




November 3, 2017

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Tim Paine, Chair 
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Proposed Gender Studies Breadth Requirement

The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the proposal for a Gender Studies Breadth proposal and noted several concerns.

The Committee noted concern that the list of courses that were included in the proposal as options for the breadth included a large amount of upper division courses, which could potentially be problematic if the courses require prerequisites. Approximately 89% of the course options required students to have prerequisites, upper division standing, or both to enroll. The Committee commented that the inclusion of prerequisites could potentially extend time to graduation for students, especially those with majors not in CHASS.

Additionally, a majority of the Committee noted concern that a course that counts towards both the Ethnic Studies breadth requirement and proposed Gender Studies breadth requirement would only count for one of the requirements. With only a single exception, the Committee recommends that if students elect to take a course that satisfies both breadth requirements that they should also get credit for the two requirements. This action would remove additional burden from student's course loads and also shorten time to graduation.

The Committee also noted that the proposal did not include discipline authority for the requirement or establish if the Gender and Sexuality Studies department will have oversight over the courses to fulfill the requirement unlike the requirement for the Ethnic Studies breadth, which directs the Department of Ethnic Studies to provide courses for the requirement.