APPROVAL FORM FOR

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE: This form is a cover sheet that must accompany the degree program change proposal. The actual proposal should be prepared in accordance with format requirements provided in the *Guide and Format for Curriculum Proposals* published by the UCCC. Both cover sheet and proposal should be submitted to UCCC Mail Stop 9702 (281 Garner Hall), Phone: 325-9410.

College: Arts & Sciences **Department: n/a**

Contact Person: Melanie Loehwing **Mail Stop: 9706**
E-mail: mloehwing@deanas.msstate.edu

Nature of Change: degree modification
Date Initiated: February 12, 2024 **Effective Date: Fall 2024**

Current Degree Program Name: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

Major: Liberal Arts **Concentration: Political Communication**

New Degree Program Name: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

Major: Liberal Arts **Concentration: (optional) Political Communication, Environmental Justice, International Studies, Linguistics, Gender Studies**

Summary of Proposed Changes:

-Add an optional concentration in Environmental Justice
-Add an optional concentration in International Studies
-Add an optional concentration in Linguistics
-Add an optional concentration in Gender Studies

Approved:	Date:
Department Head	3/28/24
Director of Academic Quality	
Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee	4/16/2024
Dean of College or School	3/28/24
Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula	
Chair, Graduate Council(if applicable)	
Chair, Deans Council	

1. Catalog Description

The existing BALA catalog description will only be edited to add a description of the proposed new concentration options. See curriculum outline below.

2. Proposed Curriculum Outline

CURRENT Degree Description	PROPOSED Degree Description
Degree: Bachelor of Arts Major: Liberal Arts *Concentration:* Political Communication	Degree: Bachelor of Arts Major: Liberal Arts **Concentrations:** Political Communication, **Environmental Justice, International Studies, Linguistics, Gender Studies**
The College of Arts and Sciences recognizes that students' interests may include more than one discipline and that some majors are not formally available at MSU. Students who prefer to specialize in more than one field of study may earn a B.A. degree in Liberal Arts (BALA). Through BALA, students can pursue a major that crosses two or more disciplines offered in the College of Arts and Sciences. The BALA degree requires satisfactory completion of the following: 1. University General Education and College Core curriculum; 2. College of Arts & Sciences B.A. requirements; 3. Satisfactory completion of the BALA major core; 4. A total of 121 semester hours; 5. A 200-word minimum exit essay; The BALA major core consists of IDS 2111, GLA 4001, and a program of study consisting of at least 36 upper-division hours in approved emphasis areas. Each BALA program of study must consist of a broad, but coherent pattern of courses in 2-4 disciplines within the College of Arts and Sciences. These disciplines make up the emphasis areas within a student's program of study. Students may propose an individualized combination of emphasis areas, or they may select a preestablished concentration pathway that specifies the emphasis areas they must complete. Each emphasis area must comprise at least 9 hours of upper-division coursework in that discipline, and a minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each area of emphasis. Students seeking admission to the BALA major will be required to submit an application to be reviewed by the Liberal Arts committee. BALA applications must contain the following: competed BALA application form (see BALA advisor); student's proposed program of study; a 100-word minimum entrance essay. To ensure an orderly progression of work toward the degree, interested students should meet with the program's advisor as	The College of Arts and Sciences recognizes that students' interests may include more than one discipline and that some majors are not formally available at MSU. Students who prefer to specialize in more than one field of study may earn a B.A. degree in Liberal Arts (BALA). Through BALA, students can pursue a major that crosses two or more disciplines offered in the College of Arts and Sciences. The BALA degree requires satisfactory completion of the following: 1. University General Education and College Core curriculum; 2. College of Arts & Sciences B.A. requirements; 3. Satisfactory completion of the BALA major core; 4. A total of 121 semester hours; 5. A 200-word minimum exit essay; The BALA major core consists of IDS 2111, GLA 4001, and a program of study consisting of at least 36 upper-division hours in approved emphasis areas. Each BALA program of study must consist of a broad, but coherent pattern of courses in 2-4 disciplines within the College of Arts and Sciences. These disciplines make up the emphasis areas within a student's program of study. Students may propose an individualized combination of emphasis areas, or they may select a preestablished concentration pathway that specifies the emphasis areas they must complete. Each emphasis area must comprise at least 9 hours of upper-division coursework in that discipline, and a minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each area of emphasis. Students seeking admission to the BALA major will be required to submit an application to be reviewed by the Liberal Arts committee. BALA applications must contain the following: competed BALA application form (see BALA advisor); student's proposed program of study; a 100-word minimum entrance essay. To ensure an orderly progression of work toward the degree, interested students should meet with the program's advisor as

