

**ADD, CHANGE OR DELETE UNIT, PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, OR ACADEMIC POLICIES**

Complete this form consistent with the instructions in Academic Policy 1622.20. Use the form to add, change, or delete a program or unit or to change program policies. Proposed additions and changes must be consistent with Academic Policies 1100.40 and 1621.10 and any other policies which apply.

**SECTION I: Approvals**

Department / Program Chair _____	Date Submitted _____	Graduate Council Chair _____	Date _____
College Dean _____	Date _____	Faculty Senate Chair _____	Date _____
Honors College Dean _____	Date _____	Provost _____	Date _____
Core Curriculum Committee _____	Date _____	Board of Trustees Approval/Notification Date _____	
University Course and Programs Committee _____	Date _____	Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board Approval/Notification Date _____	

**SECTION II: Profile Data - Required Information and Name Change Information**

Academic Unit:     Major/Field of Study     Minor     Other Unit \_\_\_\_\_  Policy

Level:             Undergraduate     Graduate     Law    Effective Catalog Year 2015

Program changes are effective with the next available catalog. See Academic Policy Series 1622.20

Current Name            N/A

College, School, Division ARSC

Department Code ARSD

Current Code (6 digit Alpha) N/A

Proposed Code (6 digit Alpha)    SOST-M  
Prior approval from the Office of the Registrar is required.

Interdisciplinary Program

CIP Code 05.0122  
Prior assignment from Office of Institutional Research is required.

Proposed Name Minor in Southern Studies

When a program name is changed, enrollment of current students reflects the new name.

**SECTION III: Add a New Program/Unit**

For new program proposals, complete Sections II and VII and use as a cover sheet for a full program proposal as described in 'Criteria and Procedures for Preparing Proposals for New Programs in Arkansas.' ADHE  
[http://www.adhe.edu/divisions/academicaffairs/Pages/aa\\_academicproposals.aspx](http://www.adhe.edu/divisions/academicaffairs/Pages/aa_academicproposals.aspx)

Program proposal uses courses offered by another academic college, and that college dean's office has been notified. The signature of the dean of that academic college is required here: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION IV: Eliminate an Existing Program/Unit**

Code/Name \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Catalog Year \_\_\_\_\_

No new students admitted to program after Term: \_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Allow students in program to complete under this program until Term: \_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION V: Proposed Changes to an Existing Program or Program Policies**

Insert here a statement of the exact changes to be made: N/A

Check if either of these boxes apply and provide the necessary signature:

- Program change proposal adds courses offered by another academic college, and that college dean's office has been notified. The signature of the dean of that academic college is required here: \_\_\_\_\_
- Program change proposal deletes courses offered by another academic college, and that college dean's office has been notified. The signature of the dean of that academic college is required here: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all the boxes that apply and complete the required sections of the form:

- Change of Name and Code (Complete only sections I, II, V and VII.)
- Change Course Requirements: (Complete all sections of the form except "Proposed Name" in II, section III, and section IV.)
- Change Delivery Site/Method (Complete all sections of the form except "Proposed Name" in II, section III, and section IV.)
- Change Total Hours (Complete all sections of the form except "Proposed Name" in II, section III, and section IV.)
- Change in Program Policies

## **SECTION VI: Justification**

*Justify this change and state its likely effect on any other degree program (including those outside the school or college). Identify any program or program components (other than courses) to be eliminated if this program is implemented. (Program and course change forms must also be submitted for such related changes.)*

### **Description**

**The departments of English, History, and Political Science have been offering numerous courses with a broad southern focus for years, and in some cases, decades. Consequently, students in each discipline often take several of these courses, thus creating an unrecognized and unofficial specialization in the American South. In order to formalize and organize this practice and to maintain the high quality of the curriculum, the respective departments propose an interdisciplinary minor in Southern Studies.**

