AAST 498I: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Asian American Leadership (3 cr., S, O)
• AAST 498J: South Asian Diaspora (3 cr., F, E)
• AAST 498L: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Immigration and Ethnicity in the United States (3 cr., F, E)
• AMST 418N/AAST 498M: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Asian American Public Policy (3 cr., S, O)
• AAST 498N: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Asian American Material Cultures (3 cr., S, E)
• AMST 418L/AAST 498P: Advanced Topics in Asian American Studies: Model Minorities and Black Americans (3 cr., S, E)

Elective requirements may also be satisfied through successful completion of courses offered through other departments or programs. Students must obtain approval from the AAST program director for courses outside of AAST offerings.

CORE Human Cultural Diversity approval is noted in parentheses for the courses above.

C. AAST 378: Internship (3 credits)

The final requirement for the Minor is the successful completion of AAST 378, a semester-long internship at a site such as a governmental unit, non-profit agency, or on-campus organization that centers its efforts on Asian American issues. Among these are immigration, civil rights, health care, housing, community development, film and museum presentation and archiving, and law. At the beginning of the semester, students develop at least six academic learning objectives for that experience in consultation with their supervisor and instructor. At the end of the semester, the supervisor at the sponsoring unit assesses the student's engagement with the organization. The student completes a daily log and weekly journal, regular updates on self-selected and/or assigned projects, and a 10-20 page paper or report that summarizes and evaluates her/his experience at the agency.
III. Learning Outcomes and Assessment

Successful learning outcomes are expectations that students have demonstrated competencies in discipline content, analytical and communication skills, and multiculturalism. Students are expected to understand the construction of ethnicity and race in shaping social relations between Asian Americans and other cultural groups in the United States. In addition, students should have learned critical thinking and communication skills and recognized the various contributions minority groups bring to the American experience.

The Asian American Studies Program has adopted the following learning goals and outcomes for students in its program:

**Goals**
- Students will have a basic understanding of the history and experiences of Asian Americans.
- Students, regardless of background, will be able to articulate how they see themselves and their histories reflected in the curriculum.
- Students will be able to recognize equity and social justice perspectives as they relate to Asian American experiences.

**Outcomes**
- Students will be able to cite at least three civil rights court decisions and legislations that have impacted Asian Americans.
- Students will be able to describe the major patterns of Asian immigration to the United States during the 19th century and renewed immigration since the 1960s.
- Students will be able to identify the model minority thesis and explain how it affects contemporary perceptions of Asian Americans.
- Students will be able to describe the major theories of assimilation and acculturation and evaluate whether Asian American experiences fit any of these theories.
- Students will be able to cite three or four demographic facts about Asian Americans utilizing U.S. Census Bureau and other governmental data.
- Students will be able to cite at least three instances wherein Asian Americans have contributed to the civil rights or the wellbeing of all Americans.

IV. Oversight and Record Keeping

The Asian American Studies Program will be the primary sponsoring unit with administrative responsibility for the Minor. The Program’s Director will serve as the faculty coordinator of the Minor and will be responsible for ensuring that students are properly advised and that records are appropriately kept. Advising duties will include:

- Informing and advising students about the Minor.
- Ensuring consistency of the Minor with university requirements.
• Advising students of Minor requirements.
• Keeping and maintaining the Minor Advising Worksheet (sample attached).
• Issue final program approval to confirm completion of requirements.
• Forwarding information about completed Minor requirements (transcript; Minor Advising Form) to the Office of the Dean of the college in which the student is majoring and to the Dean of the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

V. Restrictions

• Courses completed in one minor may not be used to satisfy the requirements in another minor.
• No more than six of the required credits (or two courses) may be taken at an institution other than the University of Maryland, College Park.
• At least six upper division credits applied to the Minor must be taken at the University of Maryland, College Park.
• All courses presented for the Minor must be passed with a grade of “C” (2.0 GPA) or better.
Name of Student: ________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