early as possible. Liberal Arts is not suitable for students who are uncertain about their choice of a major; these students should see the Undeclared listing in the Academic Affairs section. Political Communication Concentration The Political Communication Concentration combines coursework in Political Science and Communication and Media Studies. It prepares students for careers in campaigning, public address and public affairs, and any public-facing roles related to governmental agencies and policymaking. The Political Communication Concentration is particularly useful for students who want to pursue law school or professional careers in legislation, campaigning, lobbying, and community outreach.	early as possible. Liberal Arts is not suitable for students who are uncertain about their choice of a major; these students should see the Undeclared listing in the Academic Affairs section. Political Communication Concentration The Political Communication Concentration combines coursework in Political Science and Communication and Media Studies. It prepares students for careers in campaigning, public address and public affairs, and any public-facing roles related to governmental agencies and policymaking. The Political Communication Concentration is particularly useful for students who want to pursue law school or professional careers in legislation, campaigning, lobbying, and community outreach. **Environmental Justice Concentration** **Environmental Justice explores the causes and consequences of inequitable distributions of environmental benefits and hazards. It investigates the ethical, political, economic, legal, and sociological aspects of environmental issues, as well as provides students with sufficient natural science background to understand and explain human impacts on the natural world. Our course of study aims to give students an interdisciplinary perspective on the environmental and the social in tandem and how to redress environmental harms meaningfully, effectively, and fairly. The Environmental Justice Concentration is particularly useful for students pursuing careers in fields relating to sustainability, environmental planning, environmental law, and environmental policy.** **International Studies Concentration** **The International Studies Concentration combines coursework in the social sciences, humanities, and foreign languages to give students a well-rounded understanding of how political, economic, and social changes around the world impact our lives. International Studies is an increasingly popular area of study for students interested in careers in business, national security, politics, and the non-profit sector. It equips students with extensive knowledge of international institutions, the history, cultures, and politics of different regions of the world, and training in languages spoken around the world.** **Linguistics Concentration** **Linguistics is the study of language, including the structure of sounds, words, and sentences, how our brains process it, how people learn it, and the roles it plays in our societies. Studying linguistics teaches students to analyze patterns in the language of their daily lives and can**

		contribute to careers such as language teaching, editing and publishing, speech therapy, advertising, and more. Only grades of C or higher will be accepted for courses in the emphasis areas for the Linguistics Concentration. **Gender Studies Concentration** **This concentration emphasizes different approaches to understanding gender and sexuality from different disciplinary perspectives. Students take courses in communication studies, English, world literatures, psychology, sociology, and sports studies. Courses emphasize how gender and sexuality are social constructions subject to change and interpretation over time and across cultures, and how inequalities tied to gender and sexuality are explained and addressed from different vantage points. This concentration also emphasizes empirical studies of gender as a form of identity, lived experience, and social inequality. Students draw upon course work in communication studies, criminology, history, political science, sociology, and social work. Courses emphasize the role of media, crime and the criminal justice system, historical constructions of gender, politics, and social problems and the responses to these problems in articulating how key social institutions and culture shape individual lives and societies.**	
CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours	PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours
English Composition: EN 1103 English Composition I or EN 1104 Expanded English Composition I EN 1113 English Composition II or EN 1173 Accelerated Composition II	 3 3	English Composition: EN 1103 English Composition I or EN 1104 Expanded English Composition I EN 1113 English Composition II or EN 1173 Accelerated Composition II	 3 3
Foreign Language: Foreign Language I Foreign Language II Foreign Language III	 3 3 3	Foreign Language: Foreign Language I Foreign Language II Foreign Language III	 3 3 3
Humanities: Literature– A&S core History– A&S core Philosophy– A&S core Humanities Electives[1]	 3 3 3 9	Humanities: Literature– A&S core History– A&S core Philosophy– A&S core Humanities Electives[1]	 3 3 3 9
Mathematics: A&S core[2]	 3	**Quantitative Reasoning:** A&S core[2]	 3

