

TO:	Fort Wayne Senate
FROM:	Margit Codispoti, Chair Curriculum Review Subcommittee
DATE:	February 15, 1999
RE:	Women's Studies Certificate Proposal

The Curriculum Review Subcommittee has voted to inform the Senate that the proposed **Certificate in Women's Studies** requires no Senate review.

APPROVE
Codispoti
Hill
Holt
Moore
Murphey
Oberstar
Salmon
Whiteis
Ushenko

DISAPPROVE

ABSENT
Narang (sabbatical)
Mansour-Cole
Newman
Legg

TO: David Legg
Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

FROM: Van Coufoudakis
Dean

DATE: December 9, 1998

RE: Women's Studies Certificate Proposal

The Curriculum Committee of the School of Arts and Sciences has reviewed the proposal for a certificate in Women's Studies and, during the meeting on December 8, 1998, unanimously approved the proposal.

According to the School policy, since this proposal requires neither new resources nor reallocation of existing resources, the action by the Curriculum Committee will be reported *for information* at the next meeting of the A&S Council.

I am forwarding the proposal to you for referral to the Senate Curriculum Review Subcommittee for the initiation of the remaining steps beyond the school level.

I wish to thank Dr. Linda M. Hite who has served as interim director of Women's Studies during the sabbatical leave of the Women's Studies director, Dr. Linda C. Fox. Questions regarding the content of the proposal may be referred to Dr. Hite prior to December 20, 1998, or to Dr. Fox after January 4, 1999.

Enclosure

c: A&S Curriculum Committee members
A&S Presiding Officer
A&S Faculty Secretary
Dr. Linda C. Fox
Dr. Linda M. Hite

Proposal for a Certificate in Women=s Studies

- I. Campus: Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
- II. Proposed program: Certificate in Women=s Studies
- III. Proposed date of implementation: August 1999
- IV. Major objectives of the proposed certificate with description of chief features:

The certificate will provide course work beyond the minor for students not enrolled in the School of Arts and Sciences. A total of 21 credit hours will be required. They are to be allocated as follows:

- 3 credits WOST W210 Introduction to Women=s Studies
- 3 credits WOST W301 International Perspectives on Women
- 3 credits One cross-listed course from the student's department, division, or school to be counted in the student's major as well as in the certificate, or any other WOST-prefixed or cross-listed course

3 credits	WOST prefixed or cross-listed course in science or social science
3 credits	WOST prefixed or cross-listed course in fine arts or humanities
3 credits	WOST prefixed or cross-listed course
3 credits	WOST W400 Topics in Women=s Studies (the capstone course)
21 credits	Completion of the Certificate

V. Why is the certificate needed?

The creation of a certificate in women=s studies was recommended in the 1997 Ad Hoc Committee on Women's Studies report to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. The rationale for that recommendation begins with the hurdles encountered when double majoring across schools within the IPFW structure. Students majoring in programs outside of the School of Arts and Sciences frequently find that meeting the requirements for a double major that includes women's studies is a daunting task because of the number of A&S requirements that must be added to their plans of study. Typically, these students are in programs that offer few cross-listed women=s studies courses (since most WOST cross-listed courses come from Arts & Sciences departments). The result is to limit the number of students who choose the double major option. A WOST minor is available, but some students are interested in accumulating a concentration of course work in women's studies that extends beyond the minor. This certificate program will fill that need.

VI. Describe the student population to be served

This certificate is designed for students majoring in academic programs outside of the School of Arts & Sciences, who are interested in a concentration of course work in women's studies. It also could be of use for individuals who are not currently enrolled as university students, but who want to pursue focused course work in women's studies. The latter population may include community members who wish to augment or update past academic studies in a field that has relevance for the more diverse workforce and society of the future.

VII. How does this certificate complement the campus or departmental mission?

The IPFW Strategic Plan emphasizes student access and success. This certificate is an example of how we can help make this academic program more accessible to students who are interested in women=s studies, but who find the additional requirements of a double major prohibitive. Another segment of the IPFW Strategic Plan addresses becoming more a part of the surrounding community. Community members who are not interested in pursuing a full degree program might choose to earn a certificate in a topic area of interest to complement their previous education.

The certificate complements the Women=s Studies mission, because our focus is on providing course work on women to this campus and this community. The certificate provides another means for prospective students to participate in the program.

VIII. Describe any relationship to existing degree programs within the IU system

The IPFW campus has been in the vanguard of both the Indiana University and the Purdue University systems regarding academic programs in women's studies. The IPFW Women's Studies program is the oldest among public institutions in the state, granting bachelor of arts degrees since 1992. In addition to the bachelor's, we offer an associate

degree and a minor. The Women's Studies program at IPFW is rather unique in that students may earn an Indiana or a Purdue degree. Those who choose a single major in women's studies earn an IU degree; but those who double major, combining women's studies with another field, earn a Purdue or an Indiana degree, depending on the affiliation of the companion major.

Since 1997, IU Bloomington has offered a bachelor's degree in gender studies. That program also offers undergraduate and graduate-level minors. Throughout the remainder of the IU system, options available in women's studies include associate degrees, graduate and undergraduate minors, and a certificate program. The Purdue University West Lafayette campus offers undergraduate and graduate minors focusing on women's studies. Elsewhere within the Purdue system, students may select an associate degree or a minor.

Women's studies certificate programs are not common on other campuses at this point. Currently, IU Southeast offers a certificate (in addition to a minor), but it does not have associate or bachelor's degrees in place. IPFW therefore would be the second program to provide the certificate option; and the first to offer students the widest range of preparation choices: bachelor's and associate degrees, a certificate (for non-A&S students), and a minor. The relative longevity of the IPFW program has provided the perspective and experience to recognize the current needs of our students and to respond by creating the certificate option.

XI. List and indicate the sources (including reallocation) of any new resources (personnel, financial, learning, etc.) required to implement the proposed program.

All support mechanisms for the certificate program are in place. The addition of the certificate simply means that more students will be enrolled in women's studies courses. Certificate-seeking students would be advised by the WOST director, along with students enrolled as WOST majors and minors.

X. Describe any innovative features of the program (e.g. involvement with local or regional agencies, offices, etc./senate-dev, cooperative efforts with other institutions, etc.)

The nature of the women's studies program on the IPFW campus already is the result of multiple cooperative efforts. Since the WOST department has no assigned faculty, all courses are taught by associate faculty from the community and by IPFW faculty members affiliated with other departments on campus. The addition of the certificate means that more students will have access to this interdisciplinary program and to the diverse resources that make up the women's studies faculty ranks.