**We propose that the minor in Southern Studies be administered by the Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society and will be overseen by an interdisciplinary committee representing the departments of Political Science, English, and History. Committee members will be selected by the Director of the Blair Center in consultation with the Departmental Chairs. The Blair Center, established by an act of U. S. Congress in 2001, was intended to promote interdisciplinary scholarship, but it does not include, at this point, an undergraduate component. Thus, this minor in Southern Studies would connect students with the resources of the Blair Center and it would reflect the academic model of its namesake, Diane Blair, who, in her own research and teaching examined the undercurrents of politics, history, and culture that shaped the South over time. All courses included most focus specifically on the South as a region.**

### **Requirements**

**Students who minor in Southern Studies will be required to take Introduction to Southern Studies (SOST 2003), a 3-credit hour interdisciplinary course that explores the history, politics, literature, and culture of the U.S. South from the colonial era to the present [this is a new course that is being proposed simultaneous to this proposal for a new minor; the sample syllabus is attached]. We propose that this course be listed as an ARSC, lower-division course (the interdisciplinary designation offered by the J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences). The course will provide both a chronological survey of the southern experience as well as introduce different and sometimes competing theoretical frameworks that have been used to analyze the region. Debates will explore questions about the distinctiveness of the "many Souths" both past and present and examine the role that history, art, literature, pop culture, material culture, gender, sexuality, religion, race, and politics have played in shaping the region. Using a faculty rotation, we anticipate that the course will be offered once per academic year. A version of the course was offered as an honors colloquium in Fall 2013.**

**Students must also take an additional 15 credit hours (5 courses) from among numerous options listed below. Only 6 credit hours (2 courses) will be allowed to count towards other degree programs including the students' majors. Student Semester Credit Hours (SSCH) for each class will count toward the instructor's home department.**

**AAST 3233 & HIST 3233 African American History to 1877**

**AAST 3243 & HIST 3243 African American History Since 1877**

**AAST 4093 & HIST 4093 The History of African Americans and Social Justice**

**AAST 4293 & PLSC 4293 African American Politics**

**AAST 4383 & HIST 4383 The American Civil Rights Movement**

**AAST 4933 & PLSC 4933 African American Political Ideology**

**ANTH 3253 & PLSC 3273 Culture of the South**

**ENGL 3013 Folklore**

**ENGL 3863 Topics in Literature and Culture of the American South**

**ENGL 3853 Topics in African-American Literature and Culture**

**ENGL 5803 & AAST 499V Politics and Immobility in African American Literature**

**HIST 4503 History of the Political Parties in the United States, 1789-1896**

**HIST 4563 The Old South, 1607-1865**

HIST 4573 The New South, 1860 to the Present

HIST 4653 Antebellum America, 1828-1850

HIST 4663 Rebellion to Reconstruction 1850-1877

HIST 4673 The American Civil War

PLSC 3213 The South and the Law: Race, Gender, and Citizenship

PLSC 4333 Southern Politics

HIST 4583 Arkansas in the Nation\* or HIST 3383 Arkansas and the Southwest\*

PLSC 3223 Arkansas Politics\*

\*a maximum of 6 hours can be taken in Arkansas-specific courses.

#### Plans for Growth and Expansion

In this initial proposal, we have limited the list of elective course to those taught in the departments of history, English, and political science. However, if the proposal is adopted, during the first semester of the official existence of the minor in Southern Studies, the SOST committee will seek to expand this list of electives to include additional courses that are currently offered in Fulbright College and in other colleges at the University of Arkansas. In fact, we have already initiated conversations with the following faculty members who may want to include their courses as potential electives in the SOST minor: Kathleen Condray (WLLC), Linda Jones (WLLC), and George Sabo (ANTH). We have also been in contact with Timothy Nutt in Special Collection in order to consider a partnership (perhaps, independent studies) that could be created with the library. Additionally, the committee will send out an annual call to department chairs for interested faculty to submit relevant courses for consideration. Moreover, if the SOST designation is established, our next "new" course proposal will be an SOST 399V "Special Topics in Southern Studies." If this were to be approved it would allow one-time or occasionally course offerings to be cross-listed for credit for the minor in SOST. Until that time, students may petition the SOST committee to have department "special topics" courses substitutes for credit towards the SOST minor. Final approval will be granted by the Director of the Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society.

