NEW GRADUATE CONCENTRATION PROPOSALS
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE COLLEGE

This form should be used for academic units wishing to propose a new concentration for existing graduate degrees.

A concentration is a subspecialty within a degree and major which reflects that the student has fulfilled a designated, specialized course of study which qualifies the student as having distinctive skills and training in one highly concentrated area of the major. Concentrations are formally-recognized educational designations (including the assignment of a university plan code for reporting/record-keeping purposes and appearance on the ASU transcript). Concentrations are to be distinguished from not formally recognized academic distinctions frequently referred to as “emphases,” “tracks,” “foci,” “options,” etc.

Submit the completed and signed (chairs, unit deans) proposal to the Office of Graduate Academic Programs. Mail code 1003 and electronic copies to ozel@asu.edu or Denise.Campbell@asu.edu

Please type.

Contact Name(s): Alexandra Brewis Slade
Contact Phone(s): (480) 727-9879

College/School/Division Name: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS)

Academic Unit Name: School of Human Evolution and Social Change (SHESC)
(or proposing faculty group for interdisciplinary proposals)

Existing Graduate Degree and Major under which this concentration will be established: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Science and Health (SSH)

Proposed Concentration Name: Culture and Health

Requested Effective Term and Year: Fall 2010
(e.g. Spring 2010)

Do Not Fill in this information: Office Use Only
Plan Code: CIP Code:

1. Overview

A. Provide a brief description (not to exceed 250 words) of the new concentration (including the specific focus of the new concentration, relationship to other concentrations in this degree program, etc).

This new “Culture and Health” concentration under the PhD in Social Science and Health will provide focused, specialized training in theories and methods for researching the relationship between culture and health. It is a standard type of concentration to be offered only under the PhD in Social Science and Health. The curriculum emphasizes training in methods and theories specifically relevant to understanding the links between culture and health and draws heavily on the perspectives of medical anthropology and related fields. Methodological training in the systematic, empirical study of culture is also required. The PhD in Social Science and Health degree has one concentration already, Urbanism. Three additional concentrations will be proposed concurrently with this one: Evolutionary Global Health Sciences; Computational Epidemiology and Global Health; and Global Health Governance. The concentrations are being proposed to provide differentiation within the degree relevant to differentiation in career tracks post-graduation; they also relate to specific clusters of strength within the degree faculty. A new required course for the PhD program, SSH 502 Professional Seminar in Global Health, will provide additional intellectual articulation across the concentrations.

2. Impact Assessment

A. Explain the unit’s need for the new concentration (e.g., market demand, research base, direction of the discipline, and interdisciplinary considerations). How will the new concentration complement the existing degree program, including enrollment, national ranking, etc?

The addition of this concentration, along with the three other new concentrations being proposed, will provide clarity for potential students about the areas in which training can be best focused with the PhD in Social Science and Health, further rationalize and coalesce faculty efforts from wide range of units, and better communicate to potential employers the specific skills sets that degree graduates have. For example, people with “culture and health” training in the PhD in Social Science and Health program will be qualified to enter a specific set of positions on that basis, such as managing cross-cultural health research, prevention, or intervention efforts.
B. Please identify other related ASU programs and outline how the new concentration will complement these existing ASU programs? (If applicable, statements of support from potentially-affected academic unit administrators need to be included with this proposal submission.)

However, the new concentrations, including this one, merely formalize what is already being done in the degree program, so novel impacts on other programs are minimal. Overlap in some content would be most likely with the proposed/recently approved PhD in Women and Gender Studies and PhD in Transborder Studies, although the focus in each case is obviously very different.

C. Is this an interdisciplinary concentration? If yes, please address the relationship of the proposed concentration to other existing degree programs and any parallel or similar concentrations in these degree programs. (Please include relevant Memoranda of Understanding regarding this interdisciplinary concentration from all applicable academic units.)

NA

3. Academic Requirements and Curriculum

A. What are the total minimum hours required for the major and degree under which the proposed concentration will be established?

84 credit hours total are required for the PhD and of that 84, 15 credit hours will be required for this concentration.

B. Please provide the admissions criteria for the proposed concentration. If they are identical to the admission criteria for the existing major and degree program under which this concentration will be established, you may attach a copy of these criteria as they appear on the departmental website, or other source (please indicate source). Please also list all undergraduate and graduate degrees and/or related disciplines that are required for admission to this concentration program.

The core faculty will be responsible for the selection of students for admission to their concentration, and will review and make recommendations for admissions once a year when students apply to the PhD program. Starting fall 2010, all students must elect a concentration to be admitted to the PhD degree.

Current students will not be required to select a concentration, but may do so if they wish. At present, all the current students have indicated a desire to select a concentration.