Fine Arts: A&S core	3	Fine Arts: A&S core	3
Natural Sciences: Physical Science w/ lab – A&S core Life Science w/ lab – A&S core Natural Science Elective – A&S core	 3-4 3-4 3-4	Natural Sciences: Physical Science w/ lab – A&S core Life Science w/ lab – A&S core[2] Natural Science Elective – A&S core	 3-4 3-4 3-4
Social Sciences: A&S core[2] Social Science Electives[3]	 6 12	Social Sciences: A&S core[2] Social Science Electives[3]	 6 12
Major Core: IDS 2111 Intro to Interdisciplinary Studies GLA 4001 Senior Project Emphasis Area Courses[4]	 1 1 36	Major Core: IDS 2111 Intro to Interdisciplinary Studies GLA 4001 Senior Project Emphasis Area Courses[4, 5]	 1 1 36
Oral Communication: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking or CO 1013 Introduction to Communication[5]	3	Oral Communication: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking or CO 1013 Introduction to Communication[6]	3
Jr/Sr Writing: Consult advisor; may be specified in emphasis areas or concentrations	3-4	Jr/Sr Writing: Consult advisor; may be specified in emphasis areas or concentrations	3-4
General Electives: Consult advisor[6]	7-11	General Electives: Consult advisor[7]	5-11
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121
Note: Students must complete 31 upper-division hours in A&S in residence at MSU. [1] Humanities electives must be courses in A&S and must cover two disciplines. [2] Concentrations may require specific courses; see concentration and consult advisor. [3] Social Science electives must be courses in A&S. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC and one CO from A&S core list allowed. [4] Concentrations require specific courses; see concentration and consult advisor. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each area of emphasis. *[5]Concentration may require CO 1003; consult advisor.* *[6] Concentrations may require other prerequisite coursework. Students should consult advisor and plan to take additional prerequisite courses as general electives.*		Note: Students must complete 31 upper-division hours in A&S in residence at MSU. [1] Humanities electives must be courses in A&S and must cover two disciplines. [2] Concentrations may require specific courses; see concentration and consult advisor. [3] Social Science electives must be courses in A&S. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC and one CO from A&S core list allowed. [4] Concentrations require specific courses; see concentration and consult advisor. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each area of emphasis. **[5] Courses under concentrations may be substituted with a related course not listed with permission from the concentration sponsor.** **[6] Concentration may require CO 1003; consult advisor.**	

		[7] Concentrations may require other prerequisite coursework. Students should consult advisor and plan to take additional prerequisite courses as general electives.	
Political Communication Concentration Mathematics: MA/ST 2113 Introduction to Statistics Social Science: PS 1113 American Government CO 1223 Introduction to Communication Theory Oral Communication: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking Jr/Sr Writing: PS 4464 Political Analysis Emphasis Area – Communication Choose 18 hours: CO 3803 Principles of Public Relations CO 4043 Communication and Leadership CO 4203 Nonverbal Communication CO 4213 Political Communication CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion CO 4313 Mass Media Law CO 3813 Public Relations Case Problems CO 3873 Public Relations Multimedia CO 3833 Interviewing CO 4273 Intercultural Communication Emphasis Area – Political Science Choose 18 hours: PS 3013 Political Leadership PS 3033 Gender and Politics PS 3063 Constitutional Powers PS 3073 Civil Liberties PS 3183 Law and Politics PS 4173 Legislative Process PS 4213 Campaign Politics PS 4283 Public Opinion PS 4293 Political Behavior PS 4703 Principles of Public Administration		Political Communication Concentration Mathematics: MA/ST 2113 Introduction to Statistics Social Science: PS 1113 American Government CO 1223 Introduction to Communication Theory Oral Communication: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking Jr/Sr Writing: PS 4464 Political Analysis Emphasis Area – Communication Choose 18 hours: CO 3803 Principles of Public Relations CO 4043 Communication and Leadership CO 4203 Nonverbal Communication CO 4213 Political Communication CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion CO 4313 Mass Media Law CO 3813 Public Relations Case Problems CO 3873 Public Relations Multimedia CO 3833 Interviewing CO 4273 Intercultural Communication Emphasis Area – Political Science Choose 18 hours: PS 3013 Political Leadership PS 3033 Gender and Politics PS 3063 Constitutional Powers PS 3073 Civil Liberties PS 3183 Law and Politics PS 4173 Legislative Process PS 4213 Campaign Politics PS 4283 Public Opinion PS 4293 Political Behavior PS 4703 Principles of Public Administration **Environmental Justice Concentration** **Life Science w/ lab:** **BIO 1134 Biology I** **Social Science:** **PS 1113 American Government** **GR 2013 Human Geography** **PS 2703 Intro to Public Policy** **AN 1103 Intro to Anthropology**	

		SO 1003 Intro to Sociology **Jr/Sr Writing:** **Satisfied by BIO 3104 Ecology in Ecological Studies emphasis area.** **Emphasis Area – Justice Studies** **PHI 3313 Environmental Ethics** **AN 4173 Environment and Society** **PS 4743 Environmental Policy** **Choose 9 hours:** **PHI 3173 Social and Political Philosophy** **HI 3183 World Environmental History** **HI 4193 U.S. Environmental History** **HI 4293 History of Gender and Science** **REL 3113 Religions and Environment** **FL 4243 Introduction to Ecolinguistics** **EC 4323International Economics** **EC 4423 Public Finance** **GR 4133 Political Ecology: Space, Nature, and Justice** **Emphasis Area – Ecological Studies** **BIO 3104 Ecology** **GR 3113 Conservation of Natural Resources** **Choose 12 hours:** **PHI 4143 Philosophy of Science** **BIO 4123 Behavioral Ecology** **BIO 4993 Community Ecology** **BIO 4233 Living with Global Change** **AN 3333 Primate Behavior** **AN 4353 Biology and Culture** **CH 4303 Environmental Chemistry I** **GR 4203 Geography of North America OR** **GR 4213 Geography of Latin America OR** **GR 4223 Geography of Europe OR** **GR 4233 Geography of Asia OR** **GR 4243 Geography of Russia and the Former Soviet Republics OR** **GR 4253 Geography of Africa OR** **GR 4263 Geography of the South OR** **GR 4283 Geography of Islamic World** **AEC 4243 Natural Resource Economics** **LA 4843 Sustainable Communities** **WFA 3133 Applied Ecology** **GR 4813 Natural Hazards & Processes** **GG 4543 Community Engagement in Geosciences** **International Studies Concentration** **Literature:** **EN 2283 World Literature after 1600** **Mathematics:** **MA/ST 2113 Introduction to Statistics**	

