

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-010-223

New Minor in Sustainability Education

Academic Programs Committee

Date: 10/11/2023

**Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded**

Date: 10/11/2023

Academic Senate

Date: 10/18/2023

First Reading

Date: 11/08/2023

Second Reading

BACKGROUND:

On the landing page of the website for the Office of Sustainability at CPP it states, “We, as a University, seek to become leaders in sustainability and engage the Cal Poly Pomona community to look at the interconnectedness of what we do and how it fits into the global challenges that exist.” Yet our university currently offers little programming in the area of environmental/sustainability education. This proposed minor seeks to fill this gap by offering a distinct pathway for students with interests in elementary/secondary education, outdoor education, informal education (e.g., aquariums, museums, zoos, and botanic gardens), the non-profit educational sector, and related careers.

The proposed Minor in Sustainability Education from the Liberal Studies Department is open to all undergraduates in any major at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The minor program will provide students with a strong foundation in 1) sustainability perspectives across the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences; and 2) critical, equity, and justice-oriented approaches to education.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

Department Chairs, all colleges

Associate Deans, all colleges

Dr. Christina Chávez-Reyes, Chair of Liberal Studies Department

Dr. Jocelyn Pacleb, Chair of Ethnic and Women’s Studies Department

Dr. Erin Questad, Chair of Biological Sciences Department

Dr. Jonathan Nourse, Chair of Geological Sciences Department

Dr. Alex Small, Chair of Physics and Astronomy Department

Dr. Kent Dixon, Chair of English and Modern Languages Department

Dr. Bernardo Solano, Chair of Theatre and New Dance Department

Dr. Kelly Huh, Department Chair of Geography and Anthropology

Dr. Daniel Lewis, Chair of History Department

DISCUSSION and RECOMMENDATION:

The Liberal Studies department proposed this new Sustainability Education minor. The minor is 27 units with 12 units of core courses and 15 units of elective courses. The core courses were selected to provide students with interdisciplinary perspectives on sustainability. Students will then choose a suite of elective courses from three areas: (1) education, (2) scientific perspectives on sustainability, and (3) cultural and social perspectives on sustainability. These electives were chosen to strengthen students’ knowledge of education, teaching, and sustainability by incorporating multiple disciplines. Thus, CPP students who pursue formal, informal, or nonformal education as a career will be prepared to serve California’s diverse learners and communities, particularly those that have been historically marginalized in conversations about sustainability (e.g., AAPI, Black, Indigenous, Latino/Latina/Latinx, disabled, queer, and women-identifying).

All department chairs and associate deans were consulted. Further, consultation requests were sent to chairs of Liberal Studies, English and Modern Languages, Ethnic and Women's Studies, Biological Sciences, Theatre and New Dance, Geological Sciences, Geography and Anthropology, History, and Physics and Astronomy, because these departments offer courses that would be included in the minor. During consultation, the AP committee received several comments from numerous departments. No objections to the minor were received.

Several departments within the College of Agriculture responded to the consultation including Apparel and Merchandising Management, Plant Sciences, Agricultural Business Management, and Nutrition and Food Science. All departments were very supportive of the minor and requested the addition of more of their own courses listed as electives within the minor. After reviewing all requests for additional courses, the Liberal Studies department finalized a list of courses in September 2023. This list is appended below.

The Academic Programs Committee recommends approval of the Minor in Sustainability Education.

Appendix: Finalized curriculum for the Sustainability Education Minor.

**Sustainability Education Minor (27 units)
Final Course List (September 2023)**

Core Courses (12 units)

BIO 3040: Environment and Society (3) (B5)
IGE 3200: Visions of Science and Technology (C3)
LS 3042S: Equity Issues in K-9 Environmental and Science Education (3)
LS 4601S: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Contemporary Public Education (3)

Electives

Education (Choose 3 units total)

ENG 4220: Sociolinguistics (D4)
EWS 3600: Cultures of Childhood (major course, prereq junior or senior standing)
EWS 3850: Education and Social Change (major course, prereq junior or senior standing)
LS 4211: Integrated Arts (3)
TH 4230: Integrated Arts (3)
TH 4250S/A: Community Based Theatre (2) + Activity (1) (D4)

Scientific Perspectives on Sustainability (Choose 6 units total)

AMM 2150/A: Sustainable Fashion
BIO 2120: Life Science for Elementary Educators (2) (B2) + Lab (1) (B3)
BIO 3120: Biodiversity Conservation (3) (B5)
BIO 3130: Marine Biology (3) (B5)
BIO 4190S/AS: Interpretation of Science Service Learning (1) + Activity (2)
GEO 3030: Climatology (B5)

GEO 3070/L: Climate Change (2) + Lab (1)
GEO 4100/L Remote Sensing of the Environment (2) + Lab (1)
GEO 4450/L Environmental Modeling with GIS (2) + Lab (1)
GSC 1010/A: Planet Earth: A Citizen's Guide (3) (E)
GSC 1100 Water in a Changing World (3) (B1)
GSC 21201/L: Earth Science for Elementary Educators (2) (B1) + Lab (1) (B3)
GEO 3030: Climatology (3) (B5)
GSC 3200: Studies of a Blue Planet (3) (B5)
GSC 3350: Exploring Earth's Oceans: Oceanography (3) (B5)
GSC 3500: Natural Disasters (3) (B5)
PHYS 2120/L: Physical Science for Elementary Educators (2) (B1) + Lab (1) (B3)
PHY 3010: Energy and Society (3) (B1)
PLT 3760: Urban and Community Agriculture (3) (GE area B5)
PLT 3650/L: Sustainable Agriculture (2/1)
PLT 4965/L: Small-Scale Sustainable Farming (2/1)
RS 3010: Life Support Processes (3) (B5)

Cultural and Social Perspectives on Sustainability (Choose 6 units total; 3 units must be upper division)

AG 2010: Global Resources for Food (3) (D3)
ANT 3500: Environment, Technology, and Culture (3) (D4 or B5)
AMM 1250/EWS 1250: Race, Ethnicity, and the American Consumer (F)
AMM 1090: Race and Ethnicity in Fashion (3) (F)
AG 2050/EWS 2050: Race, Ethnicity, and Food Justice (F)
NTR 2180/EWS 2180: Ethnic Studies of Food, Nutrition, and Health Disparities (F)
EWS 2250: The Japanese American Experience and the California Landscape (F)
EWS 4010: Contemporary African American Studies (3) (D4)
EWS 4020: Contemporary Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies (3) (D4)
EWS 4030: Contemporary Native American Studies (3) (D4)
EWS 4040: Contemporary Asian Pacific Islander American Studies (3) (D4)
EWS 4250: Gender, Identity and Technology (3) (D4)
GEO 3300/L: Environmental Geography (2) + Lab (1)
HST 3306: Modern India (C3 or D4)
HST 3391/S: Introduction to Public History (3) (C2)
HST 4230: Modern Science in World History (3) (C3 or D4)
HST 4408: History of American Science and Technology (C3 or D4)
HST 4435: Environmental History
PLT 4975/L: Urban Agriculture Policy and Community Development
PLT 4985: Urban Agriculture Business Models
RS 3030: Organization for Regenerative Practices (3) (C3 or D4)
RS 4500: Sustainable Communities (3) (C3 or D4)
RS 4500: Sustainable Communities (3) (C3 or D4)
STS 2010: Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society (C2)
TH 3210: Peer Theatre 1 (1)