

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: The Department of American Studies

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Proposed Effective Date: January 1, 2018

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Specifics (see instructions):

CURRENT:

Core Themes (Six upper-level courses, two in each of the core themes listed below, for a total of 18 credits). One 200-level course may be applied to the core themes. One course in the core themes must be a 400-level seminar. Students select two courses exploring each theme from the following lists.

SUGGESTED CHANGE:

Core Themes (Six upper-level courses, two in each of the core themes listed below, for a total of 18 credits). One 200-level course may be applied to the core themes. ~~One course in the core themes must be a 400-level seminar.~~ *All other courses in the core themes should be upper-level (300 or 400)-level courses.* Students select two courses exploring each theme from the following lists.

Removing the requirement: “One course in the core themes must be a 400-level seminar.” Adding “All other courses in the core themes should be upper-level (300 or 400)-level courses.”

Rationale (see instructions):

We are removing the requirement that one course (3 credits) in the AMST core themes (18 credits) must be a 400-level seminar because we are only able to offer one 400-level seminar per semester and have one 400-level seminar in the AMST core and do not find it necessary for students also to take one in the core themes. The requirement of two 400-level seminars (in addition to the AMST 490 capstone) makes it difficult for students to complete the requirement with only two 400-level seminars offered per academic year. We have been allowing exemptions in the degree audit for students and would like to remove the requirement from the AMST core themes requirements.