While the minimum requirement is a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent from a regionally accredited institution, normally only truly exceptional students will be considered without a relevant Master’s degree from the social sciences (e.g., anthropology, sociology, gender studies, geography, global studies). Value will be placed on prior social science research and community-based and cross-cultural/international experiences. Decision to admit will also be based on fit to available faculty. Given the interdisciplinary goals of the program, however, a diverse pool of students is desirable. Thus, prior training in any one particular social science or health field will not be considered a necessarily better preparation, and selection of applicants will also seek to maintain some diversity based on prior disciplinary training and experiences.

Minimum GPA for consideration for admission would normally be 3.2 on a 4.0 scale for the last two years of study leading to the Bachelor’s degree, or 3.5 average GPA or equivalent on a Masters degree. Admission decisions will be competitive, based on evidence of GRE scores, undergraduate and graduate GPA, letters of recommendations, prior relevant experience, and statement of purpose.

Applicants must complete the online application form of the Graduate College to apply to the Graduate College for admission to this concentration under the PhD in SSH program.

Admissions processing will be conducted using a procedure analogous to that followed for all PhD programs in SHESC. SHESC will oversee the details of the admissions process, but the core faculty tied to each concentration will make their own recommendations for admissions. SHESC will then approve those admission requests in their totality across all concentrations based on such factors as any caps on numbers of students and students meeting minimum requirements and will send admission recommendations to the Graduate College. At this time, any core deficiencies will be identified for incoming students based on the concentration they are entering. Applicants identify a concentration and proposed faculty they wish to work with, submit an official ASU graduate application to the Graduate College, official GRE scores and transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework, a statement of purpose outlining career and educational goals, and three letters of academic recommendation.

C. If the proposed concentration is part of a larger, interdisciplinary agenda, please provide additional admission information related to students who may enter with various academic backgrounds, including expected entry-level competencies. As applicable, please also address the courses that must be taken to remedy any relevant deficiencies for incoming students.
D. What knowledge, competencies, and skills (learning outcomes) should students have when they graduate from this proposed concentration program? Examples of program learning outcomes can be found at (http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html).

In addition to those required for the PhD, students completing the Culture & Health concentration will demonstrate that they:

(A) Can articulate in a sophisticated way and apply a wide variety of theoretical approaches to culture, including cognitive, political economic/political ecological, interpretive/symbolic, and critical.

(B) Have professional-level training in diverse ethnographic methods relevant to the study of the role of culture in health-related phenomena.

(C) Can integrate and apply these theories and methods of culture to field-based studies relevant to health.

(D) Have advanced understandings of ethical and community issues related to such work.

(E) Can explain the relationships between culture and health to broader audiences.

E. How will students be assessed and evaluated in achieving the knowledge, competencies, and skills outlined in 3.D. above?

Examples of assessment methods can be found at (http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html).

(A1) Students must complete SSH 510 - Health: Social and Biocultural Theories and ASB 503 – Advanced Medical Anthropology or approved alternatives with a grade of B+ or higher.

(A2) Students will produce a PhD proposal at the time of their written/oral doctoral exam that demonstrates sophisticated use of theories and methods for the study of cultural aspects of health, and integrate them effectively.

(B1) Students must complete ASB 500 – Ethnographic Research Methods and either ESS 513 Institutions or ESS 514 Urban and Environmental Health or approved alternatives with a score of B+ or higher.

(B2) Students will complete a dissertation project that shows sophisticated application of theory and methods to address a health challenge from a cultural perspective.

(D1) During oral doctoral exams, students will be required to articulate advanced understandings of potential ethical and social justice issues related to their proposed research.

(D2) In order to be passed, the dissertation must include an extensive and sophisticated discussion of ethical and social justice issues related to the completed project and its dissemination.

(E1) Students must complete SSH 503 Instructional Internship in Global Health, or an approved equivalent professional experience.

(E2) During written doctoral exams students will be required to present portfolio evidence of their ability to communicate to a wide range of audiences, academic and non-academic - such as stakeholders and community members.

**Student Assessments:** Students will each provide, on an annual basis, a self-assessment based on their progress through the program and how well they are meeting the learning goals of the concentration as well as the degree.

**Faculty Assessments:** Each supervising faculty will provide, on an annual basis, a review of their students’ progress through the program both in terms of expected timelines, requirements, and degree and concentration learning goals.

It is desirable but not required that students show further professional competence in culturally-focused health research and its application by pursuit and receipt of external funding for their pilot and dissertation research, professional publications relevant to culture and health such as *Medical Anthropology, Social Science and Medicine*, and *Health and Place*, working with local groups or organizations (e.g., NGOs, labs, clinics, foreign government agencies) such as through internships or practica, gaining relevant awards and prizes such as from the Society for Medical Anthropology, gaining instructional experience through design and teaching of relevant courses or as a teaching assistant, being active in relevant professional organizations, and additional language and methods training such as provided at the National Science Foundation summer ethnographic methods training camps.
F. Please provide the curricular structure for the proposed concentration.

