DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018

Dean Randy L. Diehl, in the College of Liberal Arts has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to the *Undergraduate Catalog*, 2016-2018. On August 31, 2015, the Mexican American and Latina/o Studies Faculty Committee approved the proposed changes. On May 25, 2015, the College of Liberal Arts Policy and Curriculum Committee approved them, and on September 21, 2015, the dean and the College of Liberal Arts faculty approved the legislation. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *exclusive* interest to only one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the minor on November 5, 2015, and forwarded the proposal to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by November 18, 2015.

Hillary Hart, Secretary

General Faculty and Faculty Council

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018

Тур		☑ Academic Change☐ Degree Program Change (THECB form required)				
Pro	oposed classification		☐ General	☐ Major		
1.	CONSULT LINDA I DETERMINE IF SA Is this a new degr Does the program	OICKENS, DIRI CS-COC APPR ee program? offer courses that	ECTOR OF ACC	REDITATION AN IRED. Y f campus?	ES, THE COLLEGE MUST ID ASSESSMENT, TO Yes \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \) Yes \(\text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \text{No} \(\text{No}	
2.	EXPLAIN CHANGE TO DEGREE PROGRAM AND GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHANGE: Historically, the Center for Mexican American Studies housed the MAS undergraduate degree program. With the founding of the Department of Mexican American and Latina/o Studies in fall of 2014, all degree programs transferred out of the Center and into the Department. While this has provided a tremendous boost to our institutionalization and visibility, the lack of change in the undergraduate degree program has proved very confusing to students.					
	Thus, for practical reasons, we are petitioning to have the major moved out of the Ethnic Studies Degree category, and into it's own free standing degree in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies. We believe the change will boost our numbers from 42 to 100 majors by fall of 2016.					
	 The reasons for the change are as follows: having the degree program match the department name addressing contemporary trends with millenials in a language that is relevant to contemporary Latina/o populations preventing confusion for students about the role of the department as the degree-granting unit making the degree program more inclusive and broad to attract more majors demonstrating the robust nature of our comparative and transnational approaches to Latina/o populations 					
	With departmentalization, we have already seen the benefits of how such changes impact our success. Having an autonomous freestanding major will only cement these efforts further. Our major numbers have increased from 19 to 45 and we have received several requests for a transcript-Recognized minor. With the change from Mexican American Studies (an ethnic-national designation) to Mexican American and Latina/o Studies (broader, ethnically diverse, relational approach to studying Latina/o populations and a Mexican American majority simultaneously), we will be able to better brand our program as a degree that trains students to become Latina/o serving professionals.					
3.	THIS PROPOSAL I	NVOLVES (Plea	ase check all that	apply)		
		r colleges		oser's college that aken by students in	⊠ Flags	
	Course in the cocurriculum Change in admirequirements (einternal)	ssion	☐ Change in cours an existing prog ☑ Requirements n catalog languag	ram ot explicit in the	Courses that have to be added to the inventory	

department office)

4.	SCOPE	OF PROPOSED	CHANGE
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a.	Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools?	Yes 🗌 No 🖂			
	If yes, then how?				
b.	Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college?	Yes 🛛 No 🗌			
	If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect? Forty-five				
c.	Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from	outside of your college			
	taking <u>classes in your college</u> ?	Yes 🛛 No 🗌			
	If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved. Twenty				
d.	Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from	your college taking			
	courses in other colleges?	Yes 🗌 No 🖂			
	If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved. We	expect an increase of			
enro	olled seats. We average about 120 seats per year from faculty in other departm	ents within COLA and			
the Colleges of Education and Communication					

If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.

How many students do you expect to be impacted? There are no budgetary impacts resulting from this name change. We believe that the degree change will impact students for the better by doubling enrollment levels. Normally, we enroll about 600 seats a year total. Our goal is to get to 1200 seats per year. The change will help us accomplish our goal.

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? No. If yes, explain:

If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? Yes If yes, explain: We are proposing a reduction of hours within the major from 35 to 24 so that our academic program more directly mirrors our peer competitors on campus. The name change better reflects the new direction of the department and the major. It allows us to be more competitive for students with the revised and streamlined major curriculum.

5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date:	August 31, 2015	Approved by:	Mexican American and Latina/o
			Studies Faculty Committee
College approval date:	May 25, 2015	Approved by:	College of Liberal Arts Policy
			and Curriculum Committee
Dean approval date:	September 21, 2015	Approved by:	College of Liberal Arts Faculty

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:

MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

- 1. Mexican American Studies 307, Introduction to Mexican American Cultural Studies; or Mexican American Studies 308, Introduction to Mexican American Policy Studies
- 2. Twenty one semester hours of upper division coursework in Mexican American studies, including Mexican American Studies 350 and either 361 or 362; any upper division Spanish course may be substituted for 350
- 3. Twelve additional semester hours of coursework in Mexican American studies Students must use Spanish to fulfill the foreign language requirement.]

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

24 hours total required; including 15 hours upper-division and 18 hours in residence:

MAS 301, Introduction to Mexican American and Latina/o Studies

Three semester credit hours, chosen from MAS 307, Introduction to Mexican American Cultural Studies, MAS 308, Introduction to Mexican American Policy Studies, or MAS 309, Bilingualism in the Americas

Three semester credit hours, chosen from MAS 361, Mexican American Cultural Studies Seminar, MAS 362, Mexican American Policy Studies Seminar, MAS 363, Sociolinguistics for Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, or MAS 364, Transborder Studies

15 Hours in one of the following tracks, including 12 hours upper division). Course lists are available from the Academic Advisor:

- 1. Cultural Studies
- 2. Policy Studies
- 3. Language and Cognition
- 4. Transborder Studies

Completion of one of the following is required.

- 1. Independent Research
- 2. <u>Internship</u>
- 3. Senior Seminar
- 4. Study Abroad (approved)

Students majoring in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies must achieve, at a minimum, an intermediate level of proficiency in Spanish, Portuguese, or a relevant Indigenous language.