		Social Science: **GR 1123 Introduction to World Geography** **PS 1313 Introduction to International Relations** **PS 1513 Comparative Government** **EC 2113 Principles of Macroeconomics OR** **EC 2123 Principles of Microeconomics** **Additional Foreign Language:** **Foreign Language IV** **Jr/Sr Writing:** **Satisfied by PS 4323 International Organization in Global Affairs emphasis area.** **Emphasis Area – Global Affairs** **PS 4323 International Organization** **PS 4343 International Conflict and Security** **Choose 12 hours:** **PS 4303 US Foreign Policy** **PS 4623 Politics of the Third World** **PS 3033 Gender and Politics** **PS 4373 International Terrorism** **PS 4633 Democracy and Democratization** **PS 4643 Ethnic Conflict** **PS 4383 National Security Policy** **PS 4613 Civil Wars and Intra-State Conflicts** **AN 4163 Anthropology of International Development** **PS 4313 Principles of International Law** **PS 4333 Theories of International Relations** **PS 4353 International Political Economy** **PS 4363 International Peacekeeping** **PS 4393 The Global Context** **EN/AAS 4393 Postcolonial Literature and Theory** **EN 4813 The World Novel Since 1900** **EN 4373 English Literature and the World,** **Emphasis Area – Area Studies** **Choose 9 hours:** **PS/AAS 4543 African Politics** **PS 4553 West European Politics** **PS 4583 South Asian Politics** **PS 4583 East Asian Politics** **PS 4593 Latin American Politics** **GR 4203 Geography of North America** **GR 4213 Geography of Latin America** **GR 4223 Geography of Europe** **GR 4233 Geography of Asia** **GR 4243 Geography of Russia and the Former Soviet Republics** **GR 4253 Geography of Africa** **GR 4283 Geography of Islamic World** **AN 3113 Societies of the World**	**3**

		AN 3133 Anthropology of Latin America **AAS 4793 Modern Africa** **AAS 4093 The African Diaspora** **AN 3153 African Art and Culture** **MEC/REL 3473 Islam** **REL 3212 World Religions I** **REL 3223 World Religions II** **REL 3453 Hinduism and Buddhism** **AN 3143 Anthropology of the Middle East** **AN 3193 African Cultures** **AN 3533 Rise of Civilization** **AN 3553 Near Eastern Archaeology** **GR 4293 Caribbean Geography** **HI 3743 History of England** **HI 3813 Modern Latin America** **HI 3853 The United States and Latin America** **HI 4203 Diplomatic History of the U.S** **HI 4213 History of Grand Strategy & International Security** **HI 4223 Intelligence Gathering in the 20th Century** **HI 4493 Terrorism in America** **HI 4583 China Since 1800** **HI 4593 Japan Since 1600** **HI 4613 History of the Soviet Union** **HI 4673 Europe, 1789-1914** **HI 4683 Europe: The First World War to Hitler** **HI 4693 Europe: The Second World War to the Common Market** **HI 4713 Tudor and Stuart England** **HI 4723 History of Britain Since 1688** **HI 4743 War, Diplomacy, and Statecraft in Europe, 1648-1989** **HI 4753 History of Russia** **HI 4763 History of Modern Germany** **HI 4773 History of Modern France** **HI 4853 Modern Mexico** **HI 4903 The Far East** **Emphasis Area – Language Studies** **Choose 9 hours:** **In addition to completing the fourth level of a foreign language, students must complete 9 hours of upper division coursework in one target language or language area.** **Linguistics Concentration** **Additional Foreign Language:** **Foreign Language IV** **Jr/Sr Writing:** **Satisfied by either EN/AN/SO/LIN 4623 Language and Culture or EN/AN/SO/LIN 4633 Language and Society in required**	**3**

