



Curriculum Committee Approved on March 17, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Susan Ross

DATE: March 26, 2020

SUBJECT: Curriculum Proposal #19-20-15

This proposal has one main goal, which is to obtain permanent course numbers for three special topics classes (Introduction to Social Work, Sociology of Sexualities and Sociology of Gender) within the Department of Behavioral Sciences. These courses are electives within the Psychology and Sociology programs.

cc: Richard Harvey
Cheri Gonzalez
Laura Ransom
Lori Schoonmaker
Mike Ransom

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL (Submit one hard copy and an electronic copy to the Associate Provost by the second Tuesday of the month.)

Proposal Number: #19-20-15
School/Department/Program: College of Liberal Arts/Behavioral Sciences/Psychology and Sociology
Preparer/Contact Person: Dr. Mike Ransom
Telephone Extension: x4675
Date Originally Submitted: _____
Revision (Indicate date and label it Revision #1, #2, etc.): #1
Implementation Date Requested: August 2020

- I. **PROPOSAL.** Write a brief abstract, not exceeding 100 words, which describes the overall content of the proposal.

This proposal has one main goal, which is to obtain permanent course numbers for three special topics classes (Introduction to Social Work, Sociology of Sexualities and Sociology of Gender) within the Department of Behavioral Sciences. These courses are electives within the Psychology and Sociology programs.

- II. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL.** Provide a response for each letter, A-H, and for each Roman Numeral II–V. If any section does not apply to your proposal, reply N/A.

- A. Deletion of course(s) or credit(s) from program(s)

N/A

Total hours deleted. _____

- B. Addition of course(s) or credit(s) from program(s)

N/A

Total hours added. _____

- C. Provision for interchangeable use of course(s) with program(s)

N/A

- D. Revision of course content. Include, as an appendix, a revised course description, written in complete sentences, suitable for use in the university catalog.

N/A

- E. Other changes to existing courses such as changes to title, course number, and elective or required status.

We are proposing several course number changes to various special topics courses offered within the Department of Behavioral Sciences.

We would like to change PSYC 2299 and SOCY 2299 Introduction to Social Work to PSYC 2270 and SOCY 2270. The title of course will be the same.

We would like to change SOCY 3399- Sociology of Gender to SOCY 3335

We would like to change SOCY 3399- Sociology of Sexualities to SOCY 3345

- F. Creation of new course(s). For each new course

1. Designate the course number, title, units of credit, prerequisites (if any), ownership (FSU or shared) and specify its status as an elective or required course. If you are creating a shared course, attach a memo from the Deans of the affected Schools explaining the rationale for the course being shared.

Number	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites	Ownership	Status
PSYC 2270	Introduction to Social Work	3	PSYC 1101 or SOCY 1110	FSU	Elective
SOCY 2270	Introduction to Social Work	3	PSYC 1101 or SOCY 1110	FSU	Elective
SOCY 3335	Sociology of Gender	3	SOCY 1110	FSU	Elective
SOCY 3345	Sociology of Sexualities	3	SOCY 1110	FSU	Elective

2. Include, as an appendix, a course description, written in complete sentences, suitable for use in the college catalog.
See Appendix B
3. Include, as an appendix, a detailed course outline consisting of at least two levels.
See Appendix C

4. In order to meet the requirements as outlined in Goal One of the Strategic Plan, please include Outcome Competencies and Methods of Assessment as an appendix. Examples are available upon request from the Chair of the Curriculum Committee.

See Appendix D

- G. Attach an itemized summary of the present program(s) affected, if any, and of the proposed change(s).

Describe how this proposal affects the hours needed to complete this program. Specifically, what is the net gain or loss in hours? Use the format for Current and Proposed Programs in Appendix A.

The proposed changes do not affect the hours needed to complete the Psychology or Sociology programs. There is no gain or loss in hours either.

III. **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSAL.**

- A. **Quantitative Assessment:** Indicate the types of assessment data, i.e., surveys, interviews, capstone courses, projects, licensure exams, nationally-normed tests, locally developed measurements, accreditation reports, etc., that were collected and analyzed to determine that curricular changes were warranted. Quantitative data is preferred.

All three special topic courses included in this proposal, Introduction to Social Work, Sociology of Gender and Sociology of Sexualities have been offered multiple times as a special topics courses, and they fill to capacity or near to capacity each semester.

- B. **Qualitative Assessment:** Based upon the assessment data above, indicate why a curricular change is justified. Indicate the expected results of the change. Be sure to include an estimate of the increased cost, or reduction in cost of implementation. FOR EXAMPLE: Will new faculty, facilities, equipment, or library materials be required?

The proposed inclusion of the special topics courses as permanent electives will continue to provide our majors with specialized training in various areas of Psychology and Sociology.

In addition to the benefit to the students highlighted above no additional cost is foreseen.

