

**Notice of Change for
Date: June 30, 2015**

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Name of institution

University of Rhode Island

2. Name of department, division, school or college

Department: Schmidt Labor Research Center

College: Continuing Education

3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.

Initiation date: Spring 2016

First degree date: 2018 (estimate)

4. Intended location of the program

Schmidt Labor Research Center, Hart House, 36 Upper College Road

5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).

URI's Minor in *Work, Labor, and Social Justice* is administered through the Schmidt Labor Research Center (SLRC). The minor aims to expand awareness of current issues facing work organizations and working people, and offer students an integrated 21st century understanding of employment and labor. The minor also addresses how work impacts inequalities in global, complex societies. The emphasis is on understanding the tripartite interdependence of government, work organizations, and labor (working individuals and families). The minor combines academic study with internship experiences to prepare students for a variety of relevant careers and/or graduate study in public policy, business, labor, and NGOs. The minor particularly complements majors in the social sciences and business, and is available to all students seeking a broad perspective on how work as a social institution impacts individuals, other social institutions such as families and politics, and societies.

The definition of work and how work is, and might be, organized in the 21st century are urgent topics that affect myriad issues of sustainability and social justice. Moreover, the definition and organization of work are key factors in the creation and maintenance of individual and global inequalities. As economies continue to supersede national borders, informed discourse about how to organize work to be compatible with democracies, the tension between workers' rights and corporate survival, the limits and promise of corporate citizenship, and debates about social welfare policies, is essential knowledge to offer students as citizens in a democracy. Moreover, as 21st century workers, the opportunity for students to know more about how to better align today's diverse workforce with the promise of

information technology and new workplace practices can help them design solutions that create more potential for economic opportunity and social equality.

Courses that address these issues are distributed throughout the curriculum, and like the original minor in *Labor and Employment Relations*, this interdisciplinary minor brings such courses together so that students can pursue holistic intellectual discourse by making connections between these topics from different disciplinary perspectives. The wide choice of courses available in this minor will allow students to tailor the minor to coordinate with their other academic pursuits. The broad interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum that spans 3 colleges (CAS, ASF-CCE, HHS) provides an example of the Provost's *academic priority of enhancing interdisciplinary learning and discovery*: <http://web.uri.edu/provost/>.

Students who are presently enrolled in the existing Labor Studies minor will be able to transition into the new minor with no disruption of their academic progress.

The advisor for the minor will create and administer a Sakai site for WLSJ Minors. This Sakai site will provide an information conduit as well as allow students to use Sakai drop boxes to store their *Minor Curriculum Plan* (attached) and their *Learning Objectives* statement (attached), as well as the syllabi and assignments from courses in their Minor curriculum. The accumulation of course information will be used in the Minor's capstone course, which will include a portfolio project.

The attached documents include:

1. a list of courses included in the proposed Minor
2. letters of support from departments included in the Minor
3. Learning Objectives and Curriculum Planning forms that students will be required to complete,
4. FAQ information sheet that describes the requirements for students in the minor.

If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog language changes that relate to your request.

Existing URI Catalog Language:

Labor Studies

The labor studies minor is available to students interested in employment issues and the problems faced by working people in the United States and abroad. Students declaring this minor are required to complete 18 credits including LRS 480, Seminar in Labor Studies. The remaining 15 credits can be selected from HIS 349; BUS 344, 444; SOC 241, 336, 320, 350, and 432; PSC 369, 472, and 498; ECN 338, 368, 381, and 386; and COM 460 or other courses approved in consultation

with Schmidt Labor Research Center faculty. The labor studies minor is administered by the Schmidt Labor Research Center. Information can be obtained from Professor Richard Scholl in the center, Hart House, 36 Upper College Road, 401.874.2239.

