



Office of the Provost

Proposed Change to an Existing Degree: Academic Component

eCAP is Boston University's peer review process for the creation, modification, and dissolution of academic programs.

Please answer all relevant questions below. Consultation with the appropriate Associate Provost on a draft of the proposal is recommended.

Using the relevant template, please submit a budget even if no additional resources are needed.

Title of Degree (e.g., Bachelor of Arts in History): Minor in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Proposing/Supporting Department: WGS

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2022

1. Please provide the name, title, email address, and phone number of the primary contact person for this academic program:

Cati Connell

Associate Professor of Sociology & WGS

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2. Please describe briefly the proposed change to the existing degree:

We would like to revise our minor requirements to respond to student feedback and our recent Academic Program Review. These changes are two-fold: first, we are removing WS 102 after evaluating our intro sequence and determining that 1 introductory course (WS 101) will suffice. Second, we would like to require that in its place, students take an additional course from our core course list (which has also been recently updated). This will give students more flexibility with the minor while also ensuring that half of their coursework (101 + 2 core courses) is “in house” with courses that we have some curricular control and oversight over. This will allow us to ensure minors have a baseline knowledge of the key concepts, texts, and intellectual questions that motivate WGS as a field of study and to adjust our core courses as needed to fulfill those goals while also allowing students to tailor their additional 3 courses to their area of interest and/or major discipline.

3. Please provide the academic rationale for the proposed change to the existing degree. This may include aspects related to budgetary issues, student demand, or peer/disciplinary trends:

As indicated above, these changes respond to student concerns and to our recent external review by experts in the field, both of which indicated that these changes will make the minor stronger, more flexible, and provide a better platform in WGS to build from in terms of pursuing any accompanying minor and/or career options.

4. Please describe how the proposed change(s) advances the Strategic Plans of the department, of the school/college, and of the University:

These changes fit with all of the BU’s strategic priorities, but in particular, they will provide students with a more vibrant academic experience (eliminating course redundancies while providing additional “in-house” expertise by way of an additional core course requirement) and retain our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (a component in all of our core courses).

5. Please list all the program requirements for the current and revised programs so that review committees can easily see the changes: (Expand the table as needed and denote new courses in bold print and courses already approved for conveying Hub units with an asterisk. Please include total credits, specific courses, and any additional degree requirements. Note:

New courses included in the degree that are intended to convey Hub units must be submitted separately for Hub unit approval via CourseLeaf)

Current program	Revised program
<i>CAS WS 101 and WS 102 Gender and Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Introduction</i>	<i>CAS WS 101 Gender and Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Introduction</i>
<i>Four additional courses (one of which needs to be a Core course)</i>	<i>Five additional courses (at least two of which need to be Core courses)</i>

6. How does this change reflect the result of [program learning outcomes assessment](#) and/or [academic program review](#)?:

It does not change our learning outcomes but does respond to our APR, which recommended dropping 102 and beefing up our training in core WGS courses/areas.

7. Please list learning outcomes for the revised program:

There are no additional outcomes.

8. How does the change place your program in the context of programs at peer institutions?

Per the APR and my own review of the field for a previous faculty retreat, changing to one introductory course and requiring more courses taught by our core WGS faculty will bring us better in line with the structure of most WGS minors (and majors) at peer and peer plus institutions.

9. How does the change affect other academic units and existing programs at the University?

Three of our core courses are cross-listed with other academic units. Those units should be unaffected by this change, and any changes to the numbers of seats in the course, etc, would be made on a case-by-case basis and with the approval of both units. I have sought cognate comment from each cross-listing unit, attached to this application.

10. How will you notify current students of the proposed changes and implement the requirements? How will you assure that current students are able to complete their programs under the requirements that were in place at the time of their matriculation?

This should not negatively affect time to minor completion; students who have already done WS 102 will not be asked to take a 7th course and will remain eligible for graduation under the old requirements. Students who have not yet taken WS 102 will take another core course in its place, which shouldn't disrupt their time to graduation whatsoever. We will announce the changes on our website and through communications from our Director of Undergraduate Studies, Sarah Miller.