		emphasis area. **Up to 6 hours of humanities and 6 hours of social sciences may be satisfied with courses in the Linguistics concentration; 121 total degree hours will still be required.** **Required Emphasis Area** **AN/EN/LIN 4403 Introduction to Linguistics** **EN/AN/SO/LIN 4623 Language and Culture** **or EN/AN/SO/LIN 4633 Language and Society** **LIN Upper Division Electives - 12 hours** **Choose 2 of the following emphasis areas:** **Emphasis Area – Cognitive Science** **Choose 9 hours:** **PHI 4223 Philosophy of Cognitive Science** **PSY 3343 Psychology of Learning** **PSY 3713 Cognitive Psychology** **PSY 4413 Cognitive Neuroscience** **PSY 4653 Cognitive Science** **Emphasis Area – Culture & Society** **Choose 9 hours:** **AN 4123 Anthropological Theory** **AN 4143 Ethnographic Methods** **AN 4163 Anthropology of International Development** **CO 4273 Intercultural Communication** **PSY 3623 Social Psychology** **PSY 4233 Culture and Psychology** **SO 3003 Social Inequality** **SO 3013 Society and the Individual** **SO 3703 Racial and Ethnic Inequality** **SO 4153 Gender Race & Social Movements** **Emphasis Area – Language Studies** **In addition to completing the fourth level of a foreign language, students must complete 9 hours of upper division coursework in one target language or language area.** **Gender Studies Concentration** **Fine Art:** **MU 2173 Women in Music** **Social Science:** **GS/SO/AN 1173 Introduction to Gender Studies** **Jr/Sr Writing:** **Satisfied by EN/SO/GS 4133 Feminist Theories in Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality emphasis area.**	

		Emphasis Area – Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality **EN/SO/GS 4133 Feminist Theories** **Choose 15 hours:** **CO/GS 4233 Gender and Media** **COE 4743 Gender Issues in Counseling** **EN/GS 3513 Women and Literature** **FLS 4213 Mod Spanish Women Writers** **PSY 3203 Psychology of Gender Differences** **SO 4403 /GS 4413 Sociology of Gender and Sexuality** **SO/GS 4503 Gender and Work** **SS 4403/GS 4403 Gender & Sport** **Emphasis Area - Gender in Society and Culture** **Choose 18 hours:** **CO/GS 4263 Gender Communication** **CRM/SO/GS 3343 Gender, Crime & Justice** **HI/AAS/GS 3173 History of African American Women** **HI 4273 Women in American History** **HI 4283 History Southern Women** **HI 4823 Issues in Women's History** **HI 4293 History of Gender & Science** **PS 3033 Gender and Politics** **SO/SW/GS 4543 Gender and Food** **SO/GS/AAS 4143 Gender, Race, and Social Movements**	

3. Justification

Environmental Justice:
Mississippi and the U.S. South in general have been the site of many well-known and important Environmental Justice movements and challenges. Students at Mississippi State University gaining an understanding Environmental Justice issues and solutions could greatly benefit the state and region.

MSU students would benefit from a course of study that allows them an interdisciplinary perspective that addresses both the environmental and the social in tandem. The Environmental Justice Concentration will provide students with conceptual tools for meaningfully, effectively, and fairly considering how to redress environmental harms. It will help prepare students for work in fields relating to sustainability, environmental planning, environmental law, and environmental policy. This concentration will allow students who wish to pursue a career in Environmental Justice an opportunity to focus their studies on the two main disciplines in the liberal arts that are needed for work in this area that is not offered with the existing undergraduate majors.

The knowledge provided from BIO 1134 Biology I is critical in understanding ecological

principles. Additionally, BIO 1134 is a prerequisite for BIO 3104 Ecology, a course that is required for the Ecological Studies emphasis area. The specified social sciences, including PS 1113 American Government, GR 2013 Human Geography, PS 2703 Intro to Public Policy, AN 1103 Intro to Anthropology, and SO 1003 Intro to Sociology, also provides the necessary foundation for required courses within the emphasis areas for the Environmental Justice concentration. Additionally, many are prerequisites for the required courses within the concentration.

International Studies:
International Studies is an increasingly popular area of study for students interested in careers in business, national security, politics, and the non-profit sector. The demand for expertise in international studies is growing as companies recognize complexities of an increasingly interconnected world. The International Studies Concentration is designed to provide students with a well-rounded education of global dynamics, diverse cultures, and political landscapes. This skill set is particularly valuable in today's globalized workforce. MSU currently offers a minor in international studies, but no existing undergraduate major.

MA/ST 2113 Intro to Statistics is the required Quantitative Reasoning course for this concentration because having a basic understanding of statistical principles is paramount in developing the ability to analyze problems and make informed decisions across geographical and cultural bounds. Additionally, an understanding of world geography, including physical and cultural diversity, as well as environmental issues such as those reviewed in GR 1123, is vital for a student pursuing international studies. Students interested in international studies also need an understanding of various governmental systems and of basic concepts of international politics, as is taught in PS 1313 and 1513. Additionally, an understanding of economics and economic systems is vital for someone who desires a career in the international arena, which is why students should take either EC 2113 or EC 2123 for the international studies concentration. Finally, EN 2283 is required because an understanding of international literary culture is important for students pursuing international studies.

