

January 13, 2011

Vice Chancellor Beth Rushing  
University of Washington, Tacoma  
Box 358430

Dear Beth:

Based upon the recommendations of the Faculty Council on Academic Policy, the Faculty Assembly has recommended approval of the conversion of the options in American Studies; Media and Culture; Communications; Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies; Environmental Studies; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; and Psychology within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences into separate Bachelor of Arts degrees with majors in American Studies; Media and Culture; Communications; Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies; Environmental Studies; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; and Psychology. A copy of the proposal is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Office of Academic Affairs is authorized to specify these requirements beginning winter quarter 2011 and thereafter.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,



Phyllis M. Wise  
Interim President

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Larry Knopp (with enclosure)  
Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)  
Dr. Deborah H. Wiegand (with enclosure)  
Ms. Virjean Edwards. (with enclosure TIAS-20101019)

NOV 09 2010



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
**CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE  
 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

OFFICE USE ONLY  
 Control #  
 TIAS - 20101019

After college/school/campus review, send a signed original and 8 copies to the Curriculum Office/FCAS, Box 355850.  
 For information about when and how to use this form: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwcr/1503instructions.pdf>

<b>College/Campus</b> UW Tacoma	<b>Department/Unit</b> Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences	<b>Date</b> 19 October 2010
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**New Programs**

- Leading to a Bachelor of \_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_ degree.
- Leading to a Bachelor of \_\_\_\_ degree with a major in \_\_\_\_.
- Leading to a \_\_\_\_ Option within the existing major in \_\_\_\_.
- Leading to a minor in \_\_\_\_.

**Changes to Existing Programs**

- New Admission Requirements for the Major in \_\_\_\_ within the Bachelor of \_\_\_\_.
- Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in \_\_\_\_ within the Bachelor of \_\_\_\_.
- Revised Program Requirements for the Major in \_\_\_\_ within the Bachelor of \_\_\_\_.
- Revised Requirements for the Option in \_\_\_\_ within the major in \_\_\_\_.
- Revised Requirements for the Minor in \_\_\_\_.

**Other Changes**

- Change name of program from Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with a concentration/option in American Studies; Arts, Media and Culture; Communications; Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies; Environmental Studies; Politics, Philosophy and Economics; and Psychology to a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies; Arts, Media and Culture; Communications; Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies; Environmental Studies; Politics, Philosophy and Economics; and Psychology. This is a CONVERSION of seven options/concentrations to seven majors.
- New or Revised Continuation Policy for \_\_\_\_.
- Eliminate program in \_\_\_\_.

Proposed Effective Date: **Quarter:**  Autumn  Winter  Spring  Summer **Year: 20 11**

Contact Person: Larry Knopp	Phone: 692-4455	Email: knoppl@uw.edu	Box: 358436
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**EXPLANATION OF AND RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

For new program, please include any relevant supporting documentation such as student learning outcomes, projected enrollments, letters of support and departmental handouts. (Use additional pages if necessary).

Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at UW Tacoma has been offering these seven concentrations/options for 14 years. The concentrations/options are American Studies; Arts, Media and Culture; Communications; Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies; Environmental Studies; Politics, Philosophy and Economics; and Psychology.

The academic degree requirements remain unchanged. We are simply asking to change the concentrations/options to majors. We have submitted seven Moderate Degree Change Proposal Questionnaires to the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board and expect an approval this week.

See the attached sheet for the proposed changes.

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED**

List all departments/units/ or co-accredited programs affected by your new program or changes to your existing program and acquire the signature of the chair/director of each department/unit listed. Attach additional page(s) if necessary. \*See online instructions.

Department/Unit:	Chair/Program Director:	Date:

Department/Unit:	Chair/Program Director	Date:
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**CATALOG COPY**

Catalog Copy as currently written. Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions.

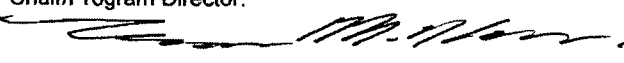
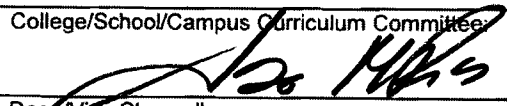

See attachment #2.