- IV. Should this proposal affect any course or program in another school, a memo must be sent to the Dean of each school impacted and a copy of the memo(s) must be included with this proposal. In addition, the Deans of the affected schools must sign below to indicate their notification of this proposal.

By signing here, you are indicating your college's/school's notification of this proposal.

College/School	Dean	Signature
College of Liberal Arts	Dr. Chris Kast	

- V. Should this proposal affect any course to be added or deleted from the general studies requirements, a memo from the chair of the General Studies Committee indicating approval of the change must be included with this proposal.

N/A

- VI. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.**

APPENDIX B

Description of potentially new and changed courses

SOCY 2270/PSYC 2270 (proposed course number) Introduction to Social Work (2000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the profession of social work and the philosophical, societal and organizational contexts within which professional social work activities are conducted. This course provides the opportunity for students to explore their interest in and potential for a career in social work. It introduces the knowledge, skills and values of social work as a profession and explores the role of social workers within the broad area of social welfare and social services. This course emphasizes the value base of social work practice and its commitment to social and economic justice. PR: PSYC 1101 or SOCY 1110

SOCY 3335 (proposed course number) Sociology of Gender (3000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to and analysis of the sociological subfield of gender and the diverse theories that are often utilized to understand the creation and social construction of gender, sex, and sexuality. Topics include an analysis of gendered stratification, inequality, privilege, and culture, and the way gender intersects with sex, sexuality, race, ethnicity, nationality, age, ability, and religion. PR: SOCY 1110

SOCY 3345 (proposed course number) Sociology of Sexualities (3000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to and analysis of the social construction of sexual desires, activities, and identities and how they vary across time and place. Topics include the emergence of sexual and gendered identities, the historical and current inequalities and discrimination faced by gender non-conforming individuals, heterosexual and cisgender privileges, activism/mobilization to challenge discrimination, and the ways sexuality operates in and through various social institutions. PR: SOCY 1110

APPENDIX C

Course Outlines, with at least two levels

SOCY 2270/PSYC 2270 (proposed course number) Introduction to Social Work (2000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Outline

Module One – Introduction: Social Welfare and Social Work

Chapter 1 – Social Welfare: Its Business, History and Future

Chapter 2- Social Work as a Profession and Career

Chapter 3 – Generalist Social Work Practice

Module Two – Social Problems and Social Services

Chapter 4 –Poverty and Welfare

Chapter 7 – Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Individuals

Chapter 8 –Drug Abuse and Treatment Programs

Chapter 9 – Crime, Juvenile Delinquency, and Correctional Services

Chapter 12 – Racism, Ethnocentrism, and Strategies for Advancing Social and Economic Justice

Chapter 13 - Sexism and Efforts for Achieving Equality

Chapter 14 – Aging and Gerontological Services

SOCY 3335 (proposed course number) Sociology of Gender (3000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Outline:

1. Understanding Sociology & Gender
 - a. Definitions/Terminologies
 - b. Sex vs. Gender
 - c. Gender & the Sociological Imagination
2. Theories of Gender
 - a. Psychological Theories
 - b. Sociological Theories
 - c. Intersectional Feminist Theories
3. Gender & Social Institutions
 - a. Gendered Media & Culture
 - b. Gender & the Family
 - c. Gender & Work
4. Privilege/Discrimination
 - a. Gender Regulation, Violence, & Politics
 - b. Activism/Mobilization
 - c. Gender Equity

SOCY 3345 (proposed course number) Sociology of Sexualities (3000-level course) 3 credit hours

Course Outline:

1. Understanding Sex & Gender
 - a. Definitions/Terminologies
 - b. Theories of Sex & Gender
 - c. Spectrums & Models
2. Understanding Sexuality

- a. Researching Sexuality
- b. Theories of Sexuality
- c. Sexual Identities & Lifestyles
- 3. Sexualities & Social Institutions
 - a. Sexuality & the Media
 - b. Sexuality & the Workplace
 - c. Sexuality & Education/Sports
- 4. Privilege/Discrimination
 - a. Sexual Regulation, Violence, & Politics
 - b. Activism/Mobilization
 - c. Sexual Equity

APPENDIX D

Outcome Competencies and Methods of Assessment

SOCY 2270/PSYC 2270 (proposed course number) Outcomes and Assessments: Introduction to Social Work
Course Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Describe the history and role of the social work profession (Competency 2).
- 2) Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the current social welfare system in terms of the functions of providing basic needs, protection of the vulnerable, treatment rehabilitation, protection of society (Competency 2 and 3).
- 3) Critically analyze major social fields of social welfare service provision from a multicultural perspective, including but not limited to income security, health and mental health services, child welfare, educational practices, services to elderly, and corrections (Competency 2 and 3).
- 4) Critically analyze current debates, trends and ethical issues in various fields of service presented in this course including the implications for social work practice and promoting social justice and social change (Competency 1, 2 and 3).

