


June 14, 2018

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Wee Liang Gan, Chair 
Committee on Courses

Re: Proposed Minor in Medical and Health Humanities

The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposed Minor in Medical and Health Humanities at their June 7, 2018 meeting and via email. The majority of the Committee was supportive of building a Medical and Health Humanities minor but have the following concerns with the proposed list of courses:

Stream 2 – Society, Culture, and Health

- ENGL 141 - This course is an (E-Z) course and the topic of Literature and Medicine is not included as an approved segment under the (E-Z) course. If the program will be proposing this topic, the Committee recommends that it be noted in the proposal and that a course change proposal be submitted to add the segment. The letter identifying the segment should be specified in the proposed requirements for the minor.
- ENGL 193 (*Senior Seminar on Literature and Disability*) - This course does not currently exist, but there is an approved ENGL 193A (*Senior Seminar*) and ENGL 193B (*Senior Seminar*) in the system. If the program is proposing a new course, then a different course number should be chosen. If the course is ENGL 193A or ENGL 193B, then please specify which course students will be required to take and see the comments for Stream 3 below regarding the content of the courses.
- HIST 188 - This course is an (E-Z) course and the topic of Chinese Food Culture is an approved umbrella for the course but it does not include “Medicine” in the title. If the program will be proposing the addition of Medicine to this segment (E), the Committee recommends that it be noted in the proposal and that a course change proposal be submitted to revise segment E’s title. The letter identifying the segment should be specified in the proposed requirements for the minor.

Stream 3 – Arts in Wellness

- There is no clear rationale for why the courses in Stream 3 (except for MCS 106) are relevant to the minor. It is stated in the justification for the qualifying courses that: *Courses in this section will qualify when they are taught by MHHS supporting faculty and include a focus on health, illness, and/or medicine broadly defined.* However, this statement is not in the proposed requirements for the minor and does not appear to be a criteria which the Registrar can enforce or verify. While iterations of these courses might contain elements that pertain to the minor, there is nothing in the proposal to suggest that they would always pertain. Moreover, students have expectations of what a course will be about based on its catalog description. The proposal

should clarify the extent of changes to these courses when they include a focus on the minor. If there are substantial changes to the contents of these courses from how they are currently taught, then course change proposals with the new descriptions should be submitted. (The comments in this paragraph applies also to ENGL 193 in Stream 2.)

- DNCE 013X – This course does not currently exist. The proposal is probably referring to all the courses DNCE 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136. If that is so, then these course numbers should be explicitly stated in the proposed requirements for the minor and not as 013X.

The Committee also noted concern with the worksheets for the proposed MHHS courses as they are missing 2 activity hours to meet the proposed minimum hours for a 4 unit course. The Committee requests that the program update the worksheets to include the additional activity hours before submitting course proposals for the courses.