

# REPORT OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

## Report #F2011–2; December 2011

In this report the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) brings to Senate its evaluation and recommendation on:

- Revisions to the Minor in Sociology

### A. REVISIONS TO THE MINOR IN SOCIOLOGY

**Proposal:** The Department of Sociology is proposing modifications to its six-course Minor in Sociology.

**Rationale for the Proposed Changes:** The proposed changes introduce alternative courses which cover very similar material to a number of the current Minor's courses. The intention with the change is to enhance student choice within the Minor by ensuring that students who take a course covering subject matter deemed suitable for the inclusion in the Minor are able to use that course to achieve the Minor. In addition, liberal studies course are added to the curriculum of the Minor consistent with the revised Minors Policy.

**Structure of the Proposed Changes:** The proposed changes include:

- Allow SOC 103, a Liberal Studies introductory Sociology course, to serve as an alternative to its anti-requisites SOC 104, 105 and 111.
- Add the upper-level Liberal Studies courses listed below as electives with the proviso that students may take no more than two Liberal Studies courses as part of the minor, including SOC 103. The decision was made to include only upper-level Liberal Studies courses as electives in order to maintain a rigorous and challenging discipline-based curriculum.
- Add SOC 111, a professional required introductory course for Social Work students, as an alternative for its anti-requisites: SOC 103, 104 and 105.
- Add SOC 112, a professional required course for Social Work students, to the list of electives, in order to facilitate access to the minor for students in this program.
- Add the following advanced courses used as professionally-related courses by students in programs other than Sociology to the list of electives: SOC 420, 474, 479, 611, 706, 708, 903.

**PROPOSED MINOR:** Note- underlined courses are new to the minor's curriculum, as are all the listed liberal studies courses.

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The professionally-related Minor in Sociology is offered to students to provide a coherent, integrated and sequential exposure to the sociological perspective and to enable students to develop analytical skills and conceptual understanding in a field complementary to their professional programs. The Minor is also intended to broaden the students' career preparation, and to facilitate movement into graduate programs.

The Sociology Minor is not available to Sociology Program students.

To receive the Minor, a student must complete six courses from the following course of study:

**REQUIRED COURSES:**

SOC 103 or SOC 104 or SOC 105 or SOC 111 or SOC 11A/B

**ELECTIVE COURSES:**

The equivalent of four or five courses from the following:

SOC 25A/B, SOC 470, SOC 605

SOC 31A/B, SOC 472, SOC 606

SOC 107, SOC 474, SOC 608

SOC 112, SOC 479, SOC 609

SOC 300, SOC 500, SOC 611

SOC 302, SOC 502, SOC 700

SOC 319, SOC 504, SOC 706

SOC 402, SOC 525, SOC 708

SOC 420, SOC 600, SOC 903

A maximum of two upper-level Liberal Studies from the following,

or a maximum of one if SOC 103 taken as the Required course.

SOC 501, SOC 633, SOC 800, SOC 902

SOC 505, SOC 703, SOC 802

SOC 507, SOC 705, SOC 808

SOC 603, SOC 707, SOC 885

Students are reminded that no more than 2 Professional courses will count toward a minor.

## **Recommendation**

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends: *That Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Minor in Sociology.*

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris Evans, Chair for the Committee

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### *ASC Members:*

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