- Additionally, please ensure that all new required course proposals have been submitted to the Provost’s office through the ACRES online course proposal submission system for approval before this concentration is put on the University Graduate Council and CAPC agendas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Core Courses for the Degree</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Prefix &amp; Number)</td>
<td>(Course Title)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASB 501/SSH 510</td>
<td>Health: Social and Biocultural Theories</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSH 513</td>
<td>Research Design and Proposal Writing in Health Social Science</td>
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<td>SSH 502</td>
<td>Professional Seminar in Global Health</td>
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<tr>
<th>Required Concentration Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Prefix &amp; Number)</td>
<td>(Course Title)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASB 503</td>
<td>Advanced Medical Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSH 512 OR ASB 502 OR SSH 511</td>
<td>Social Science Applications in Community Health OR Applied Medical Anthropology OR Ethics in Health Social Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASB 500</td>
<td>Ethnographic Research Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS 513 OR ESS 514</td>
<td>Institutions OR Urban &amp; Environmental Health</td>
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<td>SSH 503</td>
<td>Instructional Internship</td>
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<tr>
<th>Elective or Research Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>(as deemed necessary by supervisory committee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culminating Experience</td>
<td>Credit Hours</td>
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<td>E.g. - Capstone project, applied project, thesis (masters only – 6 credit hours) or dissertation (doctoral only – 12 credit hours) as applicable</td>
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<td>SSH 799 Dissertation</td>
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<th>Other Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td>E.g. - Internships, clinical requirements, field studies as applicable</td>
<td>(Insert Section Sub-total)</td>
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G. Please describe the primary course delivery mode, (e.g., online, face-to-face, off-site etc.). Please note: If this proposed initiative will be offered completely online, clearly state that in this section.

Face to face lectures and seminars.

H. Please describe the culminating experience(s) required for completion of the existing degree and major, and the proposed concentration (e.g., thesis, dissertation, comprehensive exams, capstone course(s), practicum, applied projects, etc.).

Students will complete and defend a research-focused dissertation in which they identify a theory-driven problem related to culture & health, identify any relevant ethical or social justice issues, collect and analyze data, and interpret results using appropriate social science or related theory.

I. Please describe any other requirements for completion of the existing degree and major, and the proposed concentration (e.g., internships, foreign language skills, etc.).

N/A

J. For interdisciplinary programs, additional sample curricular structures must be included as appendix items to this proposal relating to students with various academic backgrounds who may pursue the proposed concentration, including expected mastery of core competencies (e.g., course work, skills, and/or knowledge).

Please see below regarding multiple concentrations under this degree program and coordination of the curricula.

4. Administration and Resources

A. How will the proposed concentration be administered (including recommendations for admissions, student advisement, retention etc.)? Describe the administering body in detail, especially if the proposed concentration is part of a larger interdisciplinary agenda. How will the graduate support staff for this proposed concentration program be met?

This concentration will be managed by the School of Human Evolution and Social Change (SHESC), which also manages the PhD in Social Science and Health. However, to allow for intellectual autonomy of all concentrations and the equitable involvement of other units, there are several different layers in the administration of the degree relevant to the concentrations.

(1) CONCENTRATIONS. The core faculty tagged to each concentration will be responsible for the selection of admissions to their concentration (starting 2010, all students must elect a concentration to be admitted). These faculty cores also provide any required courses for that concentration on a regular basis, approve major professor selections, and annually evaluate and fund students in their concentration. Each concentration will have one lead faculty who is appointed to the degree executive committee. Each concentration will also contribute one core course annually that is open to all students in the PhD regardless of concentration. To allow for clarity in responsibilities, each concentration is fundamentally tied to a single unit (e.g., this one to SHESC), although core and affiliated faculty can come from any unit at ASU. Affiliated faculty need not be attached to specific concentrations, except that they must be approved by that concentration to chair any committees of students attached to that concentration. Those applying to join the graduate faculty are reviewed and approved by the executive committee annually.

(2) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The executive committee for the degree will consist of one representative from each concentration (governance for how that person is selected stays with that concentration), the administering unit’s (SHESC) graduate coordinator, two members at large from the affiliated faculty voted for by the graduate faculty at large, and the director of the PhD program (below). The executive committee will be responsible for maintaining standards and coordinating across the concentrations and the shared parts of the degree (such as coordinating the core courses all students take, setting overall admissions targets) issues related to program-wide curricular
development, proposing students for awards, conducting regular degree-wide assessments of the learning outcomes, and decisions regarding academic exceptions (such as delays in expected timelines or student requests for approved equivalents for required courses or electives).