**PROPOSED CATALOG COPY**

Reflecting requested changes (Include exact wording as you wish it to be shown in the printed catalog. Please underline or otherwise highlight any additions. If needed, attach a separate, expanded version of the changes that might appear in department publications). **Please note: all copy will be edited to reflect uniform style in the General Catalog.**

See attachment #2

**APPROVALS**

Chair/Program Director: 	Date: 10/19/2010
College/School/Campus Curriculum Committee: 	Date: 10/25/10
Dean/Vice Chancellor: Both Rushung/self	Date: 10/26/10
Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair: 	Date: 11/02/10

POST TRI-CAMPUS APPROVAL (when needed)

Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair:

Date:

## **Conversion of eligible options, specializations, or concentrations into degrees**

Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at UW Tacoma is proposing changing seven concentrations/options to majors. Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (IAS) has been offering this concentration/option for 14 years. The academic degree requirements remain unchanged.

Current degrees and concentrations followed by the requested degree/major for all seven majors are listed below:

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences with a Concentration/Option in American Studies

BA in American Studies

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with a Concentration/Option in Arts, Media and Culture

BA in Arts, Media and Culture

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with a Concentration/Option in Communications

BA in Communications

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with Concentration/Option in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies

BA in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with a Concentration/Option in Environmental Studies

BA in Environmental Studies

BA Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics

BA in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences with a Concentration/Option in Psychology

BA in Psychology

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## Attachment #2

### Catalog copy as current written:

#### Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences offers ~~concentrations~~ in:

- American Studies
- Arts, Media and Culture
- Communication
- Environmental Studies
- Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies
- ~~General Studies~~
- ~~Global Studies~~
- ~~Individually Designed Concentration~~
- Politics, Philosophy and Economics
- Psychology
- ~~Self and Society~~

#### Concentrations

The bachelor of arts degree is offered with the choice of the following ~~11 concentrations~~.

### Proposed catalog copy:

#### Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences offers majors in:

- American Studies
- Arts, Media and Culture
- Communication
- Environmental Studies
- Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies
- Politics, Philosophy and Economics
- Psychology

#### Majors

The bachelor of arts degree is offered with the choice of the following 7 majors.

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October 2010

**DRAFT: Conversion of Seven Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Concentrations into Degrees**  
**University of Washington Tacoma**  
**Moderate Degree Change Proposal**

**Introduction**

The University of Washington Tacoma (UWT) seeks approval to convert seven concentrations within its existing Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies degree into the following Bachelor of Arts degrees, beginning Winter 2011:

1. Bachelor of Arts in American Studies
2. Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture
3. Bachelor of Arts in Communications
4. Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies
5. Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies
6. Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics
7. Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The concentrations currently serve a total of 566 FTE students. Program planners estimate that after the concentrations are converted to degrees the number of FTE students will increase to 595 by 2013. The degrees would continue to be housed within UWT's Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (IAS) program, which has formed the arts and sciences core at UWT since it was founded.

**Proposed Change Description and Rationale**

The first degree offered when the campus was opened in 1990 was a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies. As the program evolved, concentrations were added and eventually the degree name was changed to a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences. Additional concentrations were added as the campus grew. Concentrations, rather than separate majors, were initially implemented because the programs were small and to promote the interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum by preventing the creation of academic silos.

Seven concentrations, however, are now large enough to merit separate major degree status. The proposed changes would benefit students who have expressed concern that graduating with a concentration, rather than a major degree, diminishes their ability to gain employment or be admitted to graduate school.

The proposed conversions also would reinforce the emergence of IAS as a more mature unit. The majors would continue to be deeply interdisciplinary, reinforcing the commitment of IAS to distinguish itself as a leader in interdisciplinary degree program development.

The conversions are essentially name changes. They would not require any new courses or resources and would not alter the delivery of the programs in any way. The conversions have been approved by the faculty and Director of IAS, the UWT Curriculum Committee, the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Tri-Campus Council of the UW Faculty Senate, and the UW Curriculum Committee.

Currently enrolled students would be allowed to complete their courses of study as either concentrations or majors. Assuming that the conversions are approved, the concentrations would no longer admit students after Fall 2010.

## **External Review**

The proposals were reviewed by the following external reviewers:

1. Bachelor of Arts in American Studies - Dr. Carolyn Haynes, Director, University Honors Program and Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Department of English, Miami University<sup>1</sup>.
2. Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture - Ms. Bonnie Schock, M.F.A., Program Co-Director, MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts Program, Washington Residency Site, Goddard College.
3. Bachelor of Arts in Communications - Dr. Eileen Meehan, Professor, Department of Radio-Television, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.
4. Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies - Dr. Paulette Bierzychudek, Chair and Professor of Biology and Professor of Natural Science, Lewis and Clark College; and Dr. Linda Fink, Professor of Ecology, Sweet Briar College.
5. Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies - Dr. Abby Ferber, Co-Director, Women's and Ethnic Studies; Director, the Matrix Center for the Advancement of Social Equity and Inclusion; Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.
6. Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics - Dr. Hart Hodges, Director, Center for Economic and Business Research; Associate Professor, Economics, Western Washington University.
7. Bachelor of Arts in Psychology - Dr. Beverly Greene, Diplomate in Clinical Psychology, American Board of Professional Psychology; Professor of Psychology, St. John's University.