Proposed URI Catalog Language:

Work, Labor, and Social Justice

The Work, Labor, and Social Justice Minor aims to expand awareness of current issues facing work organizations and working people, and offer students an integrated 21st century understanding of employment and labor. The minor also addresses how work impacts inequalities in global, complex societies. Students declaring this minor are required to complete 18 credits including LRS 480. In addition, at least one internship course is strongly recommended. The remaining credits can be selected from APG 310, APG 319, APG 328, APG/MAF 413, COM 422, ECN 305, 363, 368, 381, ECN/GWS 386, HDF 225, HDF 414, HDF 430, HDF 434, HDF/SOC 437, HIS 339, 346, 349, JOR 210, 310, 311, 410, PSC 113, 402, 403, 466 (AAF 466), 472, SOC 212, 240 (AAF 240), 242, 320, 336 (AAF 336), 350, 428 (AAF 428), 432 (LRS 432), 497, or other courses approved in consultation with Schmidt Labor Research Center faculty. Information can be obtained from Professor Helen Mederer in the SLRC, Hart House, 36 Upper College Road, 401.874-4144.

6. Signature of the President

David M. Dooley



December 3, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Dean Lori Ciccomascolo, this is to confirm that the College of Continuing Education has approved the proposed changes to the minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Quina, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Feinstein College of Continuing Education



MEMO:

TO: CAC

FROM: Deborah Rosen
Associate Dean

RE: Labor Relations Minor

DATE: December 2, 2015

The College of Business Administration acknowledges that the proposed changes to the Labor Relations minor (to be called Work, Labor, and Social Justice) include deleting BUS 344 and BUS 444 which are no longer offered.

M E M O

TO: Curricular Affairs Committee

FROM: Helen Mederer

RE: Notice of Change for Labor Relations Minor; specifically, deletion of BUS courses

Thank you for the feedback on the proposed revision of this minor.

Our initial draft of the Notice of Change had modified the BUS courses presently included in the Labor Relations minor (BUS 344 and BUS 444) because they no longer were taught, or were taught irregularly. Instead we had proposed several other courses, and approached CBA for approval. However, at the time we were crafting the revision, there was an Interim Dean in BUS. Given the College of Business' impacted status, she and the Associate Dean were reluctant to commit their courses to the new minor, and preferred to wait until the new Dean arrived.

We considered holding off this proposal to allow Dean Ebrahimpour time to arrive and settle in, and then ask him to consider including the proposed BUS courses. However, we wanted to launch the minor in time to gain some momentum surrounding next year's Honors Colloquium, *Inequality and the American Dream*.

It also should be noted that if students in this minor desire to have a BUS course included, they can propose this modification with an adequate rationale. Such ability to modify their minor program of study already is included in the proposal.

In the future, it is our intention to approach the College of Business Administration and request including at least BUS 345 *Business in Society* in the minor. This change would create a 4 - college minor, further enhancing its interdisciplinary reach.

At this time, however, CBA has provided the attached email, indicating that they are aware that the new proposed minor no longer includes BUS courses.

Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice
Proposed Courses

APG 310 Topics in Anthropology: Latinos in the U.S. (3 crs)

Analytical study of selected topics in anthropology. Subjects will vary according to the expertise and availability of instructors.

(Lec. 3) Pre: one anthropology course or permission of instructor. May be repeated with different topic. (NOTE: counts toward minor only when the course is taught with the above title)

APG 319 Cultural Behavior and Environment (3 crs.)

Cultural adaptations made by traditional and industrial societies to natural and human environments using examples from prehistory and ethnography.

(Lec. 3)

APG 328 Gender and Culture (3 crs.)

Analytical study of gender in a cross-cultural context, discussion of the possible origins of gender and subsistence modes, and an examination of societies with flexible or unusual gender systems.

(Lec. 3) Pre: one APG course or permission of instructor.

APG 413 Peoples of the Sea (3 crs.) Cross-listed as MAF 413.

Examination of human sociocultural adaptation to the seas.