Student UID Number: ___________________ Major: _____________________________

Telephone: _______________________________ Email: _____________________________

Estimated Date of Graduation: ______________________________________________________

Courses completed for Minor

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AAST 378 Internship Requirement completed: ______ Date: ___________________

Location: ________________________________

This student has completed the requirements for a Minor in Asian American Studies

Name of Minor Advisor: ____________________________

______________________________________________________________________

(Signature of Minor Advisor) (Date)
2/16/2007

Dear Dr. Rector:

I am writing as Chair of the Department of History to express my support for the proposed Asian-American Minor. The Asian American studies program is now well positioned to make a major impact on the undergraduate curriculum. There are a growing number of faculty associated with the program; the courses are up and running; and, most importantly, perhaps, there is a new full time Director who can devote his energies to building the program.

From the perspective of the Department of History, the Asian American studies program is an important enterprise which we fully support. It is important for a variety of reasons. The changing demographic profile of the student body makes this a program that addresses an important constituency in the region and country as a whole. In addition, it is a program that provides the opportunity to showcase different ways of putting together knowledge. It facilitates, indeed, it demands, crossing of disciplinary boundaries and breaking down those barriers to cross-disciplinary perspectives that are erected by traditional departmental structures. And finally it is important the students be offered a full range of programs and courses that reflect the disciplinary, cultural and social diversity of the world they are about to enter. The Asian American Studies program fills all those needs, and is therefore to be supported and encouraged.

I urge that the Vice President's Advisory Committee recommend approval of this minor.

Richard Price

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Richard Price
Professor and Chair
Department of History
University of Maryland
College Park, MD. 20742
October 26, 2006

Claudia Rector
Coordinator for Academic Planning & Programs
Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
1119 Main Administration Building
University of Maryland, College Park

Dear Ms. Rector:

As Acting Chair of the Department of English, and Acting Director of the Comparative Literature Program, I would like to extend our support to the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor submitted by faculty and staff of the Asian American Studies Program. The minor will enable University of Maryland students to study a detailed academic curriculum about the Asian American experience, in addition to pursuing a degree in their major field of study. In contrast to the certificate which requires 24 credits of course work, the minor will enable students interested in Asian American issues to complete the requirements with 15 credits. Students can choose from a diverse range of multi-disciplinary courses, including Asian American history, ethnicity, women, leadership, and popular culture. Students pursuing a minor will also complete an Experiential Learning course which involves students working in Asian American communities or at governmental agencies that service Asian Americans.

As Chair of English and Director of Comparative Literature, I promote a broader understanding of multi-culturalism in the United States. I believe the minor will serve an important role in not only spurring further academic inquiry into Asian American experiences, but also for developing an understanding and appreciation of the ethnic and racial diversity of our country. This minor proposal is very important for the students to gain a broader perspective of social relations in the U.S. by providing knowledge and insights into an often neglected Asian American community. I am confident that this endeavor will result in discipline expertise, intellectual growth, and inter-cultural learning and communication.

I am happy to support the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor. Please feel free to contact me if I could be of any further assistance on this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Gary D. Hamilton
Associate Professor and Acting Chair
October 27, 2006

Claudia Rector
Coordinator for Academic Planning & Programs
Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
1119 Main Administration Building
University of Maryland, College Park 20742

Dear Ms. Rector:

On behalf of the Sociology Department, we would like to extend our support to the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor submitted by faculty and staff of the Asian American Studies Program. The minor will enable University of Maryland students to study a detailed academic curriculum about the Asian American experience, in addition to pursuing a degree in their major field of study. In contrast to the certificate which requires 24 credits of coursework, the minor will enable students interested in Asian American issues to complete the requirements with 15 credits. Students can choose from a diverse range of multidisciplinary courses, including Asian American history, ethnicity, women, leadership, and popular culture. Students pursuing a minor will also complete an Experiential Learning course which involves students working in Asian American communities or at governmental agencies that service Asian Americans.

