

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 2019S
Date of Senate Approval 03/07/19

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 14 (AIIS): Add LIT 363 and RELS 342 to the list of electives for the
Minor in American Indian and Indigenous Studies**

Effective Date: Fall 2019

1. Add: On page 193, the following two courses to the list of AIIS elective options:

LIT 363 Appalachian Literature (4)
RELS 342 African Religions in the Americas and the Caribbean (4)

Impact: The addition of these two courses as AIIS electives will expand and strengthen the course offerings available to AIIS declared minors. There are currently 15 AIIS declared minors after one year of offering this minor to UNCA students. There could be a slight increase in enrollment for these two course offerings as AIIS minors matriculate into them. Marcus Harvey, professor of RELS 342, enthusiastically supported this proposal as a way to boost his course enrollment and to diversify the conversation within the course. Erica Abrams Locklear was also supportive of LIT 363 being added as an elective course for the AIIS minor particularly as a way to diversify and expand the curriculum within the course. Overall the impact on campus resources and faculty will be low as both courses are already in the UNCA course catalog and require no additional funding or resources to be offered as AIIS minor elective courses. Additionally, concurrence was reached and the appropriate document signed by both the Religious Studies Chair, Rodger Payne and Lori Horvitz, Chair of the Department of English.

Rationale: Both of the proposed elective courses speak to the interdisciplinary goals and objectives of the AIIS minor, while providing content to students that is currently not available. Specifically, RELS 342 addresses indigenous African religions in the Americas, while students in LIT 363 engage with American Indian authors within the context of the Appalachian region's history, culture, and politics.