Assessments

The overall course grade is determined by the student's performance on the following assignments:

- 1) Two quizzes
- 2) Midterm exam
- 3) Critical reflection writings
- 4) Agency Assessment
- 5) Class Participation

Quizzes

Two (2) quizzes will be given in-class. Quizzes will be based on assigned reading and other materials covered in class. This will count toward 20% of the final grade.

Midterm exam

A midterm examination will be administered. It will include readings and materials covered in class during the first eight weeks of the course. It will count toward 25% of the final grade.

Reflection Writing

This assignment asks the student to select and critically reflect on the central focus of two of the various fields of practice. Reflection writings count toward 20% of the final grade.

Agency Assessment

Each student will complete a formal paper based on an identified and assigned agency. Students will reflect upon and analyze the agency based upon their readings and discussions in class. The assessment will focus on social work values and structure. This paper will count towards 25% of the final grade.

Class Participation

Class participation is an integral components of the student’s overall success in this course. Class participation is conceptualized broadly as engagement in assigned readings prior to class, attending class, and participation in classroom discussion and exercises. Class participation counts toward 10% of the final grade.

SOCY 3335 (proposed course number) Outcomes and Assessments: Sociology of Gender

Course Outcome	Direct Assessment Measure	Satisfactory Performance Standards
Apply fundamental concepts of an intersectional sociological approach to understanding gender.	Critical Discussion Board & Final Project Direct – Student Artifacts	70% of students will score a 70% or higher
Identify and analyze research and theory on sex and gender.	Content Exams Direct - Exam	70% of students will average 70% or higher on content exams
Critically apply theories of gender to their lives, in regards privilege and social inequality.	Critical Reflection Paper & Final Project Direct - Student Artifacts	70% of students will score a 70% or higher
Demonstrate knowledge of gender privilege, discrimination, activism, and mobilization	Content – Exam Direct - Exam	70% of students would average 70% or higher on content exams

SOCY 3345 (proposed course number) Outcomes and Assessments: Sociology of Sexualities

Course Outcome	Direct Assessment Measure	Satisfactory Performance Standards
Apply fundamental concepts of an intersectional sociological approach to understanding sexualities.	Critical Discussion Board & Final Project Direct – Student Artifacts	70% of students will score a 70% or higher
Identify and analyze research and theory on sex, gender, and sexuality.	Content Exams Direct - Exam	70% of students will average 70% or higher on content exams
Critically apply sexuality theories to their lives, in regards to gender, privilege and social inequality.	Critical Reflection Paper & Final Project Direct - Student Artifacts	70% of students will score a 70% or higher

Demonstrate knowledge of sexual privilege, discrimination, activism, and mobilization	Content – Exam Direct - Exam	70% of students would average 70% or higher on content exams
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RE: course numbers
Ransom, Laura <lransom@fairmontstate.edu>
Thu 10/24/2019 4:27 PM
To: Ransom, Michael <mransom@fairmontstate.edu>

Hi Michael,

I noted below which numbers have been used. All others are available for the new courses.

Best,

Laura Ransom

Records Officer

Office of the University Registrar

From: Ransom, Michael
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 4:17 PM
To: Ransom, Laura <lransom@fairmontstate.edu>
Subject: Re: course numbers

Hi Laura,

The course numbers in question are:

PSYC 22xx –PSYC 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2250, 2260, 2299 have been used

SOCY 22xx –SOCY 2200, 2201, 2205, 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2250, 2299 have been used

SOCY 33xx –SOCY 3300, 3301, 3302, 3310, 3325, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, 3370, 3380, 3381, 3390, 3395, 3399 have been used

For instance, I would like to rename Introduction to Social Work, currently 2299, to 22 something else, 2210, 2270, etc. Does that make sense? This possibility limits me to ten options, if they are all taken can we at least keep the same thousand level?

Best,

Michael R. Ransom

Associate Professor of Psychology

Hardway 101; extension 4675

Chair, Department of Behavioral Sciences

Chair, Instructor Exchange Committee

Fairmont State University

Fairmont, WV 26554

From: Ransom, Laura <lransom@fairmontstate.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 4:24 PM
To: Ransom, Michael <mransom@fairmontstate.edu>
Subject: RE: course numbers

Hi Michael,

There are quite a few numbers available. Do you have a range you are looking at for the new courses?

Thanks,

Laura Ransom

Records Officer

Office of the University Registrar

From: Ransom, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 4:04 PM
To: Ransom, Laura <lransom@fairmontstate.edu>
Subject: course numbers

Hi Laura,

I am writing a curriculum proposal to create permanent course numbers for several Behavioral Sciences special topics courses. Would you be able to provide me with a list of available course numbers within psychology and sociology? Thanks.

Best,

Michael R. Ransom

Associate Professor of Psychology

Hardway 101; extension 4675

Chair, Department of Behavioral Sciences

Chair, Instructor Exchange Committee

Fairmont State University

Fairmont, WV 26554