(Lec. 3) Pre: APG 203 or MAF 100 or graduate status. Open only to juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

COM 422 Communication and Conflict Intervention (3 crs.) (replaces 460)

An examination of the role of communication theories in conflict intervention in interpersonal, group, and organizational settings. Emphasis on applying theories through simulations, role plays, case studies, and discussions.

(Lec. 3) Pre: COM 221 or COM 251 and junior standing in a degree-granting college or permission of instructor

ECN 305 Competing Traditions in Economics (3)

Introductory exposure to the history of economic thought and also to competing schools of thought within modern economics. Connections between present-day controversies and competing traditions are explored.

Pre: 201, 202. May be taken concurrently with 202.

ECN 363 Economic Growth and Development (3 crs.) (replaces 386)

Basic problems in economic growth and development of so-called backward or preindustrial countries. Emphasis on population trends, agrarian reforms, capital formation, international aid programs, respective roles of private and public enterprise.

(Lec. 3) Pre: ECN 201 or 202 or permission of instructor.

ECN 368 Labor Economics (3 crs.)

Impact of industrialization on workers; survey of the basic principles of labor market organization and operation; unemployment and remedies; wage determination under union and nonunion conditions.

(Lec. 3) Pre: ECN 201 and 202

ECN 381 Radical Critiques of Contemporary Political Economy (3 crs.)

Radical right and radical left critiques. Radical views on values, methodology, production planning, income distribution, economic power, the military-industrial complex, imperialism, and racial and sexual discrimination.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 202 or permission of instructor. (S) [D]

ECN/GWS 386 The Economics of Race, Gender, and Class (3 crs.)

An economic examination of the historical interrelations of race, class, and gender issues.

(Lec. 3) Pre: ECN 100 or 201 or permission of instructor.

HDF 225 Consumer In The Economy (3crs.)

Application of basic economic principles to consumer problems in a complex marketplace, buyer-seller relationships, effective consumer decision making, effects of government policies on consumers.

(Lec.3/Online) (S)

HDF 414 Leadership for Activism and Social Change (3 crs.)

Explores issues related to social change, power and privilege, coalition building, non-violence, civic engagement and activist movements. Elective for leadership minors.

(Lec. 3) Pre: permission of instructor and HDF 190 or HDF 290.

HDF 430 Family Interaction (3 crs.)

Interdisciplinary approach to the dynamics of intrafamily relationships, interactions of family units and family members within the sociocultural environment.

Implications for social policy.

(Lec. 3) Pre: HDF 202 and 230.

HDF 434 Children and Families in Poverty (3 crs.)

Interdisciplinary approach to understanding the effects of poverty with attention to cultural, political and policy issues and implications.

(Lec. 3) Service learning. Pre: senior standing in the major or permission of instructor and HDF 202.

HDF 437 Law and Families in the United States (3 crs.)

Cross-listed as SOC 437. Seminar to investigate family roles, relationships, rights, and responsibilities as defined by the law. Emphasis on explicit and implicit family policy revealed in the various branches of law.

(Seminar) Pre: HDF 200 and 230 or SOC 212.

HIS 339 Emergence of Industrial America: 1877-1914 (3 crs.)

Growth and consolidation of business, urbanization, and the Populist and Progressive movements. America's emergence as a world power.

(Lec. 3) Pre: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor

HIS 346 Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race in America (3 crs.)

History of immigration to the U.S. from the colonial period to the present, with emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries. Compares different waves, explores shifting attitudes toward immigrants, and discusses how race and ethnicity shaped immigrants' experiences.

(Lec. 3) Pre: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor. (L) [D]

HIS 349 History of American Labor (3 crs.)

Changes in work, lifestyle, and political consciousness of American workers in the 19th and 20th centuries; conflicts between labor and capital, and relationship to emergence of labor movements.

(Lec. 3) Pre: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor.

JOR 210 History of American Journalism (3 crs.)

Development of American newspapers, magazines, and broadcast industry with analysis of the ideas that have changed American journalism. Exploration of the journalist's experience at periods in American history; the effects of economic and social changes on the press.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 110 or 115 or permission of instructor. In alternate years.

