Dear All,

Yes, everything went great today -- thanks to Lamia and Eric for a stimulating and collegial conversation. The Council approved the minor unanimously, pending a few edits that can be forwarded to me and Karen when they're all done. We see no need to run it by the Council again.

Here are the points that we would like to see addressed in the final version. It may be most useful for Lamia and/or Eric to key them in, since they were at the meeting. I'm happy to answer any questions via phone or email.

1. The Council did feel that the language requirement should be consistent: if it is to be one year for coursework, which is fine, it should also be one year for those who place out via examination, unless the reasons that Eric cited (or others) really make this impractical.

2. Also related to language, you might clarify that a student with a smattering of Hindi, say, might be able to jump in to the second quarter of the sequence and then finish up with the third. So it's not the absolute number of credits but demonstrating one year's worth of mastery that counts.

3. Given the potential for confusion, it's important to clarify that all students must have 24 credits of coursework no matter what, per University policy on minors.

4. Clarify the paragraph on the three ways fulfill the "Experiencing South Asia" requirement:
   (1) One year's demonstrated mastery of a South Asian language (whether by language exam or coursework)
   (2) One 10-week term of study of abroad
   (3) An internship involving an equivalent number of contact hours

5. Fix the two spots (pp. 1 and 2) where it states that 12 credits are required for Experiencing South Asia, since the language placement exam and internship don't require 12 credits.

6. Make explicit the requirement that students in the minor meet with an advisor at some point in their program, and in particular if they intend to study abroad or do an internship in South Asia.

7. Require students who write the research paper/reflective assessment on any South Asia internship to register for at least one credit of upper-division reading (e.g. ANTH 405) so that their advisor can properly grade the paper and
set the expectations for it. The number of credits can be negotiable depending on the length and parameters of the paper.

8. Please articulate your dream/vision/rationale for the South Asia minor as you so cogently did in your oral presentation and include that rationale in the Summary section. We want prospective students, parents, colleagues, administrators, accreditors, etc. to be able to read your rationale and understand the intellectual allure of the minor. We don't want bureaucrats to end up doing this for you.

9. Briefly clarify the rationale for the three themes, for the same reason. Consider how to address student confusion about why e.g. the Bollywood and advertising courses are not in the "media" theme but the "contemporary issues" theme.

10. Suggested but not required: try to establish topics courses to regularize experimental/one-off offerings. Also: keep in mind the logistics of tracking which courses count and don't count for advising purposes (e.g. a list on Google Docs that the 5-6 core faculty can collectively edit and keep track of.) (CAS, UGC, UOCC, and Academic Affairs are working to make the course approval process run more smoothly and collegially and it is a very high priority of mine to eliminate the hair-pulling frustration it often entails.)

Thanks,
Ian

On Apr 12, 2012, at 6:48 PM, bgoodman wrote:

> Lovely news! Thanks so much for handling it, and for keeping me updated. I'll look forward to the formal submission when you are ready to send the final document.
> > Bryna
> >
> > On Thu, 12 Apr 2012 17:44:49 -0700, Lamia N Karim wrote:
> >> It went fine, and we do not foresee any problems. Ian will get back to us tomorrow. They might ask for some minor editorial changes for clarity esp. with regard to the 12-credit language requirement. Since we're following the model of African Studies, East Asian and SE Asian Studies (minors they have approved), we do not foresee any problems. Eric and I will input those changes in the document.
> >>
> >> Thanks everyone,
> >>
> >> Lamia
> >>
> >> On Thu, 12 Apr 2012 17:35:43 -0700, Anita Weiss wrote:
> >>> Dear Ian, Lamia and Eric,
How did the meeting go this afternoon? Is there anything else that needs to be done now?

Thanks,

Anita

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Dr. Anita M. Weiss
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