

DAC Newsletter:



Siena College Diversity Minors

As registration is underway, we want to take the opportunity to introduce the directors of the three diversity minors, who are all standing members on our committee. Siena College offers minors in International Studies, Multicultural Studies, and Women's Studies, and these minors give students opportunities to study, in depth, issues having to do with diverse groups of people, different cultures, and protected minority groups. Take a moment to review course offerings in the catalog, and consider your possibility of choosing one of these minors. Questions? Don't hesitate to contact the director of each minor.

Jean Stern, Professor of Political Science and Director of International Studies:



The Globalization Studies Program experiences change and continuity this semester. It has a new name, International Studies, and will have a new director next fall, Dr. Sudarat Musikawong, from the Sociology Department. The program celebrated its 10th anniversary with a program on March 20, which featured alumni guests and shared study abroad and travel course experiences. The requirements of the minor remain the same and GLST/ILST-100 continues the Siena College-Concordia University Conference on Globalization. Our ninth conference meets in Montreal with 36 members of the Intro course working on presentations based on the theme "Sustainability and Business: Friends or Foes?"

Contact: stern@siena.edu.

Lisa Nevarez, Associate Professor of English and Director of Multicultural Studies:

As I reflect on what the Multicultural Studies minor is, I have a hard time being succinct — it encompasses so much! On the one hand, the minor is quite compact in many ways: students take a total of 18 credits, with one class being comparative and another the capstone, and of those classes no three can come from any one department. As is the case with other minors, no overlap is permitted between coursework for a student's major and the coursework for the minor.



Those are the logistics. What those 18 credits do is another story. Students who have fulfilled the minor, and those who are currently enrolled in it, arrive at it from multiple places. I see students from all majors, and from all three schools. Some have studied abroad and have firsthand experience with different languages and cultures; some students are enthused about learning more about diversity within the United States; some do both! The minor offers flexibility with channeling the student's interest in multiculturalism. I've seen graduates who take as wide a range of classes as possible, learning about all types of cultures and issues related to diversity, in different disciplines. Others I see have a deep interest in learning more about a particular culture, race, and/or ethnicity. With the types of classes offered through crosslists, a student can explore his/her area in depth. Either way, the comparative requirement and the capstone provide students with simultaneously a big picture — and a sustained focus — on multiculturalism in all its forms.

In very exciting news, Multicultural Studies will play host next year to an innovative course on Intergroup Relations (IGR). Some faculty and staff interested in this program will receive training in IGR this Spring, and we plan to offer our first IGR course in Spring 2015. IGR promotes conversations between different diverse groups — think race, ethnicity, gender, class, and beyond — in a safe and supportive classroom environment. Students will leave the class equipped to share this important set of skills and insights with their peers. This promises to be an avenue for engaging in some intense and meaningful conversations that will greatly enrich our Siena campus community.

I welcome the chance to chat with interested students — don't hesitate to get in touch!

Contact: lnvarez@siena.edu.

Laurie Naranch, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of Women's Studies:



The Women's Studies Minor is an interdisciplinary minor where you can take great classes in a variety of subjects. WSTU minors are empowered learners. You learn about gender analysis and how that intersects with other aspects of diversity that shape our personal and social lives. The women and men who are WSTU minors are all confident leaders who can easily work in diverse settings. The minor requires 18 credits with WSTU 400 the Women's Studies Seminar (Body Politics or other topics) and 5 other classes with the WSTU attribute.

Please contact me for any questions you have!

Contact: lnaranch@siena.edu.

Fall 2014 WSTU Courses

Women in Antiquity - 32668 - CLSS 210 - 12

Pol Econ of Gender Race Class - 32433 - ECON 300 - 13

Medieval Europe - 32630 - HIST 378 - 10

Contemporary Europe Since 1945 - 32631 - HIST 394 - 13

Philosophy and Gender - 32690 - PHIL 285 - 10

Perspectives on Death, Loss, Grief - 32629 - SWRK 453 - 12

Relationship Violence - 30194 - SWRK 466 - 7E

The Family - 30766 - SOCI 130 - 02

Gender, Power and Society - 30769 - SOCI 230 - 04

Sexual Assault: Peer Advocacy - 31842 - WSTU 300 - 12