Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-legal Studies  
Proposed by the School of Justice & Social Inquiry, CLAS  
October 2008

Contact: Marjorie S. Zatz, Director

Description of the proposed program:

The proposed Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-legal Studies offers a model for educating and training students in the study of legal ideas, institutions and practices from the perspectives of the social sciences, law, and the humanities. The distinction between law “on the books” and law “in action,” which refers to how people experience law in their everyday lives, is a cornerstone of the proposed certificate program. Coursework will provide students with multiple and intersecting theoretical and methodological approaches that reveal law as a socially embedded system of loosely connected institutions, practices, presumptions, and rules. Students participating in the certificate program will learn how to apply these socio-legal tools of analysis to their study of law in action.

The 18 credit hour curriculum provides students with a variety of historical, legal and philosophical perspectives from which to think critically and engage practically. It balances foundational training in socio-legal theories, an overview of basic institutions, and substantive emphases in three transdisciplinary areas, which we call our core organizing themes. The curriculum equips students with the theoretical and philosophical, methodological, and analytical tools they need to study a wide variety of socio-legal phenomena. One of the highlights of the Certificate in Socio-legal Studies is its experiential learning component (described below). This three hour requirement offers students an active-learning experience with which to hone their skills in socio-legal analysis. While the certificate will be particularly beneficial to students planning to work within those professions most closely aligned with socio-legal studies or who hope to continue their studies in law and graduate programs, it will promote needed skills for all students in thinking critically and analytically about legal issues of significance to our society.

One of the three core organizing themes for the Certificate in Socio-legal Studies is the relationship between law and social change at the local and global levels. Law can be an effective tool both for creating social change and for impeding it. A variety of legal strategies (e.g., litigation, lobbying, social protest, advocacy) will be examined in certificate coursework. Students will be asked to consider, for example: How do social, historical and cultural contexts shape the extent and form of legal change? Under what conditions do changes in the law lead to social change (e.g., civil rights and affirmative action), and when and how does social change result in legal reform (e.g., environmental concerns)? How do law and the language of rights provide social movements with political opportunities and legitimacy? Conversely, under what conditions does reliance on law deflect radical efforts at reform by channeling protest into socially acceptable
routes and by pitting one group against another (e.g., victims’ rights advocates against civil liberties groups)?

Race, gender, and class dimensions of the legal order constitute a second organizing theme. Students might address questions such as: How do law and policy reflect dominant social constructions of race and gender? What are the relationships among crime, victimization, and structured inequalities based on race, gender and class? How does the law reinforce, and conversely sometimes help to alter, racialized and gendered social structures and relations? The ambit of this question is broad, encompassing racial profiling in police work; immigration policies and processes; ethnic cleansing, rape and genocide in the Balkans and Darfur, and many other situations around the globe.

The role of law in state building and transitional justice is a third contemporary issue that can be studied most effectively with the socio-legal analytical tools students will acquire in this certificate program. In many parts of the world, law has little legitimacy. Under such conditions, how can law help reconfigure relations between peoples, collectivities, states, and international communities? How can transnational law, norms, and legal institutions (e.g., international courts) help to negotiate and resolve domestic conflicts? Can legal reform help heal national wounds? What is the role of non-governmental organizations and other non-state actors in the global legal arena?

These are illustrations of the kinds of issues and controversies that students in the certificate program might address. Other areas could include punishment, environmental justice, biotechnology and bioethics, and law and the rights of indigenous peoples.

This certificate builds on ASU’s long-term strengths as a leader in socio-legal studies nationally. Faculty in the School of Justice & Social Inquiry, the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and other units have held leadership positions in the Law and Society Association for decades, and SJSI is a founding member of the Law and Society Association’s graduate and undergraduate consortia on law and society. The Certificate in Socio-legal Studies represents a joint effort of faculty across the university and reflects a central theme of the new transdisciplinary school, tentatively entitled the School of Social Transformation. Eleven academic units across four colleges have expressed interest in collaborating with the School of Justice & Social Inquiry to develop this certificate. As such, the certificate is not a substitute for degree requirements in any majors, including Justice Studies, but rather supplements the student’s education by adding a socio-legal emphasis to their chosen area of study.