JOR 310 Media Law for Journalists (3crs.)

Role of government and the law in the communication of news, including basic laws affecting freedom of the press, journalists' privileges and responsibilities, privacy, broadcasting, and advertising. Case studies.

(Lec. 3) Pre: junior standing and 110 or 115 and one 300-level journalism skills course or permission of instructor.

JOR 311 Journalism Criticism (3 crs.)

Examines news media performance in the United States by studying the works of media critics, both historical and contemporary. Practice in media monitoring and writing media criticism.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 110 or 115 or permission of instructor.

JOR 410 Ethics in Journalism (3 crs.)

Critical analysis of current issues affecting journalists and society in general, based on readings, videotapes, case studies, and discussion. Emphasis on ethics and decision making.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 110 or 115 and senior standing or permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

LRS 480 Seminar In Labor Studies (3 crs.) Cross-listed as ECN 480.

Intensive studies examining various important topics in labor studies. Class discussion of assigned readings and student reports.

(Lec. 3) Pre: permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

PSC 113 Introduction to American Politics (4 crs.)

Basic principles of the government of the United States: constitutionalism, separation of powers, federalism, civil liberties; politics; legislative, executive, and judicial organization; functions of government.

(Lec. 3, Rec. 1) (S) [D]

PSC 402 Environmental Policy and Politics (4 crs.)

Seminar in the politics and public policy associated with environmental pollution.

(Lec. 3, Project 3) Pre: 113 or 210 and junior or senior standing. Not for graduate credit.

PSC 403 Global Ecopolitics (4 crs.)

Seminar focuses on the international politics of global pollution, marine pollution, atmospheric pollution, tropical deforestation, and conservation.

(Lec. 3, Project 3) Pre: 212 or 310. Not for graduate credit.

PSC 466 (or AAF 466) Urban Problems (3 crs.)

Contemporary and emerging problems of urban affairs. Discussion, reading, and assignments on the interaction among urban change, development of social institutions, and formation of public policy.

(Lec. 3/Online) Pre: 113 or 210.

PSC 472 Civil Liberties (4 crs.)

The problem of human freedom examined in the context of the fundamental rights guaranteed to individuals by the American Constitution. Emphasis on religious liberty, freedom of expression, racial equality, fair criminal procedures, and the protection of personality and privacy.

(Lec. 3, Project 3) Pre: 371 or permission of instructor. Not for graduate credit.

SOC 212: Families in Society

Examines the role of families in maintaining and changing society. Emphasis on demographic and historical changes in family life, the diversity of family structures, and connections between the family and the political economy.

(Lec. 3/Online) (S) [D]

SOC 240 (or AAF 240) Race and Ethnic Relations (3 crs.)

Relations among the various ethnic, religious, racial, and political minorities and majorities, with special reference to the United States.

(Lec. 3) (S) [D]

SOC 242 Sex and Gender (3 crs.)

Current research exploring issues of sex and gender. Socialization, gender role playing, and personal relationships. Institutional costs of sexism. Prospects for human liberation.

(Lec. 3/Online) (S) [D]

SOC 320 Organizations (3 crs.)

Explores both formal and informal aspects of organizations from a sociological perspective. Topics include bureaucracy and its consequences; post-bureaucratic and postmodern forms of organization; modern and contemporary theories of organizing and organizations.

(Lec. 3) Pre: one 100- or 200-level sociology course. Offered in the spring of even-numbered years.

SOC 336 (or AAF 336) Social Inequality (3 crs.)

Dimensions and dynamics of inequality in society; concepts of class and status; processes of social mobility.

(Lec. 3) Pre: one 100- or 200-level sociology course.

SOC 350 Work and Family Life (3 crs.)

Linkages between economic and family institutions. Effects of work on family and of family on work. Historical development of the linkages. Contemporary effects due to men's decreasing and women's increasing labor force participation.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 100 or 212 or HDF 230.

