

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: Critical Sexuality Studies

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Specifics (see instructions):

We propose updated catalogue copy for the Critical Sexuality Studies minor. This text is to appear in the catalogue to serve as a description of the program and its aims.

Current catalogue copy:

Gender + Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary field of inquiry that investigates how gender and sexuality operate as organizing axes of social, cultural, economic and political institutions, as well as in the everyday lives and cultural products of people who must live within them. Emphasizing the importance of historical and cross-cultural perspectives, the Gender and Women's Studies Department at UMBC critically examines the intersections of gender and sexuality with other differences, including, class, race, ethnicity, nationality, age, and ability to make visible structures of power that otherwise remain hidden.

Gender + Women's Studies offers a major, undergraduate certificate, and two minors, Gender + Women's Studies and Critical Sexuality Studies.

To complete the Critical Sexuality Studies minor, students must complete 18 credits of gender and women's studies coursework as follows:

Proposed catalogue copy:

This interdisciplinary minor is designed for students in any major who also want a concentration in the study of sexuality. The minor investigates the historical, political, and social life of sexuality both transhistorically and transnationally. Special attention is paid to how sexuality intersects with other differences, including gender, race, class, religion, nation, disability, and age, and how power, resistance, and life chances are differentially distributed at these intersections.

The minor provides a good foundation of critical reading, writing, and thinking skills that prepare students for work or graduate school in a variety of fields, including psychology, law, social work, medicine, nonprofit management, human resources, and more. To earn the minor, students must complete 18 credits of coursework offered by the Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, including three core courses and three courses from approved electives. All courses in the CSST minor must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Rationale (see instructions):

The current copy included alongside the CSST minor in the catalogue, added without department review, is a general description of the Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies department. By making the CSST catalogue copy specific to the program, we are best utilizing the updated catalogue display and ensuring that students are receiving accurate information about the minor and the minor's aims.