Certificate Eligibility and Admissions Procedures:

Students who have attained junior standing (56 credit hours) in any undergraduate degree program at ASU are eligible for admission to the Certificate in Socio-legal Studies. There are no formal admissions procedures, but students should contact the Certificate in Socio-legal Studies program director as soon as they decide to pursue the certificate. They should initiate this correspondence with a message containing their name, email address, major, year of study and anticipated graduation date, as well as a general statement of
interest. In addition to the undergraduate advisors in the School of Justice & Social Inquiry, students will receive advising assistance from the certificate director or a member of the certificate program committee in developing a plan that will ensure successful completion of certificate requirements. To facilitate this process, each participating unit has a representative on the program committee. Students are responsible for consulting with an undergraduate advisor for the School of Justice & Social Inquiry prior to graduation to request that the certificate be recorded on their transcripts.

**Certificate Requirements (18 credit hours):**

The certificate consists of four components to ensure students develop a broad understanding of socio-legal studies. Foundational courses in socio-legal theories (three credits) and in legal institutions (three credits) will be required. Students will then have the option of selecting three electives (nine credits) from a set of approved courses, providing flexibility so that they may pursue an individualized course of study. Additional courses beyond those listed on this proposal may be added with approval of the certificate director. Finally, a three credit experiential learning component will be required, for a total of 18 credit hours. This may be an internship within the U.S. or abroad, or a research experience under the guidance of a member of the socio-legal studies certificate faculty.

A dedicated Blackboard site will be established for students pursuing the Certificate in Socio-legal Studies so that they can be kept informed about relevant events and opportunities and can share information among themselves and with faculty associated with the certificate program. Students pursuing the certificate will be invited (and expected) to attend events such as conferences, speaker series, etc. offered by affiliated departments, schools and centers.

Students pursuing the certificate must complete 18 hours of qualifying coursework, at least 12 hours of which must be from ASU. A minimum grade of “C” is required for a course to count towards the certificate. The same course may be used to satisfy multiple graduation requirements. There are no language requirements. Students must have attained junior status to enroll in the certificate program.

**Required Certificate Core Courses:**

1. *Ethics, Morality, and Theories of Justice (3 hrs)*

A theory course is required of all students to provide a background in theories and philosophies of justice. Students will select one of the following courses:
   - HON 494 Great Traditions of Jurisprudence*
   - JUS 303 Justice Theory
   - PHI 307 Philosophy of Law
   - PHI 309 Social and Political Philosophy
   - PHI 394 Multicultural and Global Citizenship
PHI 408 Feminist Ethics

2. Legal Institutions and Structures (3 hrs)

To provide a background on legal institutions and structures, students will select one of the following courses:

CRJ 320 The Adjudication Function
CRJ 442 Community Relations in the Justice System
JUS 308 Courts and Society
JUS 360/CRJ 350 Law and Social Control
JUS 410 Punishment: Logic and Approach
JUS 463/CRJ 470 Discretionary Justice
JUS 465 Death Penalty in the United States
JUS 479 Law and Disputing
POS 315 The Supreme Court
POS 465 International Organizations and Law
POS 471 Constitutional Law I
POS 472 Constitutional Law II

3. Interdisciplinary Component (9 hrs)

To provide students an opportunity to focus on specific issues and social problems while also providing a broad interdisciplinary framework, students will select three electives. These courses must be taken from at least two different academic units. Any course listed below may count towards this requirement. Other courses can be approved by the certificate program director.

Social Movements, Social Protest and Socio-legal Studies
AFR 394 Black Radicals and Back Protest (submitted for new number as AFR 329)
AFR 394 Bob Marley: Reggae and Resistance (submitted for new number as AFR 326)
APA 360 The Asian Pacific American Experience
APA 394 Asian Pacific American Legal History
HST 306: The Civil Rights Movement
HON 410 Philosophy, Politics, and Law*
JUS 329/ CRJ 461 Domestic Violence
JUS 350 Immigration and Justice
JUS 430 Social Protest, Conflict and Change
JUS 469 Political Deviance and the Law
JUS 474 Legislation of Morality
JUS 494 Racial Justice (submitted 8/08 for new number as JUS 432)
TCL 340 Chicana/o and Latina/o Politics and Policy
WST 375 Women and Social Change

