

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

collegE OF Liberal Arts

**Name of Certifying Academic Unit**

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**Name of Minor:** Health and Culture

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

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| All societies have some cultural ideas and belief systems about health and wellness. Culture shapes our understanding of bodily processes. Because of the significant influence of culture on perceptions and experiences of health and wellness, this minor thematizes the shifting cultural configurations of health in a globalizing world. Culturally grounded health and illness concepts, including notions about bodily integrity or emotional well-being, cultural models of illness causation and diagnostic practices, and the experiences, expressions, and treatments of human ailments unfold in concrete sociocultural contexts. The courses included in this minor seek to provide an enhanced cultural understanding about health experiences in different parts of the world. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

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|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee | 10-20-2016 | 10-28-2016 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 11-7-2016 | 12-7-2016 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee | 12-7-2016 | 2/22/17 |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

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| All societies have some cultural ideas and belief systems about health and bodily well-being. By moving beyond the lens of ‘western’ biomedicine, this minor provides students with a set of tools for analyzing the impact of culture on health and how cultural signposts of wellness or illness are interpreted and communicated. The minor courses are related in examining the intersections between health and culture. These intersections are examined from a number of perspectives and contexts, including the cultural systems that guide the meaningful interpretation of bodily processes, the culture-specific ways in which bodily experiences are communicated, the socially constituted worlds of trauma, death, suffering, gender, sexuality, and healing, and the various culturally mediated approaches to health and remedies in different parts of the world. |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

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| 1 | The Department of Sociology and Anthropology will sponsor and administer this minor. |
| CLA departments have given approval for inclusion of their courses: | |
| 2 | Department of Communication—1 course // approval date: 11-04-2016 |
| 3 | Department of Psychology—1 course // approval date: 10-31-2016 |
| 4 | Department of Philosophy—1 course // approval date: 11-05-2016 |
| 5 | Modern Languages and Cultures—1 course // approval date: 11-10-2016 |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

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| Majors in sociology/anthropology in the cultural anthropology or sociology tracks cannot take this minor. |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

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| One course is required: SOCI-322;  The other courses are electives, from which students can select any four. |

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| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | Annual/Biennial | Prerequisites |
| SOCI-322  Society, Environment, and Health | 3 | X |  | x | x | annual | no |
| ANTH-325  Bodies and Culture | 3 |  | x | x |  | Biennial | no |
| ANTH-425  Global Sexualities | 3 |  | x | x | x | annual | no |
| ANTH-435  Archaeology of Death | 3 |  | x |  | x | annual | no |
| COMM-344  Health Communication | 3 |  | x | x | x | annual | no |
| MLSP-353  Trauma and Survival | 3 |  | x |  | x | annual | no |
| PHIL-316  Bioethics and Society | 3 |  | x |  | x | annual | no |
| PSYC-231  Death and Dying | 3 |  | x | x | x | annual | PSYC-101 |
| SOCI-245  Gender and Health | 3 |  | x | x | x | annual | no |
| SOCI-255  Disaster, Public Health Crisis, and Global Responses | 3 |  | x | x | x | annual | no |

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| --- | --- |
| Total credit hours: | 15 |

Policy Name: **D1.1 MINORS POLICY**

 1. Definition

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript.

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor.

2. Institutional parameters

1. Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
2. Only matriculated students may enroll in a minor;
3. At least nine semester credit hours of the minor must consist of courses not required by the student's home program;
4. Students may pursue multiple minors.  A minimum of nine semester credit hours must be designated towards each minor; these courses may not be counted towards other minors;
5. The residency requirement for a minor is a minimum of nine semester credit hours consisting of RIT courses (excluding "X" graded courses);
6. Posting of the minor on the student's academic transcript requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in each of the minor courses;
7. Minors may not be added to the student's academic record after the granting of the bachelor's degree.

3. Development/approval/administration processes

* 1. Minors may be developed by faculty at the departmental, inter-departmental, college, or inter-college level. As part of the minor development process:
     1. students ineligible for the proposed minor will be identified;
     2. prerequisites, if any, will be identified;
  2. Minor proposals must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee, and college curriculum committee(s), before being sent to the Inter-College Curriculum Committee (ICC) for final consideration and approval.
  3. The academic unit offering the minor (in the case of interdisciplinary minors, the designated college/department) is responsible for the following:
     1. enrolling students in the minor (as space permits);
     2. monitoring students progress toward completion of the minor;
     3. authorizing the recording of the minor's completion on student's academic records;
     4. granting of transfer credit, credit by exam, credit by experience, course substitutions, and advanced placement;
     5. responding to student requests for removal from the minor.
  4. As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree.

4. Procedures for Minor revision

It is the duty of the college curriculum committee(s) involved with a minor to maintain the program’s structure and coherence.  Once a minor is approved by the ICC, changes to the minor that do not have a significant effect on its focus may be completed with the approval of the involved academic unit(s) and the college curriculum committee(s).  Significant changes in the focus of the minor must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee(s), the college curriculum committee(s) and be resubmitted to the ICC for final consideration and approval.