11. How many students are currently enrolled in the program? Does the school/college anticipate that this change will increase or decrease enrollments? If yes, please indicate the numerical (headcount) increase or decrease you anticipate. If yes, how will the school/college support the increased enrollments:

We have roughly 50 minors at any given time; we do not anticipate that this will significantly change enrollment in courses or in the minor. It might lead to a small increase in the number of minors by making the minor requirements a bit more flexible for students in majors that require more structured course sequencing that made 102 difficult to fit in their schedule.

12. Please document any implications that the change has on professional accreditation or licensure at the program or school/college level:

None

13. If the change includes a new course or courses, please indicate who will teach the course and how the rest of that faculty member's course load will be affected (courses(s) redistributed to other faculty, taught less frequently, no longer taught, etc.). Please be specific about affected courses. This information should be reflected in the budget form that

accompanies the proposal, e.g. the cost for a new faculty member to teach the new course or a redistributed course:

None; the additional core course requirement will come from existing course inventory. It is possible that demand for seats in those courses could increase, but that's hard to anticipate and we would handle it on a case-by-case basis. We do not anticipate needing to make any staffing changes or any increase/decrease in budget, it's a matter of moving teaching staff around to other assignments and/or giving their departments back more of their teaching team there.

14. Please list other resources needed including new staff, IT, technology enhanced classrooms, office space, and other facilities. This information should be reflected in the budget:

None

15. Please describe the budgetary impact that the proposed change will have:

None

16. Please provide the Bulletin copy (exactly as it should appear) related to the proposed change, including all text connected to the program (requirements, description, learning outcomes)[NOTE: this Bulletin copy is in a final form and cannot be changed. It must include program learning outcomes.]:

The current requirements are as follows:

Students must complete six 4-credit CAS WS courses with a grade of C or better. The six courses must include:

- *CAS WS 101 and WS 102 Gender and Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*
- *Four additional courses (one of which needs to be a Core course) selected from the lists below*

We would like to change the requirements for the minor to:

Students must complete six 4-credit CAS WS courses with a grade of C or better. The six courses must include:

- *CAS WS 101 Gender and Sexuality: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*
- *Five additional courses (at least two of which need to be Core courses) selected from the lists below*

We also have some updates for the courses that are listed in the bulletin as core and elective; we will send these with bulletin updates, but for the record, core courses now include:

- CAS WS 101 Gender and Sexuality I: An Interdisciplinary Introduction
- CAS WS 200 Thinking Queerly: An Introduction to LGBTQ Studies
- CAS WS 213 Resistance, Protest, and Empowerment: Global Women's Movements
- CAS WS 325 Bombs and Bombshells: Gender, Armed Conflict, and Political Violence
- CAS WS 328 Madonnas, Martyrs, and MILFs: Gender and Motherhood
- CAS WS 329 LGBTQ+ Representation in Film
- CAS WS 302 Gender & Crime
- CAS WS 347 Feminist Inquiry
- CAS WS 352 American Masculinities
- SAR WS 400 Gender & Healthcare
- CAS WS 420 Queer Theory
- CAS WS 425 Sex and the City
- CAS WS 431 Genders, Sexualities, Youth Cultures
- CAS WS 450 Internships: Women, Gender, and Social Change
- CAS WS 454 Religion and Sexuality in the US

And the elective courses include:

- CAS WS 233 The Evolutionary Biology of Human Variation (also offered as CAS AN 233)
- CAS WS 240 Sexuality and Social Life (also offered as CAS SO 240)
- CAS WS 241 Sociology of Gender (also offered as CAS SO 241)
- CAS WS 263 Behavioral Biology of Women (also offered as CAS AN 263)
- CAS WS 300 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Topics in Literature and the Humanities
- CAS WS 301 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Topics in the Natural Sciences
- CAS WS 302 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Topics in the Social Sciences
- CAS WS 303 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Topics in Film and Media
- CAS WS 304 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Topics in Global and Transnational Studies
- CAS WS 305 Topics in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies
- CAS WS 326 Arts of Gender (also offered as CAS EN 326)
- CAS WS 327 Immigrant Women in Literature: Found in Translation? (also offered as CAS LR 327, CAS XL 327)