Race, Gender, Class, and the Legal Order
AFS 301 Race and Racism in the African Diaspora
AFS 394 Race, Ethnicity and Politics in African Diaspora (submitted for new number as AFS 320)
AFS 428 Critical Race Theory
CRJ 306 Race, Ethnicity and Justice
CRJ 340 Juvenile Justice
HON 310 Justice and Law*
JUS 422 Women, Law, and Social Control/CRJ 305 Women, Crime and Justice
JUS 425 Race, Gender and Crime
JUS 450 Alternatives to Incarceration
JUS 470 Alternative Dispute Resolution
JUS 477 Youth and Justice
POS 370 Law and Society
POS 470 Law and Society
SOC 340 The Sociology of Deviant Behavior
SOC 446 Sociology of Crime
TCL 335 Historical Studies in Race, Crime, and the Law

Globalization, State Building, and the International Legal Arena
AFS 304 Islands of Globalization
APA 394 Asian Pacific American Immigration and Social Justice
ASB 445 Globalization, Development and Resistance
JUS 467 Terrorism, War and Justice
JUS 394 Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights (submitted 8/08 for new number as JUS 374)
SOC 445 Globalization, Development and Resistance (west campus)
WGS 498 Gender, Religion and Global Violence

* available only to honors students

4. Experiential Learning Component (3 hrs):

A central element of this certificate program will be the linkage of learning and doing; connecting theoretical and substantive learning about socio-legal studies with practical knowledge in order to provide policy makers and practitioners with insights of academic socio-legal research and also to bring practical experience back to academic discussions. Students will connect classroom learning with practical experience through either a for-credit internship (with a relevant organization in U.S. or abroad) or a Research Experience with Undergraduates (REU) under faculty supervision (honors thesis may substitute). A written component will be required for both the internship and the REU. The SJSI undergraduate advisors will assist with coordinating placements.

Program administration:

If approved, the certificate will be administered by the School of Justice & Social Inquiry. Program oversight and administration will be the responsibility of the certificate
program director in coordination with the certificate program committee. The committee consists of a faculty member from each participating unit, many of whom will also serve as primary faculty for certificate courses, to ensure smooth coordination of certificate and degree requirements. The committee will work with the School of Justice & Social Inquiry undergraduate advisors on administrative matters such as program completion requirements, DARS entries, and notifications to the Registrar’s Graduation Office.

In addition to the School of Justice & Social Inquiry, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences departments/schools/ programs of African and African American Studies, Asian Pacific American Studies, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Social and Family Dynamics, Transborder Chicana/o Latina/o Studies, and Women and Gender Studies will all be represented on the certificate program committee. The individual programs and the founding directors of the new schools currently being formed to encompass many of these programs are all supportive of the certificate proposal and have committed to offering relevant courses. Socio-legal studies is a major theme of the new School of Social Transformation (tentative title) of which SJSI will be a part. In addition, the faculty engaged in the master’s degree in Social Justice and Human Rights in the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences on the West campus are represented on the certificate program committee and will regularly offer courses, as is the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice on the West/Downtown campuses. Although the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law does not regularly offer undergraduate courses, law faculty holding joint appointments in social science and humanities programs affiliated with the certificate are offering certificate coursework and the College of Law is represented on the program committee. Finally, students pursuing the certificates may conduct Research Experiences for Undergraduates or internships under the direction of supporting faculty from each of these units, including the College of Law. Letters of support are attached.

Certificate Director:
Doris Marie Provine, Professor, School of Justice and Social Inquiry

Certificate Program Committee:
T.J. Davis, Professor, Department of History
Laura Dickinson, Professor, College of Law
Alesha Durlsee, Assistant Professor, Women and Gender Studies
Edward Escobar, Associate Professor, Transborder Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies
Valerie Hoekstra, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
Stanlie James, Professor and Director, African and African American Studies
Robert Kane, Associate Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Wei Li, Associate Professor, Asian Pacific American Studies and School of Geographical Sciences
Peter de Marneffe, Associate Professor and Interim Director, Department of Philosophy
Carol Mueller, Professor, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Deborah Sullivan, Associate Professor, School of Social and Family Dynamics

