Bee E. Lyons
Interdisciplinary Studies Major Proposal
Women in the Global Culture

Spring 2008

As a woman, I have become particularly interested in the roles that women tend to play within the global community. My fascination is not restricted to a certain area geographically or a time period; instead, I am concerned with viewing the progression of women within many different contexts.

I have always been interested in cultural studies as well as the global environment. Specifically, I am concerned with the role of women, and how the role of women tends to differ in societies worldwide. My studies have included courses that have focused on roles of women regarding religion as well as women in ancient societies like those of the Greeks and Romans. I had been studying international relations and global studies, but when the major changed to just international relations, the program offerings no longer coincided with my academic goals. The elimination of that focus under the newly created International Relations major has led to my request for permission to create a major that encompasses these interests. My interest in IRGS was primarily in global studies, which is why I am requesting permission to create a major that encompasses these interests.

My goal for this major is to take a wide range of courses that will focus studies of global cultures, both ancient and modern, with specific interest in the role of women in these cultures. The major includes courses from the departments of Religion, classics, History, and English.

My interest is not limited to one region, culture, or religion; I am more driven to gain an understanding of world cultures and the variety of aspects that might affect women. One of my specific interests is the view of women within world religions because of the influence that religious doctrines has on gender roles. I am also fascinated by gaining

knowledge of how the roles of women have progressed throughout time, from ancient traditions like those of the Greeks, to modern times. By selecting my course work as I did, I have attempted to trace women and their roles through different times and societies. For this reason, classics and religion are the two focus areas within my proposed interdisciplinary studies major.

The proposed major consists of 15 core courses, 10 of which are 300-400 level courses in the target disciplines.

Senior Capstone Proposal:

With the approval of my committee, I would like to offer a senior thesis that provides an analysis of the position of women as influenced by western orthodox religious practices.

Abbreviated Course Descriptions:

- -African Studies 300 African Development Issues
 - A comprehensive study of development issues that are affecting Africa today. Issues examined range from micro-credit banking issues, to the empowerment of women, to agricultural and economic development.
- -Anthropology 255 Culture and Sexuality
- -Classics 200 Classical Mythology

An examination of Greek/Roman mythology with a focus on the different roles assigned to gods and mortals.

- -Classics 302 Roman Civilization
 - A study of society, art, literature and history of Ancient Rome.
- -Classics 492 Topics: Curious Women in Ancient and Modern Literature
 A study of ancient and modern literature that was focused on the curious nature of women.
- -Classics 492 Topics: Myth in Ancient and Modern Literature

 Beginning with Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, a progressive study of myth in literature from ancient to modern times.
- -English 265 Masterpieces of World Literature

 Examining different aspects of world literature, specifically the roles of women within literature from different countries/regions.
- -English 273 Religion in Modern American Literature

-History 214 – Poverty and Welfare in America

A study of how American's understand poverty as well as trying to gain understanding of the existence of poverty within one of the more wealthy nations in the world.

-History 317 – Cross Cultural Contact in Medieval Europe

A study of how Europeans interacted with and viewed other cultures, as well as how other cultures viewed Europeans before 1492.

-History 318 – Magic and Witchcraft in Europe

An examination of the relationship between magic and religion throughout the Middle ages, and during the Great Witch Hunts.

-Religion 317 – Religion and Politics

An exploration of the connection between religion and politics, and how these relationships and perspectives have shifted over time.

-Religion 319 – Religion and Violence

A study of religious violence that connects and examines world religions and how these religious terrorist interact with other religious communities.

-Religion 330 - Women and Religion

Examining the roles of women within various world religions in an attempt to gain an understanding of how different religions view and value women.

-Sociology 310 – Gender and Sexuality

A study of gender and sexuality that relates to identity and how this influences social status.

The following is a list of courses designed to support my proposed major:

Core Courses:

Core Courses.	
Classics 200 – Classical Mythology	Spring 2006
Anthropology 255 – Culture and Sexuality	Spring 2009
English 265- World Literature	Spring 2007
English 273 – Religion in American Literature	Spring 2006
African Studies 300 – African Development Issues	Spring 2008
Classics 302 – Roman Civilization	Spring 2009
Sociology 310 – Gender and Sexuality	Fall 2008
History 214 – Poverty and Welfare in America	Spring 2009
History 317 – Cross Cult. Contact Medieval Europe	Fall 2008
History 318 – Magic and Witchcraft in Europe	Spring 2009
Religion 317 - Religion and Politics	Fall 2008
Religion 319 – Religion and Violence	Spring 2008
Religion 330 – Women and Religion	Spring 2007
Classics 492 – Curious Women in Ancient and Modern Literature	Fall 2008
Classics 492 – Myth in Ancient and Modern Literature	Spring 2008

General Education Requirements:

AC: Theatre Arts 120 – Voice, Articulation and Text Reading	Spring 2008
EA: Arts 20 – Beginning Photography	Spring 2006
SB: Psychology 110 – Intro to Psychology	Fall 2005
CW: Politics 250 – Theories of International Relations	Spring 2007
LS: Classics 200 – Classical Mythology	Spring 2007
VA: Philosophy 215 – Ethics and Society	Spring 2007
NS-L: Biology 102 – Natural History	Fall 2007
NS: Physics 135 – Robotics Exploration Studio	Fall 2007
QS: Mathematics 115 – Math in Contemporary Issues	Spring 2007
PA: KINA WGO - Women's Golf	Spring 2006
PA: KINA D30 – Swing Dance	Fall 2005
W1: English 273 – Religion in American Literature	Spring 2006
W2: Classics 492 – Myth in Ancient and Modern Literature	Spring 2008
HP: Art History – Western Art History Survey One	Fall 2008

Interdisciplinary Committee Members:

Dr. Hines – English

Ann Muse – Theatre Arts

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