Linguistics:
Language is a central component of human cognition, human societies, and individuals' experience in the world. The scientific study of language from structural, cognitive, and social perspectives is therefore both a fruitful route toward understanding core aspects of humanity and a practical step toward careers in fields including language teaching, editing and publishing, speech therapy, and advertising, among others. When combined with technical training, it is central to cutting-edge computational developments in natural language processing and large language models. MSU has a successful undergraduate minor in linguistics but no degree programs in the field; this concentration would begin to remedy that lack.

Gender Studies:
Gender and sexuality are often topics of debate, but not from scholarly vantage points considering evidence and holistically considering different ways of defining and shaping these key facets of identity and experience. Further, younger cohorts have expressed increasing diversity in their own identities tied to gender and sexuality and a growing interest in understand the different ways of viewing and experiencing them, as their own experiences become more

nuanced and varied than those previous generations. Gender has profound consequences for lived experience, social inequalities, and cultural norms. Students need to be presented with empirical evidence of the 'whys' and 'hows' of these social processes to understand the structural and institutional arrangements shaping different societies and time periods. MSU currently offers a minor in gender studies, but no existing undergraduate major.

The MU 2173 Women in Music course provides a fine art course that is focused on music that was commissioned, written, or performed by women, as well as the evolution of the rights of women within the music industry. This focus provides knowledge that is vital in developing a full understanding of women's history and is a necessary component for a concentration in Gender Studies. Additionally, the theoretical concepts introduced in GS 1173 provide a critical foundation for a student seeking a concentration in Gender Studies.

4. Effective Date

Fall 2024

5. Four-Letter Abbreviation

ENVJ
INTL
LING
GEND

6. Letter of Support

See attached.

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

College of Arts & Sciences
Dean's Office

P.O. Drawer AS
175 President Circle, 208 Allen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.1665
F. 662.325.8740
www.cas.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The African American Studies Program supports the new International Studies and Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the African American Studies Program's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in International Studies and Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald Shaffer
Director of African American Studies

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
ANTHROPOLOGY AND MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURES

P.O. Box AR
340 Lee Blvd., Room 204 Cobb Bldg.
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2013
F. 662.325.8690
www.amec.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures supports the new Environmental Justice, International Studies, Linguistics, Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.
Members of the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice, International Studies, Linguistics, Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

James W. Hardin, PhD
Interim Head/Professor, Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures
Director, Cobb Institute of Archaeology
P.O. Box AR
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Office: (662) 325-3826
Fax: (662)325-8690
e-mail: jwh1@msstate.edu

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

P.O. Box GY
295 E Lee Blvd
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.3120
F. 662.325.7939
www.biology.msstate.edu

February 21, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Biological Sciences supports the new Environmental Justice concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

I have reviewed the proposal and, with input from members of the Department of Biological Science's Curriculum Committee, fully endorse the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the minor in Environmental Justice concentration may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort to provide novel pathways for students interested in this important area.

Sincerely,

Angus Dawe Digitally signed by Angus Dawe Date: 2024.02.21 10:43:13 -06'00'

Angus L. Dawe
Professor & Department Head

dawe@biology.msstate.edu 662.325.7577 217 Harned Hall

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

CLASSICAL & MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
P.O. Box FL
1500 Lee Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
P. 662.325.3480
www.cmll.msstate.edu

April 11, 2024

Dear Colleagues on the UCCC:

The Department of Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures supports the new Environmental Justice, International Studies, Linguistics, and Gender Studies concentrations in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts major proposed by the College of Arts & Sciences.

Members of CMLL's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal, and we support these degree concentrations' inclusion of our department's courses.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert M. West
Professor and Department Head
robert.west@cmll.msstate.edu
(662) 325-1814

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Communication

P.O. Box PF
216 President's Circle
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.3320
F. 662.325.3210
www.comm.msstate.edu

February 21, 2023

Dear Curriculum Committees:

The curriculum committee of the Department of Communication has met and approved the inclusion of Communication courses for the new degree: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts.

Specifically, CO 4273 Intercultural Communication for the Linguistics concentration, and CO/GS 4233 Gender and Media & CO/GS 4263 Gender Communication for the Gender Studies concentration.

Faculty Member	Approve	Faculty Member	Approve
Wendy Roussin, MFA *Associate Professor & Chair*	X	Jesse Wade, MFA *Assistant Clinical Professor*	X
Kevin William, PhD *Associate Professor*	X	Amy Knight, MA *Instructor II*	X
Holli Seitz, PhD *Associate Professor*	X	Josh Foreman, MFA *Instructor*	X
Heesook Choi, PhD *Assistant Professor*	X		

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

TO: Andy Perkins
Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula

FROM: Megan Smith
Chair, Department of English Curriculum Committee

RE: Proposals for LIN Courses

DATE: February 29, 2024

The Department of English Curriculum Committee voted unanimously in favor of the including the following courses in the International Studies, Linguistics, and Gender Studies Concentrations of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts.