#### Resources

We do not anticipate that any additional resources will be needed at this time.

#### Additional Requirements

There are no additional requirements to participate in the minor.

#### Student Interest

The changes to the core curriculum that occurred in recent years have allowed students more flexibility in their required courses and has allowed many to select additional minors to their degree programs. These concentrations distinguish students as they apply for post-graduate employment and to graduate programs. Several comparable programs exist at the University of South Carolina, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and the University of Mississippi. The University of Central Arkansas offers a minor in Southern and Arkansas Studies, though more classes are available at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Moreover, this minor in Southern Studies will concentrate on the diversity of the region at large and its relationship with the nation and will not have a single-state focus.

The following are quotations from student emails regarding interest in a potential minor in Southern Studies:

"I am a senior political science major. I wish that the southern studies major would have been offered when I was declaring my major. It is an important part of American history that should not be over looked. There is no doubt that I would have declared for a Southern Studies minor if it was offered. It would have enjoyed every minute of it. Heck, I would consider coming back and getting that minor. It would be so much fun." Robert Cole

"I am a former student of the University of Arkansas. I graduated in May 2012 with a B.A. in English and a minor in history. Before coming to college, I never knew there was such a thing as "Southern Studies". Being from a small Mississippi town close to Oxford, we'd had our fill of Faulkner, but no one had ever presented him or any other Southern writer in any spectrum other than a part of the larger literary canon. However, some of the best classes I took in college were those "Southern Studies" classes-Southern Literature classes as well as classes on the History of the South. Before entering the M.A.T. program here, I even considered coming back for a Master's degree in Southern Literature, so something like a Southern Studies minor could be very beneficial to student like me who would like to know more about the culture around us and the history from which it comes. It is something that I feel would have enriched my education and could do the same for current and future University of Arkansas students." Kaitlin Bell

"I am a senior honors student majoring in English literature and minoring in political science. I would have very much been interested in a Southern studies minor, as that is what my thesis will cover and is also what my courses have been focused on. I have taken courses on the South in both literature and in political science and feel that the minor would have been beneficial to me in helping me specify my future research and job searches. I sincerely hope this minor will one day be an option for students such as myself who have similar interests in the distinctiveness and cultural heritage of the South." Mandy McClendon

“After taking the class Southern Politics, I had a deeper understanding of how culture, history, and economic development created the complicated political atmosphere of today's South. By examining this familiar atmosphere, I have since been able to recognize and analyze the complexities of other political systems. My focus as an undergraduate has been international relations, but it is clear that Southern Studies topics such as the Civil Rights Movement, one-party politics, and social justice would have resonated beyond their southern context.” Clint Shoemake

“I am finished this December with both history and political science majors. The minor would have really complemented my studies and hopefully will open the opportunity for more Southern history and political classes to be offered. The South was my primary focus during my undergraduate career and I took as many courses I could that covered the various aspects of the region and its history. Having been a born and raised Southerner, I loved the South but took so many of its quirks for granted as simply a way of life. The courses I had with professors such as you and Dr. Jeannie Whayne helped me better understand the complexities of the South, many of which I had never before considered, and even deepened my love for the South and pride that I was part of its rich and intricate history. I believe a minor could promote a better understanding and appreciation of the South and its eccentricities among students like myself who grew up surrounded in the culture as well as students who have moved into the region for school and have little idea about the South beyond stereotypes. It could also motivate students to take courses outside of their major that deal with the South and offer a stronger and better rounded understanding of the South through the eyes of different disciplines. I wish that I could have minored in Southern Studies.” Ashley Louks