Supporting Faculty:
Madelaine Adelman, Associate Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
David Altheide, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Paul Berman, Professor and Dean, College of Law
Frances Bernat, Associate Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Cheshire Calhoun, Professor, Department of Philosophy
Gray Cavender, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Jose Cobas, Professor, School of Social and Family Dynamics
Alan Gomez, Assistant Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Vanna Gonzales, Assistant Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Rudy Guevarra, Assistant Professor, Asian Pacific American Studies
Kristy Holtfreter, Assistant Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Stanlie James, Professor and Director, African and African American Studies
John Johnson, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Jennie Kronenfeld, Professor, School of Social and Family Dynamics
Karen Kuo, Assistant Professor, Asian Pacific American Studies
Pat Lauderdale, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Vera Lopez, Associate Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Joan McGregor, Professor, Department of Philosophy
Cecilia Menjivar, Professor, School of Social and Family Dynamics
Kathryn Nakagawa, Associate Professor and Interim Director, Asian Pacific American Studies
Doris Marie Provine, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Mary Romero, Professor, School of Justice & Social Inquiry
William Simmons, Associate Professor, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Cassia Spohn, Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Margaret Walker, Professor, Department of Philosophy
Matthew Whitaker, Associate Professor, Department of History
Michael White, Professor, Department of Philosophy and College of Law
Marjorie S. Zatz, Professor and Director, School of Justice & Social Inquiry

How does this new program fit within the strategic plan/direction for the College/School?

The Certificate in Socio-legal Studies draws on the resources of many disciplines and professions, most of which are well represented at ASU. The certificate is appropriately housed in the School of Justice & Social Inquiry (SJSI), as studies of law, policy and social change constitute one of the School’s core areas of scholarship and teaching. ASU faculty have been centrally engaged in socio-legal studies for many years, with several faculty in SJSI and the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law serving on the Law and Society Association’s Board of Trustees. Also, SJSI was a founding member of the Law and Society Association’s graduate and undergraduate consortiums.

The certificate program is very consistent with plans for the new schools being developed within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and has the strong support of the founding directors of these schools. Socio-legal studies is an important theme within the
new school, tentatively entitled the School of Social Transformation, which will include the School of Justice & Social Inquiry along with African and African American Studies, Asian Pacific American Studies, and Women and Gender Studies. This certificate is central to at least three of the College of Liberal Arts and Science’s “literacies for success in the 21st century”: Complexity, Health and Quality of Life, and Global Engagement. It will also contribute to greater engagement of the social sciences and humanities with the Sandra Day O’Connell College of Law, and more generally to expanded conversations across multiple academic units and research centers regarding questions of justice, ethics and the role of law. Beyond the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the certificate program is of interest to faculty in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, the College of Law, and the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences on the west campus, and each of those programs is represented on the program committee. Finally, the certificate contributes to efforts by ASU’s efforts as an exemplar of the New American University to develop globally engaged, socially embedded, transdisciplinary scholarship and teaching.

**List the academic units possibly impacted by this proposal (in addition to the School of Justice & Social Inquiry):**

- African and African American Studies
- Asian Pacific American Studies
- School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (west/downtown campus)
- Department of History
- Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
- Department of Philosophy
- Department of Political Science
- School of Social and Family Dynamics
- Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences (west campus)
- Transborder Chicana/o Latina/o Studies
- Women and Gender Studies

**Projected resources and funding:**

No additional funding is requested or required to administer this program. Student recruiting can be supported through existing outlets in the School of Justice & Social Inquiry and other participating units.

We believe there is already significant demand for this program given student interest in programs of study that will prepare them for law school and for related advanced studies. Indeed, approximately 800 university students are interested in attending law school upon graduation, of whom 600 are in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a full 200 are Justice Studies majors. Last year, close to 400 students attended the Law School Fair. Because ASU does not have a “pre-law” major, this certificate will be very helpful for students who want to explore legal studies and be more competitive when applying to law schools as well as graduate studies in related social science and humanities fields.
Students seeking careers with legal and social service providers in a broad range of fields will also be interested in this program.
Marjorie Zatz

From: Scott Decker
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2008 1:32 PM
To: Marjorie Zatz
Subject: RE: socio-legal studies certificate

We would be happy to participate as there are a number of our faculty who would be appropriate to participate in this. Rob Kane, Fran Bernat, Cassia Spohn and Kristy Holtfreter would all be appropriate persons.