As department chair, I have been working to promote a broader understanding of multiculturalism in the United States. I believe the minor will serve an important role in not only spurring further academic inquiry into Asian American experiences, but also for developing an understanding and appreciation of the ethnic and racial diversity of our country. This minor proposal is very important for the students to gain a broader perspective of social relations in the U.S. by providing knowledge and insights into an often neglected Asian American community. I am sure that this endeavor will result in discipline expertise, intellectual growth, and intercultural learning and communication.

I am happy to support the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor. Please feel free to contact me at (301) 405-6394, if I can be of any further assistance on this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Suzanne M. Bianchi
Professor and Chair
21 February 2007

Ms. Claudia Rector
1119 Main Administration
Campus

Dear Claudia:

I am writing in support of the new minor proposed by the Asian American Studies Program. As you may know, American Studies originally housed Asian American Studies, and we continue to be a strong supporter of the program and its goals. This 15-credit minor is, in our estimation, a well-considered proposal that should appeal to and meet the needs of undergraduate students. We in American Studies will continue to provide course support for the minor as we are able.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Struna
Professor & Chair

cc: Dr. Larry Shinagawa
23 February 2007

Ms. Claudia Rector  
Coordinator, Academic Planning & Programs  
Office for Academic Affairs  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Ms. Rector:

I strongly support the proposal for a Minor in Asian American Studies (AAST). As you may be aware, I was Interim Director for the AAST program from 2004 to 2006, and spoke to many students who were interested in the Certificate program but were unable to devote enough time to complete the 21 credits required for the program. This was particularly true of students in programs such as Engineering, where the baccalaureate credit requirements often exceeded the standard 120 credits common to most Majors.

The AAST Minor, as proposed, will provide students with considerable historical, cultural, and sociological background in this growing area of scholarship, and will allow them to compare and contrast their own upbringing with those of others regardless of their ethnicity and socio-economic status. In addition, the 3 credit internship requirement will enable the students to experience the “lived theory” elements which are a crucial component of this program. The goals and proposed learning outcomes for the Minor are highly appropriate, and indicative of the rigor and depth of this rapidly developing field.

While the Minor may not provide the full depth of a 21-credit Certificate program in AAST, it is a rigorous program that fulfills a very real need for our undergraduate students and for the academic community. I support it highly.

Sincerely,

Timothy J Ng  
Professor of Plant Science, and  
Associate Vice President for Research

/TN
March 22, 2006

Claudia Rector  
Coordinator for Academic Planning & Programs  
Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost  
1119 Main Administration Building  
University of Maryland, College Park

Dear Ms. Rector:

On behalf of the Department of Women’s Studies I would like to extend our support to the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor submitted by faculty and staff of the Asian American Studies Program. The minor will enable University of Maryland students to study a detailed academic curriculum about the Asian American experience, in addition to pursuing a degree in their major field of study. In contrast to the certificate which requires 24 credits of coursework, the minor will enable students interested in Asian American issues to complete the requirements with 15 credits. Students can choose from a diverse range of multidisciplinary courses, including Asian American history, ethnicity, women, leadership, and popular culture. Students pursuing a minor will also complete an Experiential Learning course which involves students working in Asian American communities or at governmental agencies that service Asian Americans.

As Professor and Chair of the Department of the Women’s Studies, and Founding Director of the Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity I have been working to promote intersections of race, gender, ethnicity and other dimensions of difference as they shape the construction and representation of identities, behavior and complex social relations.

I believe the minor will serve an important role in not only spurring further academic inquiry into Asian American experiences, but also for developing an understanding and appreciation of the ethnic and racial diversity of our country. This minor proposal is very important for the students to gain a broader perspective of social relations in the U.S. by providing knowledge and insights into an often neglected Asian American community. I am sure that this endeavor will result in discipline expertise, intellectual growth, and intercultural learning and communication.

I am happy to support the proposal for the Asian American Studies Minor. Please feel free to contact me if I could be of any further assistance on this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Bonnie Thornton Dill  
Professor and Chair, Department of Women’s Studies  
Founding Director, Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity