

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 3314S
Date of Senate Approval 1/23/14

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 21 **Change the Description of the Women, Gender and Sexuality
Studies Program;
Delete the Concentrations in the Women, Gender and Sexuality
Studies Program**

Effective Date: Fall 2014

1. Delete: On page 275, the description of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies program:

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the experiences of women, and the effects of the construction of gender and sexuality in our society. Courses investigate the role of culture, social institutions and policy on perspectives of women, gender and sexuality in social, psychological, biological, political, literary and humanistic terms. Students majoring in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies may select one of three concentrations. The Concentration in Women, Gender and Sexuality examines issues related to all three areas of study. The Concentration in Women and Gender focuses more specifically on issues having an effect on, and being experienced by, women based on their gender. The Concentration in Gender and Sexuality focuses more specifically on the constructions of gender and sexuality and their effects.

Add: On page 275, in place of deleted entry:

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary program offering core courses in the discipline as well as related electives from a variety of departments across campus. Courses investigate the role of culture, social institutions and policy on perspectives of women, gender and sexuality in psychological, biological, social, political, literary and humanistic terms. Consistent with feminist pedagogy, students are encouraged to apply their academic understanding to community action, through the internship course or various other opportunities for service learning and volunteerism.

2. Delete: On pages 275-276, the listings for the **Concentration in Women, Gender and Sexuality, Concentration in Women and Gender, and Concentration in Gender and Sexuality**

Concentration in Women, Gender and Sexuality

- I. Required courses in the major—9 hours, including WGSS 100, 365, 400.
- II. Additional course requirements—27 hours from WGSS 451 and the courses listed below, with at least 9 hours chosen from Natural Science/Social Science courses and 9 hours from Humanities courses. Special topics courses, or other courses with relevant content may be substituted with approval of the program director. 12 of the additional 27 hours must be at the 300 level or above.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major, oral and computer competencies are demonstrated through completion of WGSS 400 with a grade of C or higher.

Concentration in Women and Gender

- I. Required courses in the major—9 hours, including WGSS 100, 365, 400.
- II. Additional course requirements—27 hours chosen from WGSS 451 and the courses listed below, with at least 9 hours from Natural Science/Social Science courses and 9 hours from Humanities courses. 15 of these additional hours must be designated as Women and Gender (WG) courses. Special topics courses, or other courses with relevant content may be substituted with approval of the program director. 12 of the additional 27 hours must be at the 300 level or above.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major, oral and computer competencies are demonstrated through completion of WGSS 400 with a grade of C or higher.

Concentration in Gender and Sexuality

- I. Required courses in the major—6 hours, including WGSS 100, 400.
- II. Additional course requirements—one course from PHIL 302 or SOC 390; and 27 additional hours chosen from WGSS 451 and the courses listed below, with at least 9 hours from Natural Science/Social Science courses and 9 hours from Humanities courses. 15 of these additional hours must be designated as Gender and Sexuality (GS) courses. Special topics courses, or other courses with relevant content may be substituted with approval of the program director. 12 of the additional 27 hours must be at the 300 level or above.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major, oral and computer competencies are demonstrated through completion of WGSS 400 with a grade of C or higher.

Add: On page 275, in place of deleted entry:

Major in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

- I. Required courses in the major—12 hours, including WGSS 100, 365, 400.
- II. Additional course requirements—at least 24 hours from WGSS 451 and the courses listed below, with at least three courses chosen from the Natural Science/Social Science listing, and at least three courses from the Humanities listing. Special topics courses or other courses with relevant content may be substituted with approval of the program director. 12 of the additional 24 hours must be at the 300 level or above.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major, oral and computer competencies are demonstrated through completion of WGSS 400 with a grade of C or higher.

Impact: There will be little to no impact.

Rationale: The gray areas between women, gender and sexuality studies are inherently blurred, and the concentrations confuse students. Only three students have graduated with a concentration other than General (Women, Gender and Sexuality), and one student is currently declared in Gender and Sexuality. The requirements for this student will easily be satisfied with existing courses.