THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 6512S

Date of Senate Approval 03/15/12

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 53: Change requirements for the Africana Studies Minor;

Add courses to the list of elective options for AFST minor

Effective Date: Fall 2012

1. Delete: On page 68, the entry under **Africana Studies:**

The Africana Studies minor allows students to supplement existing UNC Asheville majors. Africana Studies courses offer an interdisciplinary exploration of the centrality of humane values expressed in the thoughts and actions of Black people throughout the world. The program's aim is to encourage freedom of thought, excellence in scholarship and creativity of expression as fuller understandings are sought regarding the roles of Black people in society and culture.

Minor in Africana Studies

21 hours distributed as follows: AFST 130; and 18 hours selected from the Africana Studies electives listed below. Special topics courses may count as electives in the minor with the approval of the Africana Studies Director. Courses must be taken from at least two different academic departments. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses.

Add: On page 68, in place of deleted entry:

The Africana Studies minor allows students to supplement existing UNC Asheville majors. The Africana Studies curriculum is designed to give students an understanding and appreciation of the complexities of Africana people from both a historical and contemporary perspective. The curriculum gives students an opportunity to acquire an interdisciplinary foundation to the broad issues affecting Africans and peoples of African descent with the aim of providing a grounded knowledge and appreciation of their experiences.

With a strong interdisciplinary focus, the Africana Studies program offers a minor which promotes intellectual and human growth for its graduates who want to pursue careers or graduate studies in many fields such as anthropology, business, communications, criminal justice, education, geography, health sciences, history, hospitality and tourism, international relations, modern languages, nursing, political science, public and nonprofit administration psychology, sociology, and social work.

Minor in Africana Studies

At least 18 hours distributed as follows: AFST 130 and 14 hours selected from the AFST courses and the Africana Studies electives listed below. Special topics courses may count as electives in the minor with the approval of the Africana Studies Director. Courses must be taken from at least two different academic disciplines in addition to AFST. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses outside of the required AFST courses.

2. Add: On page 69, in the appropriate order, the following new electives for the AFST minor:

```
DAN
      132 Afro-Cuban Dance (1)
DAN 135 Jazz I (1)
DAN 235 Jazz Dance II (2)
DAN 261 Jazz Dance Repertory (2)
DAN 335 Jazz Dance III (2)
EDUC 352 Introduction to West African Education (3)
      303 Colonial North America (3)
HIST
HIST
      307 Women in the Modern Civil Rights Movements (3)
HIST
      309 History of the "Old South" (3)
HIST
      330 World War II (3)
HIST
      391 The History of the Atlantic World, 1492-1820 (3)
IST
      263 African American Colloquium (3)
LIT
      364 Postcolonial Literature (3)
POLS 343 Politics of the Civil Rights Era (4)
POLS 362 African Politics (4)
RELS 312 Religion in America to 1865 (3)
RELS 313 Religion in America Since 1865 (3)
SOC
      359 Women of Color and Feminism (3)
SOC
      364 Population and the Environment: An International Perspective (3)
SOC
      365 Violence in America (3)
```

Impact:

There will be no added faculty resources needed for these additions to the list of electives since the courses are already being taught across the university.

Rationale:

For our institution to stay relevant, especially in this current fiscal climate, it is imperative that we strive to be creative and competitive. Our competitiveness and relevance will come from training undergraduates for a diversified and internationalized curriculum that reflects the challenges of the 21st century. This would include training our students to be culturally and globally competent with enhanced civic responsibilities and global citizenship. The 21st century graduate should have the necessary creative and intellectual tools to comprehend the complexities of the current global system. These are some of the guiding principles that have influenced the proposed revisions to the Africana Studies minor. The changes also reflect current practices and trends in critical area studies.

The proposed curricular changes to the Africana Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to diversify and internationalize their academic experience at UNC Asheville. Another important dimension worth noting is that a vibrant Africana Studies program validates UNC Asheville's commitment to diversity. The curricular content of the minor is being enhanced by expanding the number of elective courses, both in and out of the program. These courses cut across many disciplines and departments. The reduction of credit hours for the minor from its current 21 hours to 18 hours is aimed at making the Africana Studies minor curriculum consistent with other minors at UNC Asheville, as well as to make it more sustainable in these times of budgetary constraints.