(3) PHD PROGRAM DIRECTOR. While each concentration has relative autonomy, overall coordination across the concentrations and between the degree program and the Graduate College, etc, will be managed by the appointed PhD program director. The program director is appointed by the administering unit's director, and is charged with chairing the executive committee, liaising across units as needed, and interfacing with the school's other graduate programs and the graduate college. The PhD program director also represents the degree program within and outside ASU, coordinate marketing of the program in and outside of ASU, manage student visits and inquiries, coordinate any funding across the degree, approve and process degree paperwork, coordinate admissions numbers and progress for the degree as a whole in line with unit and ASU priorities and needs, oversee elections, seek out and coordinating student opportunities for research experience, training, and additional support, and chair the executive committee. The director will also convene the SSH 502 Professional Seminar for all students (1 cr, one hour weekly, minimum of 4 semesters per student) which acts as the intellectual integration of the concentrations. The director is assisted in managing the overall functions of the degree program by SHESC’s existing graduate coordinator and works closely with SHESC’s school-wide graduate director and serves as a representative of the degree in the SHESC school-wide graduate committee, since SHESC is the administering unit.

B. How many students will be admitted immediately following final approval of the concentration? What are enrollment projections for the next three years?

Year 1: 4 students, Year 2: 8 students, Year 3: 12 students.

C. What are the resource implications for the proposed concentration, including any projected budget needs? For Doctoral students, how will the students be supported financially? Will new books, library holdings, equipment, laboratory space and/or personnel be required now or in the future? If multiple units/programs will collaborate in offering this concentration please discuss the resource contribution of each participating program. Letters of support must be included from all academic units that will commit resources to this concentration.

None; this is being done through reorganization of existing resources already attached to the degree.

D. Please list the primary faculty participants regarding this proposed concentration. For interdisciplinary concentrations, please include the relevant names of faculty members from across the University.

The core required courses will be taught by:
Alexandra Brewis Slade, Professor, PhD, medical anthropology, culture and obesity (50% instructional effort)
Jonathon Maupin, Asst Professor, PhD, medical anthropology, health systems (50%)
Daniel Hruschka, Asst Professor, PhD, medical anthropology, culture and health (50%)
Amber Wutich, Asst Professor, PhD, ecological anthropology, health and urban coping (25%)

There is a long list of faculty members who are already approved to serve on dissertation committees for the PhD in SSH degree. They will also be serving as chairs or members on supervisory committees for this concentration.

Graduate faculty for the PhD in SSH are also graduate faculty for all concentrations.

E. Is there a graduate faculty structure for this concentration program that will differ from the original degree program graduate faculty structure (for PhD programs only)? If yes, please include the name of the graduate faculty group and whether they will participate in offering this concentration.

No, it will match the existing degree.

5. Additional Material — Please attach any additional information that you feel relates to the proposed concentration. (Please label accordingly, i.e., Appendix or Attachment A, B, etc.)

Approvals (if the proposal submission involves multiple units, please include letters of support from those units)
The following section will be completed by the GC following the recommendations of faculty governance bodies.

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<th>UNIVERSITY VICE PROVOST AND DEAN OF THE GRADUATE COLLEGE</th>
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**Please note**: Proposals for new concentrations also require the review and recommendation of approval from the University Graduate Council, Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee (CAPC), the Academic Senate (Information item only), and the Office of the Provost before they can be put into operation.

**The final approval notification will come from the Office of the Provost.**

GF0809E-92
These concentrations meet my approval. Thank you. Linda Lederman

Linda Costigan Lederman, Ph.D.

Linda, 

The attached graduate concentrations have been approved by the CLAS Curriculum Committee and Senate. Please forward them with your endorsement to curriculumplanning@asu.edu

Thanks,
Jenny

JENNY SMITH
Executive Assistant
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Arizona State University | P.O. Box 876605 | Tempe, Arizona 85287-6605
480.965.6506 | Fax: 480.965.2110 | e-mail: jenny.smith@asu.edu

ASU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences — Transforming learning, discovery and lives
August 20, 2009

To: Jenny Smith, College of Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee

From: Patrick J. Kenney, School of Politics and Global Studies

Re: Support for the MA in Global Health

Dear Ms. Smith:

The School of Politics and Global Studies is pleased to endorse the School of Human Evolution & Social Change’s proposal for an MA in Global Health. In addition, we are happy to stand behind their proposed concentrations in Evolutionary Global Health Sciences, Computational, Mathematical and Theoretical Epidemiology, and Culture and Health that will be part of ASU’s Social Science and Health Ph.D. These are valuable initiatives that will complement our school’s new activities in global health governance. We will have two faculty who will be very active in these programs, Professors Clark Miller and Ken Abbott. We look forward to collaborating through sharing supervision of graduate students and the development of the curriculum.

As I understand the proposal, this program is unique across universities in the United States and may very well be a model that can be used in the future. I support fully the proposal.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Kenney
Professor and Director