SOC 428 (or AAF 428) Institutional Racism (3 crs.)

Consideration of varying models of race and ethnic relations; examination of recent research on issues such as residential segregation, school desegregation, affirmative action, and racial disorders; comparisons of United States with other societies.

(Seminar 3) Pre: one 300-level sociology course or permission of instructor. In alternate years.

SOC 432 (or LRS 432) Work, Employment, and Society (3 crs.)

Explores the workplace and employment relations from a sociological perspective. Topics include work systems, worker alienation and organization, occupational identity, and the impacts of immigration, feminization, and globalization on the workplace.

(Lec. 3) Pre: 100 or permission of the instructor. Offered in the spring of odd-numbered years.

SOC 497 Field Experience in Sociology (3-6 crs)

Field experience in an approved government agency or nonprofit organization; practice in applying sociological concepts and methods to the analysis of problems faced by the agency and/or its clients, exploration of career opportunities

(Practicum 3 - 6) Pre: junior or senior standing and 6 credits in sociology beyond SOC 100, or permission of instructor)

DRAFT

Work, Labor, and Social Justice (WLSJ) Minor requirements

How do I enroll in the WLSJ Minor?

- Meet with Professor Mederer to create a *Curriculum Plan and Learning Objectives* statement.
 - You can reach her at 874-4144; hmederer@uri.edu.

What is a *Curriculum Plan* and what is a *Learning Objectives* statement?

- A *Curriculum Plan* is a list of six courses in the Minor that you plan to take. We will create an initial plan that lists at least 6 courses that you plan to take to complete the minor. Although the minor requires only 18 credits (typically 6 courses), we will include some alternative courses in your plan to give you some flexibility.
 - Make sure to check to see what prerequisites (if any) are attached to your chosen courses, and make a plan for taking the prerequisite courses.
 - You can change your curriculum plan with approval from Professor Mederer
- A *Learning Objectives* statement is a reflective statement of what knowledge and skills you hope to acquire through the Minor. It will offer you the opportunity to reflect on how you hope to use the knowledge and skills, and also how your chosen courses should fit with your interests within the minor. The *Learning Objectives* form is in our Sakai site.

What else do I have to do?

- Meet with Professor Mederer at least once a year for advising;
- Regularly check and *maintain* your Sakai WLSJ Sakai site.
 - *Check:*
 - Relevant news and deadlines, information about internships and other opportunities will be regularly posted.
 - *Maintain:*
 - You need to create folders in your drop box for your Learning Objectives Statement and Curriculum Plan, and for each course in your Minor.
 - You'll need to fill the folders in your drop box by uploading your Learning Objective Statement and Curriculum Plan, and syllabi, assignments, and relevant information from your Minor courses.
 - You will need this course information to successfully complete the Minor's capstone course (LRS 480).

Work, Labor, and Social Justice Minor

Learning Objectives Statement

NAME _____

EXPECTED GRADUATION YEAR _____

MAJOR(S) _____

OTHER MINORS _____

Please answer the following questions.

1. Why are you choosing this minor?

2. What knowledge do you hope to gain?

3. What skills do you hope to gain?

4. How might you use the knowledge and skills in your work life?

**Work, Labor, and Social Justice Minor
CURRICULUM PLANNING SHEET**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Look over the available list of courses, and choose at least 6 courses that fit your learning objectives. Look to see what prerequisites are required for each course, and include in your plan when you will take the prerequisites.

Choose several courses as alternatives.

COURSES	PREREQUISITE? (will you have the prerequisite?)	PLANNED SEMESTER
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

ALTERNATIVE COURSES

Plan approval

Student signature date

Advisor signature date

You will need 6 courses total for your Minor. An internship course (e.g. LRS XXX, HDF 414, SOC 497, or another internship course) is recommended but not required.

letter of support requested for new Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice

Kevin McClure <krmcclure@uri.edu>
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>

Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 10:38 AM

Hi Helen: I write to confirm my support for the proposed revisions to the Labor Research Center's minor in Work, Labor and Social Justice. I am fully supportive of the use of Com 422 in the minor in place of Com 460.