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<sup>1</sup> Located in Oxford, Ohio.



Although some reviewers made a few specific suggestions, each reviewer indicated the content of the concentration he or she reviewed was generally appropriate to be offered as a major and the proposed degree title was appropriate. Program planners responded thoughtfully to reviewer suggestions.

### **Staff Analysis**

Each concentration's established track record of enrolling and graduating students indicates sufficient student demand; however, many IAS students have expressed strong preference for majors, rather than concentrations. UWT recruiting personnel say prospective students do not understand what concentrations are, and anecdotal evidence suggests many prospective students are dissuaded from matriculating into IAS because of this.

The proposed conversions would benefit both students and employers by clearly communicating the academic focus of each course of study. They would benefit the community by enhancing UWT's ability to recruit high-caliber students.

### **Staff Recommendation**

After careful review of the proposal and supporting materials, staff recommends approval of the following degrees at the University of Washington Tacoma:

- Bachelor of Arts in American Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture
- Bachelor of Arts in Communications
- Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies
- Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The Higher Education Coordinating Board's Education Committee considered the proposal and recommended approval by the full Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-24**

**WHEREAS**, The University of Washington Tacoma proposes to offer Bachelor of Arts degrees in American Studies; Arts, Media, and Culture; Communications; Environmental Studies; Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies; Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; and Psychology; and

**WHEREAS**, The degrees would result from the conversion of existing concentrations within the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences; and

**WHEREAS**, The conversions would benefit students and employers by clearly indicating the academic focus of each course of study; and

**WHEREAS**, The conversions would benefit the community by enhancing UWT's ability to recruit high-caliber students; and

**WHEREAS**, Each conversion is a moderate degree change;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture; Bachelor of Arts in Communications; Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; effective October 20, 2010.

Adopted:

October 20, 2010

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jesús Hernandez, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roberta Greene, Secretary



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UWT CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

917 Lakeridge Way SW • PO Box 43430 • Olympia, WA 98504-3430 • (360) 753-7800 • FAX (360) 753-7808 • www.hecb.wa.gov

October 28, 2010

Dr. Patricia Spakes  
Chancellor  
University of Washington Tacoma  
Box 358430  
Tacoma, WA 98402-3100

Dear Dr. Spakes:

On October 20, 2010, the Higher Education Coordinating Board reviewed University of Washington Tacoma's request to establish the following Bachelor of Arts degrees resulting from the conversion of existing concentrations within the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences:

BA in American Studies, CIP Code 05.0102  
BA in Arts, Media, and Culture, CIP Code 24.0103  
BA in Communications, CIP Code 09.0199  
BA in Environmental Studies, CIP Code 03.0103  
BA in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies, CIP Code 05.0299  
BA in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, CIP Code 45.1001  
BA in Psychology, CIP Code 42.0101

Resolution No. 10-24 (copy enclosed) was adopted by the Board and grants approval to University of Washington Tacoma to begin offering the degree programs effective October 20, 2010.

We have also forwarded a copy of this letter and the resolution to our veterans' affairs approval unit, the State Approving Agency.

We wish you success with these programs.

Sincerely,

  
Randy Spaulding, Ph.D.  
Director of Academic Affairs

cc: Don Bennett, Executive Director  
Michael Ball, Associate Director, State Approving Agency





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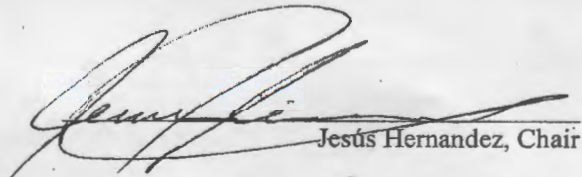
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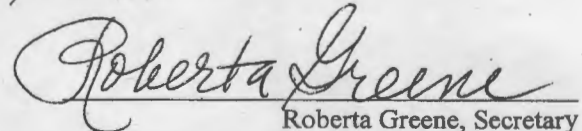
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Media, and Culture; Bachelor of Arts in Communications; Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic, Gender, and Labor Studies; Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; effective October 20, 2010.

Adopted:

October 20, 2010

Attest:

  
Jesús Hernández, Chair

  
Roberta Greene, Secretary