As for courses, the following would be appropriate.

Under Legal Institutions and Structures
CRJ 350 Law and Social Control
CRJ 320 The Adjudication Function
CRJ 470 Discretionary Justice
CRJ 442 Community Relations in the Justice System

Under Gender Race and the Legal Order
CRJ 305 Women, Crime and Justice
CRJ 306 Race, Ethnicity and Justice
CRJ 340 Juvenile Justice
CRJ 461 Domestic Violence

Thanks, we look forward to working with your group on this.

Scott

From: Marjorie Zatz
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2008 5:18 PM
To: Scott Decker
Subject: socio-legal studies certificate

Hi Scott,
Several of us on the Tempe campus are putting together a proposal for an undergraduate certificate in socio-legal studies, and a couple of people in the New School who are involved with us on human rights issues are joining in. Do you have faculty you would like to see included in this project? As you can see, it is very law-and-society focused but I thought it might be of interest to some of your faculty. Let me know soon. Thanks!

Marjorie

odor. Marjorie S. Zatz, Director
School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Arizona State University
Tempe AZ 85287-0403
Phone: 480-965-6897 Fax: 480-965-9199
Marjorie.Zatz@asu.edu

10/15/2008
October 3, 2008

Dr. Marjorie S. Zatz, Director
School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Arizona State University
Tempe AZ 85287-0403

Dear Marjorie,

I write in support of the Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-legal Studies, which will be administered by the School of Justice and Social Inquiry. Your proposal identifies important questions about the relation between law and justice and social change that provide a convincing rationale for this certificate. These questions of law, justice, and social change are the topics of a number of our philosophy courses, and we believe that your certificate will advance learning in these important areas. Your proposal also identifies a sound program of study, and clearly explains how existing ASU faculty and courses will contribute to this program and make it a valuable learning experience for our students. For these reasons the Department of Philosophy is pleased to support the proposed certificate.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Peter de Marneffe
Interim Chair
October 2, 2008

Professor Marjorie Zatz, Director
School of Justice and Social Inquiry
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-0403

Dear Professor Zatz:

We are excited to join with your colleagues in the School of Justice and Social Inquiry and other units in support of a proposed certificate in Socio-Legal Studies. We commit ourselves to regularly offer relevant courses in the field and to involve our faculty in whatever curricular committees are established to oversee the certificate.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mark von Hagen
Professor and Chair

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of History
PO Box 874302, Tempe, AZ 85287-4302
(480) 965-5778  FAX: (480) 965-0310
history@asu.edu
October 3, 2008

Dr. Marjorie S. Zatz, Director
School of Justice & Social Inquiry
Arizona State University
Tempe AZ 85287-0403
Phone: 480-965-6897 Fax: 480-965-9199
Marjorie.Zatz@asu.edu

Dear Professor Zatz:

I have read your proposed Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-Legal Studies and I think it an innovative and creative proposal that will draw a very good response by undergraduate students. Its central focus of the relationship between law and social change at different societal dimensions is rare and too often ignored. It application to non academic contexts in which issues like civil rights, immigration, and the criminalization of behaviors not usually regarded as felonious is almost certain and will be especially attractive to persons in law enforcement, others considering law degrees, and those seeking to apply their knowledge in measurable ways.

I wholeheartedly support this initiative.

Sincerely,

Carlos G. Vélez-Ibáñez
Chair, Department of Transborder Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies
Motorola Presidential Professor of Neighborhood Revitalization
Professor of Transborder Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies and School of Human Evolution
and Social Change
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona 85287
Carlos.Velez-Ibanez@asu.edu
480 965-4908
October 9, 2008

The Asian Pacific American Studies Program (APAS) is pleased to support the proposal for an Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-legal Studies submitted by the School of Justice and Social Inquiry (SJSI). The certificate allows undergraduate students to move from an academic understanding of the law and legal issues to an understanding of how the law works in specific contexts and in our everyday lives. Students will be taught about law “in-action” and the program culminates in an experiential learning experience involving work with a group or organization involved in legal issues, or a focused law-related research project.