Regards,
Kevin

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Dr. Kevin R. McClure, Ph. D.
Professor & Chair
Dept. of Communication Studies
Harrington School of Communication
and Media
202 Davis Hall
10 Lippitt Road
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

Spring 2015 Office Hours: 10:00-12:00 MWF
and by appointment
Office Phone: (401) 874-4726
Fax: (401) 874-4722
Email: krmcclure@uri.edu

revised Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice

Richard McIntyre <mcintyre@uri.edu>
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>

Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 1:35 PM

Looks good from Economics view point. We are hiring a tenure track person this year who will be offering Ecn 386 on a regular basis. Not sure why this listing was changed to GWS 386 but no matter. Inclusion of Ecn 363 a good idea as Bret does stuff on the ILO's Decent Work program.

r

Richard McIntyre
Professor, Chair, Department of Economics
University of Rhode Island
807 Chafee Social Science Center
[401-874-4126](tel:401-874-4126)

[Quoted text hidden]

Sept 9, 2015

Dr. Mederer,

Thank you for requesting the inclusion of HDF 414 in the proposed minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice. Upon reviewing the scope of the program with feedback from Dr. McCurdy, I believe that this course, as well as others offered as a part of the existing minor in Leadership Studies including both HDF 290: Modern Leadership Issues and HDF 412: Historic, Alternative and Multi-Ethnic Approaches to Leadership, could serve as listed complimentary course offerings within your program.

I believe that the potential cross-listing of these courses would provide a rich selection of learning opportunities for interested students in both fields of study. As the person responsible for coordinating the noted courses within the Leadership Studies minor, I am more than willing to assist in developing a coordinated response to student advising or enrollment issues as the program moves closer to implementation.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional support regarding this effort in the future.

Respectfully,

Melissa A. Boyd-Colvin

HDF participation in minor

Karen Mccurdy <kmccurdy@uri.edu>
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>
Cc: Melissa Boyd-Colvin <mboyd@uri.edu>

Wed, Sep 2, 2015 at 2:30 PM

Hi Helen,

The HDF department approved participation in the proposed Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice for the following classes: HDF 225, HDF 430, HDF 434 and HDF 437. HDF 414 still needs approval from Melissa Boyd-Colvin, just to ensure that space is available and that students can take it without have taken the pre-req.

Please let us know when it is approved so we can inform our HDF students.

Thanks,

Karen

--

Karen McCurdy
Professor & Chair
Human Development & Family Studies
University of Rhode Island
2 Lower College, Room 112
Kingston RI 02881
kmccurdy@uri.edu

COMPOSE

Inbox

Starred

Sent Mail

Drafts

Notes

SOC 100

Tufts

More

Including HIS 346 in the LRS minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice

Inbox x



Evelyn Sterne <sterne@uri.edu>

4:56 PM (19 hours ago) ☆

to me

Dear Helen,

I'm writing to let you know I'd be happy to have HIS 346 (Immigration, Ethnicity and Race in American History) included in the LRS minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice. This course would fit well into the minor as we devote significant attention to immigrants in their capacities as workers and seekers of social justice; in fact these are central themes of the course.

I don't anticipate any problem finding spots for students in the minor in this class, which will be offered in Spring '16 and again every couple of years. There are enough courses in the minor to spread the demand around, and although this is a popular course I'm always able to accommodate any students who are interested.

I'll be happy to work closely with you to address any issues that arise. Thank you for including the course in the proposed minor, which I look forward to being a part of.

Best wishes,

Eve Sterne



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revised Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice

Timothy S. George <tgeorge@uri.edu>
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>

Fri, Aug 21, 2015 at 6:08 PM

Dear Helen,

I'd like to confirm that everyone in History with whom I have been able to make contact enthusiastically supports this.

