

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018*

Dean Randy L. Diehl, in the College of Liberal Arts has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. On August 31, 2015, the Mexican American and Latina/o Studies Faculty Committee approved the proposed changes. On May 25, 2015, the College of Liberal Arts Policy and Curriculum Committee approved them, and on September 21, 2015, the dean and the College of Liberal Arts faculty approved the legislation. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *exclusive* interest to only one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the changes on November 5, 2015, and forwarded the proposal to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by November 18, 2015.



Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

department office)

4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes No
 If yes, then how?
- b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes No
 If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect? Forty-five
- c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes No
 If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved. Twenty
- d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes No
 If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved. We expect an increase of enrolled seats. We average about 120 seats per year from faculty in other departments within COLA and the Colleges of Education and Communication.

If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.

How many students do you expect to be impacted? There are no budgetary impacts resulting from this name change. We believe that the degree change will impact students for the better by doubling enrollment levels. Normally, we enroll about 600 seats a year total. Our goal is to get to 1200 seats per year. The change will help us accomplish our goal.

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? No. If yes, explain:

If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? Yes If yes, explain: We are proposing a reduction of hours within the major from 35 to 24 so that our academic program more directly mirrors our peer competitors on campus. The name change better reflects the new direction of the department and the major. It allows us to be more competitive for students with the revised and streamlined major curriculum.

5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date:	August 31, 2015	Approved by:	Mexican American and Latina/o Studies Faculty Committee
College approval date:	May 25, 2015	Approved by:	College of Liberal Arts Policy and Curriculum Committee
Dean approval date:	September 21, 2015	Approved by:	College of Liberal Arts Faculty

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:

~~[MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES~~

- ~~1. Mexican American Studies 307, *Introduction to Mexican American Cultural Studies*; or Mexican American Studies 308, *Introduction to Mexican American Policy Studies*~~
 - ~~2. Twenty one semester hours of upper division coursework in Mexican American studies, including Mexican American Studies 350 and either 361 or 362; any upper division Spanish course may be substituted for 350~~
 - ~~3. Twelve additional semester hours of coursework in Mexican American studies~~
- ~~Students must use Spanish to fulfill the foreign language requirement.]~~

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

24 hours total required; including 15 hours upper-division and 18 hours in residence:

MAS 301, Introduction to Mexican American and Latina/o Studies

Three semester credit hours, chosen from MAS 307, *Introduction to Mexican American Cultural Studies*, MAS 308, *Introduction to Mexican American Policy Studies*, or MAS 309, *Bilingualism in the Americas*

Three semester credit hours, chosen from MAS 361, *Mexican American Cultural Studies Seminar*, MAS 362, *Mexican American Policy Studies Seminar*, MAS 363, *Sociolinguistics for Mexican American and Latina/o Studies*, or MAS 364, *Transborder Studies*

15 Hours in one of the following tracks, including 12 hours upper division). Course lists are available from the Academic Advisor:

1. Cultural Studies
2. Policy Studies
3. Language and Cognition
4. Transborder Studies

Completion of one of the following is required.

1. Independent Research
2. Internship
3. Senior Seminar
4. Study Abroad (approved)

Students majoring in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies must achieve, at a minimum, an intermediate level of proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, or a relevant Indigenous language.