This certificate compliments the APAS curriculum which teaches students about how the experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have shaped U.S. law in areas such as immigration, civil rights and education.

The proposal exemplifies a trans-disciplinary curriculum and includes courses and faculty from law, humanities and social sciences. APAS looks forward to being a part of this certificate program and working with SJSI faculty. Please contact me should you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kathy Nakagawa
Interim Director, Asian Pacific American Studies Program
8/15/08

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Director of the School of Social and Family Dynamics, I write in support of the proposed new Certificate in Socio-Legal Studies. This new certificate will be valuable to many students across campus and is timely and important. Students and faculty in our school would be interested in the courses and in collaborating to insure the success of this certificate. Such a degree reflects an increased interest in understanding the relation between law and social change at the local and global levels. This certificate also is consistent with how the fields and funding agencies are organizing themselves. Thus, student who completes such a certificate would be in demand and would become leaders in the emerging fields. You can count on our cooperation with this new certificate.

Sincerely,

Richard Fabes
Dee and John Whiteman Distinguished Professor
Director, School of Social and Family Dynamics
October 13, 2008

Dear Professor Zatz,

I am writing in support of the proposed certificates in Socio-Legal Studies and Human Rights. These are important certificates for the University to have in place given President Crow's goal of preparing students for the interconnected and interdependent world in which we live. Frankly, it is a little startling that these certificates have not been in place for a very long time.

In addition, these are important certificates for the Department of Political Science. Many of our 1500 majors have interests in the intersections legal studies, human rights, politics, and conflict. The more options that are available to our students, the better prepared they will be to enter the world.

Finally, the Department has a number of faculty that are pursuing research interests in these areas (e.g., Professors Doty, Mitchell, Hoekstra). Thus, as more students begin to focus on these areas of study there will also exist opportunities for students to embrace the research enterprise as well.

The certificates have my full support.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Kenney
Professor and Chair
Date: October 9, 2008
To: Marjorie Zatz, Director School of Social Justice and Social Inquiry
From: Mary Margaret Fonow, Director, Women and Gender Studies Program
RE: Undergraduate Certificate in Socio-legal Studies

I am writing in strong support for the proposed undergraduate certificate in Socio-legal Studies—a field in which ASU is highly regarded. The proposed certificate draws on many established programs and courses at ASU and this will guarantee its success. This course of study will be of interest to students seeking careers in the legal system and in NGOs that provide legal services. The Women and Gender Studies faculty are willing to participate and to offer courses related to the certificate on a regular basis. I particularly like the attention to the intersections of race, class, and gender. Students will be able to study with a diverse group of faculty from many different disciplines and to participate in meaningful internships. I give this certificate my whole hearted support.
August 26, 2008

Dr. Marjorie S. Zatz, Director
School of Justice and Social Inquiry
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Dear Dr. Zatz:

The Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, fully supports your initiative to create a certificate in socio-legal studies. It will be advantageous not only to our majors interested in law school, but to our majors, in general, who are interested in this area of inquiry. It ties in nicely with our Division’s emphases on global issues and problems, many of which have a legal component, our proposed revision of the Social and Behavioral Sciences degree program, which will have a concentration in matters of social justice and human rights, and our Division’s general focus on social inequalities associated with race, gender, and class.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Keil
Interim Director
Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
From: Paul Berman (Dean)
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 3:14 PM
To: Marjorie Zatz
Subject: Letter of Support

I am writing to offer the support of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law in the proposal of the School of Justice and Social Inquiry to create undergraduate certificates in Socio-legal Studies and in Human Rights. We believe such transdisciplinary programs are extremely useful, and they contribute to our College's desire to connect more with the university's undergraduate community. As part of our support, we agree that certificate students may work with law faculty for their experiential components (subject to individual faculty member approval of course). Please let me know if there is any further information that you require.

Paul Schiff Berman
Dean and Foundation Professor of Law
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Arizona State University
1100 S. McAllister Avenue
PO Box 877906
Tempe, AZ 85287-7906
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