You might wish to contact Eve Stern for information about her immigration course, HIS 346, since she says that class and work are central themes.

Best,

Tim

From: "Timothy S. George" <tgeorge@uri.edu>
Subject: Re: revised Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice
Date: August 18, 2015 at 5:05:56 PM EDT
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>

Dear Helen,

Bravo for this proposal! I fully agree to include the two History courses you have listed.

Best,

Tim

On Aug 11, 2015, at 12:51 PM, Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu> wrote:
Hello,

The Schmidt Labor Research Center (SLRC) is revising its minor in Labor and Employment Relations (LER) to reflect an expanded 21st century focus on work and labor. The proposed working description of the minor is included in the attached CAC proposal.

Also attached is a list of proposed courses to be included in the revised minor.

We are proposing including several courses from your department. In many cases, these courses are the same or similar courses to the courses in your discipline that are presently included in the LER minor. We've gone through the URI Catalog to delete LER courses that are no longer taught, and to add existing courses that fit within the new Minor framework. We've also added some 200-level courses to ensure that students can complete some of the minor using prerequisites for other upper-division courses that are included in the minor.

Of course, this revision is coming during the launching of the new general education program; undoubtedly, I'll be revising the courses as new curricula develop.

As this new minor gets underway, I'll be devoting time to working individually with students and with you to ensure a sensible launch. I am very open to your suggestions.

Please look through this proposal for the revised minor, including the courses in your discipline that are included in the draft. In order to submit to the CAC, I need your approval for including the courses in your department.

Can you please respond to hmederer@uri.edu, with questions, concerns, suggestions, etc.? **If you agree to include the courses in your department, please also email me with your approval.** Your email will be part of the package that goes to the CAC.

Because of the impending rush of activity with Gen Ed proposals, I'm aiming to submit this paperwork before the end of August.

Best wishes,

Helen

Timothy S. George
Professor and Chair, Department of History
University of Rhode Island
113 Washburn Hall
80 Upper College Road
Kingston, RI 02881-0817 USA
Tel. +1-401-874-4091
Fax +1-401-874-2595
tgeorge@uri.edu



August 25, 2015

Helen Mederer
Professor of Sociology and Labor Research
Schmidt Labor Research Center
36 Upper College Road
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

Dear Helen,

This letter acknowledges that the faculty of the Department of Journalism have agreed to include the four courses listed in your proposal as electives for students minoring in Work, Labor and Social Justice. We believe the courses included in the proposal all have efficacy for students minoring in that discipline, and we would welcome having them in the courses.

After reviewing the proposal, we determined that in most semesters the department would be able to accommodate some Work, Labor and Social Justice minors in Jor 210, 310, 311 and 410. We should note that Jor 210 and 311 are most often offered once every three semesters as part of our major elective offerings. Jor 310 is always offered in the fall semester, and 410 is always offered in the spring semester. Both of those courses are required for Journalism majors.

Our faculty are willing to work with you to make sure that the offerings make sense for your minors should we notice any problems.

Sincerely,
John Pantalone
Chair
Department of Journalism



25 August 2015

Curricular Committee,

This is my letter of support for the inclusion of the below PSC courses in the new Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice.

PSC 113

PSC 402

PSC 403

PSC 472

Sincerely,
Brian Krueger
Chair, Political Science

revised Minor in Work, Labor, and Social Justice

Kristine Bovy <kbovy@uri.edu>
To: Helen Mederer <hmederer@uri.edu>

Fri, Aug 21, 2015 at 11:14 AM

Dear Helen,

The Department of Sociology & Anthropology is happy to lend our support to the revised *Work, Labor, and Social Justice minor*.

Best,

Kris Bovy
Acting Chair, Department of Sociology & Anthropology

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Kristine M. Bovy, PhD
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology
University of Rhode Island
Chafee Bldg. 507
Kingston, RI 02881
[401-874-4143](tel:401-874-4143)