




October 26, 2017

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Wee Liang Gan, Chair 
Committee on Courses

Re: Proposed Gender Studies Breadth Requirement

The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposal for a Gender Studies Breadth Requirement at their October 12, 2017 and October 26, 2017 meetings and were supportive of the proposal but had several concerns with the proposed list of courses to fulfill the requirement. The Committee recommends that a course(s) from CNAS and or BCOE be included in the list of courses to fulfill the proposed breadth so that courses are available from a broad range of disciplines. The Committee also noted significant concern that the majority of the proposed courses to fulfill the breadth requirement are upper division courses, which could potentially require the need for prerequisites. This could be potentially problematic for students from CNAS and BCOE as they would be limited to a smaller option of courses. The Committee recommends that the list of courses be broadened to include more lower division options and to add clarification as to if the upper division courses have prerequisites.

Additionally, the Committee noted concern that the proposal did not include consideration of the resources needed to implement the breadth requirement. The Committee commented that given the new budget model, in which seats filled is one relevant metric, the exact resource implications of mounting some 5,000 seats a year for the Gender Studies breadth requirement are unclear. As a result departments and colleges might avoid, or also rush to offer courses fulfilling the requirement. The Committee recommends that the proposal be updated to clarify this aspect.