EN 2283: World Literature after 1600
EN 4993: Post-Colonial Literature and Theory (cross-listed with AAS)
EN 4363: Studies in Global Anglophone Literatures
EN 4373: English Literature and the World
EN 4813: The World Novel Since 1900
LIN 4403: Introduction to Linguistics
LIN 4413: History of the English Language
LIN 4443: English Syntax
LIN 4463: Studies in Second Language Acquisition
LIN 4473: Phonetics
LIN 4623: Language and Culture
LIN 4633: Language and Society
EN 4133: Feminist Theories
EN 3513: Women and Literature

Members of the Curriculum Committee:

Shalyn Claggett

Shalyn Claggett

Saddiq Dzukogi

Saddiq Dzukogi

Ginger Pizer

Ginger Pizer

Andrea Spain

Andrea Spain

Emily Stinson

Emily Stinson

Dhanashree Thorat

Dhanashree Thorat

Signature: Ginger Pi[illegible] (Mar 1, 2024 11:50 CST)

Email: gbp31@msstate.edu

Signature: Shalyn Claggett (Mar 1, 2024 12:48 CST)

Email: src173@msstate.edu

Signature: Emily Stinson (Mar 1, 2024 13:20 CST)

Email: ejs25@msstate.edu

Signature: Saddiq Dzukogi (Mar 1, 2024 14:40 CST)

Email: smd600@msstate.edu

Signature: Dhanashree Thorat (Mar 1, 2024 16:42 CST)

Email: dt1349@msstate.edu

Signature: Andrea Spain (Mar 1, 2024 17:36 CST)

Email: ADS506@MSSTATE.EDU

support_ltr_bala

Final Audit Report 2024-03-01

Created:	2024-03-01
By:	Megan Smith (ms4004@msstate.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA9_-kiLoaenr9UjdTSKgNOGwjLQkiNQOR

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Agreement completed.
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MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Department of Finance and Economics

P.O. Box 9580
40 Old Main-312 McCool Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2342
F. 662.325.1977
www.business.msstate.edu

February 21, 2024

Dear Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Finance and Economics supports the new International Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences. I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of International Economics (EC 4323) or Public Finance (EC 4423) in this project. Each course has the capacity to accommodate a maximum of five students from the proposed program. These courses are typically offered once per year.

Sincerely,

M. Kathleen Thomas

M. Kathleen Thomas
Department Head, Finance and Economics
Professor of Economics and Drew Allen Fellow

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Gender Studies Program

P.O. Box 5226
208 Allen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

www.genderstudies.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Gender Studies Program supports the new Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Gender Studies Program's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Kelly, Ph.D.
Director of Gender Studies
Professor of Sociology
kkelly@soc.msstate.edu

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Geosciences
108 Hilburn Hall
355 Lee Blvd.
P.O. Box 5448
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone (662) 325-3915
FAX (662) 325-9423

April 2, 2024

College of Arts and Sciences and the University Courses and Curriculum Committees

Mississippi State University

RE: Liberal Arts Degree Concentrations – Environmental Justice + International Studies

Dear Curriculum Committee,

The Department of Geosciences Curriculum Committee has reviewed the proposal for the Liberal Arts degree program to use courses from Geosciences to fulfill requirements for new concentrations in Enviornmental Justice and International Studies. We support the new Environmental Justice and International Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences. We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice and International Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Sarah Lalk, PhD — Digitally signed by Sarah Lalk, PhD Date: 2024.04.04 07:48:53 -05'00'

Sarah Lalk (Committee Chair)

Andrew Mercer — Digitally signed by Andrew Mercer Date: 2024.04.04 08:37:21 -05'00'

Andrew Mercer (Committee Member)

Boniface O Fosu — Digitally signed by Boniface O Fosu Date: 2024.04.03 21:06:45 -05'00'

Boniface Fosu (Committee Member)

Varun Paul — Digitally signed by Varun Paul Date: 2024.04.04 22:17:31 -05'00'

Varun Paul (Committee Member)

Brian Williams — Digitally signed by Brian Williams Date: 2024.04.03 17:28:32 -05'00'

Brian Williams (Committee Member)

Kelsey Crane — Digitally signed by Kelsey Crane Date: 2024.04.04 09:02:10 -05'00'

Kelsey Crane (Committee Member)

Cc: Dr. John C. Rodgers, Department Head of Geosciences

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

College of Arts & Sciences
Dean's Office

P.O. Drawer AS
175 President Circle, 208 Allen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.1665
F. 662.325.8740
www.cas.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of History supports the new Environmental Justice, International Studies, and Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of History's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice, International Studies, and Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

alanimarcus

Digitally signed by alanimarcus
Date: 2024.02.14 18:18:14 -06'00'