- CAS WS 330 Transforming Life: Anthropology of New Medical Technologies (also offered as CAS AN 302)
- CAS WS 335 Sociology of Race, Class, and Gender (also offered as CAS AA 335, CAS SO 335)
- CAS WS 350 Women and Politics (also offered as CAS PO 309)
- CAS WS 375 Growing Up in Korea (also offered as CAS LK 375)
- CAS WS 377 Gender and Sexuality in Judaism (also offered as CAS RN 337)
- CAS WS 380 Gender and Identity in Contemporary Middle Eastern Film (also offered as CAS XL 380)
- CAS WS 393 Technoculture and Horizons of Gender and Race (also offered as CAS EN 393)
- CAS WS 396 Philosophy of Gender and Sexuality (also offered as CAS PH 256, CAS PO 396)
- CAS WS 403 Gender Stratification (also offered as CAS SO 403)
- CAS WS 405 Topics in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
- CAS WS 430 Global Maternal and Child Health (also offered as SAR HS 430)
- CAS WS 434 Monarchy in Modern Britain (also offered as CAS HI 434)
- CAS WS 451 Fashion as History (also offered as CAS HI 451)
- CAS WS 452 Contemporary Debates in Sexualities Research (also offered as CAS SO 452)
- CAS WS 456 Neurobiology of Sex and Aggression (also offered as CAS NE 456)
- CAS WS 480 Japanese Women Writers (also offered as CAS LJ 480)
- CAS WS 505 Topics in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
- CAS WS 516 Gender and Politics (also offered as CAS PO 309)
- CAS WS 530 Global Intimacies: Sex, Gender, and Contemporary Sexualities (also offered as CAS AN 530)
- CAS WS 558 Biology of Human Sex Differences (also offered as CAS AN 558)
- CAS WS 570 French and Francophone Women Writers since 1945 (also offered as CAS LF 570)
- CAS WS 594 Historical Traditions of Feminist Theory (also offered as CAS PO 594)

The following questions relate to a change in the format, e.g. blended, online, face-to-face, of an existing degree.

17. For proposed changes to format of existing programs, please provide an indication of non-standard scheduling for the proposed format:

None

18. Please provide a communication and promotion plan for the proposed changed format. Are you working with an outside vendor/contractor? If yes, please outline this relationship and the role of the vendor:

None

19. If applicable, please provide a request for non-standard tuition rates for the proposed changed delivery format:

None

20. What charges (tuition, fees, etc.) are to be applied to this program? How will the charges be structured? Please make the figures correspond with the Budget Form submission.

Tuition/Fee Item	Amount
None	

Examples:

<i>Fulltime Tuition</i>	<i>\$25,490</i>
<i>Graduate Student Services Fee</i>	<i>\$162</i>
<i>Health and Wellness Fee</i>	<i>\$206</i>

or

<i>Program Fee (bundled charge)</i>	<i>\$27,985</i>
<i>Tuition component</i>	<i>\$21,985</i>
<i>Fees component</i>	<i>\$6,000</i>

21. What is the average number of years for a full-time student to complete the program?

No data

22. What is the maximum number of years allowed to complete the program?

N/A

23. If a credit-bearing certificate, should the students be eligible for Title IV funds?

N/A

24. Please propose a CIP code for any new HEGIS (CIP – Classification of Instructional Programs used for IPEDS reporting <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?v=55>):

N/A

25. Is the new HEGIS STEM eligible? (Contact the Registrar’s Office with questions):

N/A

26. Are you phasing out or replacing another program? If so, what program?

N/A