Dr. Alan Marcus
Department Head

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
Department of Landscape Architecture
P.O. Box 9725
Mississippi State, MS 39762
P. 662.325.3012
lalc.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Landscape Architecture supports the new Environmental Justice concentration in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Landscape Architecture's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration in Environmental Justice may include our courses, and we support (and welcome) the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Anne Spafford
Department Head

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

P.O. Box MA
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.3414
F. 662.325.0005
www.math.msstate.edu

To Whom it may concern,

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics supports the new concentrations in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences. The Courses and Curriculum Committee have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentrations in may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort. The Courses and Curriculum Committee at the department level, the entity writing this letter, is in full support of creation of these new programs. Please accept this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matt McBride
Associate Professor and Undergraduate Coordinator
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

Dr. Chuanxi Qian
Professor
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

Dr. Mohammad Sepehrifar
Associate Professor
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

Dr. Jon Woody
Associate Professor
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

Mohsen Razzaghi

Digitally signed by Mohsen Razzaghi
DN: cn=Mohsen Razzaghi, o=Mississippi State University, ou=Mathematics and Statistics, email=razzaghi@math.msstate.edu, c=US
Date: 2024.02.16 15:48:09 -06'00'

Dr. Mohsen Razzaghi
Professor and Department Head
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

Mr. Robert Banik
Instructor and Undergraduate Advising Coordinator
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Mississippi State University

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

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Dean's Office

P.O. Drawer AS
175 President Circle, 208 Allen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.1665
F. 662.325.8740
www.cas.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Music supports the new Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Music's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daniel Stevens
Department Head

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Department of Philosophy & Religion

J. Robert Thompson, Head
George Hall 1010
233 Lee Blvd
P.O. Box JS
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2161
F. 662.325.3340
www.philosophyandreligion.msstate.edu

February 21, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Philosophy and Religion supports the new Environmental Justice, International Studies, and Linguistics concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences. Members of the Department of Philosophy and Religion's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Thompson, Ph.D.
Head
Department of Philosophy and Religion

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Department of Political Science and
Public Administration

P.O. Box PC
456 Hardy Rd.,
105 Bowen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.2711
F. 662.325.2716
www.pspa.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration supports the new Environmental Justice, International Studies, and Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project.

We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice, International Studies, and Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Brian Shoup

Dr. Brian Shoup
Professor and Department Head
Department of Political Science and Public Administration

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Psychology
Magruder Hall
P.O. Box 6161
255 Lee Boulevard
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone: 662-325-3202
FAX: 662-325-7212

To: University Committee on Courses and Curricula

From: Department of Psychology

Date: February 14, 2024

Dear UCCC Committee Members:

The Department of Psychology supports the new Linguistics and Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Psychology's Undergraduate Committee have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Linguistics and Gender Studies may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Thank you for your time in considering these requests.

Sincerely,

Danielle K. Nadorff, Ph.d

Digitally signed by Danielle K. Nadorff, Ph.D.
Date: 2024.02.14 12:39:43 -06'00'

Danielle Nadorff, Ph.D. (Committee chair)

Dr. Hilary L. DeShong Digitally signed by Dr. Hilary L. DeShong
Date: 2024.02.15 09:25:08 -06'00'

Hilary DeShong, Ph.D. (Committee member)

Andrew F. Jarosz Digitally signed by Andrew F. Jarosz
Date: 2024.02.14 15:41:23 -06'00'

Andrew Jarosz, Ph.D. (Committee member)

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Department of Sociology
P.O. Box C
456 Hardy Road/207 Bowen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
P. 662.325.2495
F. 662.325.4564
www.sociology.msstate.edu

March 5, 2024

Dear Members of the UCCC,

The Department of Sociology supports the new Environmental Justice. Linguistics, and Gender Studies concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Sociology's Curriculum Committee and the full faculty have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our course in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice, Linguistics, and Gender Studies may include our course, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Department of Sociology, Criminology and Social Work
Undergraduate Curriculum and Policies Committee

Ashley Vancil-Leap (Committee Chair)

Raymond Barranco

Robert Boyd

Dana Dillard

Aimee Imlay

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

College of Arts & Sciences
Dean's Office

P.O. Drawer AS
175 President Circle, 208 Allen Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.1665
F. 662.325.8740
www.cas.msstate.edu

February 13, 2024

Members of the UCCC:

The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture supports the new Environmental Justice concentration(s) in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Art major, proposed by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture's Curriculum Committee and I have reviewed the proposal and support the utilization of our courses in this project. We understand that the concentration(s) in Environmental Justice may include our courses, and we support the use of our courses in this effort.

Sincerely,

Andy Kouba Digitally signed by Andy Kouba
Date: 2024.02.17 07:04:57 -06'00'

Dr. Andrew Kouba
Department Head