“I think a Southern Studies minor would be an incredible asset to the university because it would be promote meaningful thought and discussion to the issues and historical context surrounding our region, community, and lifestyle. I took a class with Dr. Maxwell called Southern Politics in Literature and it contributed greatly to my understanding of behaviors in the South. I am disappointed that as a senior I will not be able to pursue a Southern Studies minor to go along with my Political Science major. It would be an interesting and beneficial addition to the offered curriculum.” Jaclyn Terrio

“I would have jumped at the opportunity to minor in Southern Studies through the University of Arkansas given the chance. The various courses I have taken about the South currently offered through Fulbright College have led me to develop a great appreciation for the culture, history, and politics of the region. Even more so, I have come to learn through those very classes that the South is truly a distinct place worthy of its own academic field. I think the University of Arkansas, especially as an institution rooted in the Southern tradition, would enhance the breadth of study for those students interested in understanding more about the people and way of life in the South by adding a minor in Southern Studies. I wish this could have been an option for me!” Rachel Meyers

“I'm a senior journalism major. I will be graduating without a minor but have taken more than necessary social science classes. If there had been an option for Southern Studies, after taking Politics and Literature of the American South, I would have been greatly inclined to pursue a minor in Southern Studies.” Mason Carr

“I am a senior, majoring in Political Science w/ co- major in African American Studies. As things stand now I am will not here when this minor is made available, but I would have been very interested in this minor. I think this is an important minor because the South is an important part of this country's history. I think that a person cannot completely understand this country's history with understanding the South. The South is the rebellion region of this country. I think it's important to understand why this is? Lastly, I think that the future of this country rest in the progression of the South. I think that this minor should be added to catalog not just for sake of diversity, but most importantly because it is a needed essential to the understanding of American History.” Brandon Dismute

“I am a senior majoring in Political Science. Of all the courses I have taken in my three and a half years here, Southern Politics has been my favorite by far. I also thoroughly enjoyed my Arkansas Politics class. Had a Minor in Southern Studies been an option for me, I would have done it without a doubt. The South is a clearly distinct and interesting region, and if I ever get the opportunity to continue my education beyond my undergraduate degree, I would love to spend more time studying the history and politics of the South. I truly wish that UA had considered a Minor in Southern Studies sooner.” Ruth Bradley

“I would have loved to have the option of a southern studies minor. I am a Junior Political Science and Communication major with a deep interest in southern politics, law and literature. A southern studies minor would provide undergraduates the opportunity to study the area they are achieving their degree from. I would have certainly declared a southern studies minor my Freshman year. My Southern Politics class is my favorite class I have had at the University and it really helped me understand more general ideas such as American Politics and the Republican Party. A Southern Studies minor is a fantastic idea!” Zoe Ray

“With Southern Politics being my focal interest in political science, I would have loved to pursue a minor in southern studies as an undergraduate here at the UofA. I am a junior now, studying political science and communications. Due to the lack of opportunity for such a study focus, I have since pursued a minor in criminal justice out of interest for criminal law. Had

**southern studies been an available minor, however, I would have much rather enrolled in its courses. The studies coincide with my majors, and preferred interest of political science.” Kathryn Williams**

## **SECTION VII: Catalog Text and Format**

*In the box below, insert the current catalog text which is to be changed, with changes highlighted with the color yellow. Include all proposed changes identified in Section V. Only changes explicitly stated in Section V will be considered for approval by the University Course and Programs Committee, the Graduate Council and the Faculty Senate. If you are proposing a new program, give proposed text with all of the elements listed below. If you are proposing modified text, include these elements as appropriate.*

**Include the following elements, in order, in the catalog text for proposed undergraduate program(s) or program changes:**

- State complete major/program name
- Briefly define or describe the major/program or discipline.
- Identify typical career goals or paths for graduates. (Optional)
- State admission requirements (if any) for entry or entry into upper/advanced level of major/program.
- Identify location in catalog of university, college/school, and department/program requirements which the student must meet in addition to hours in the major, but do not restate these requirements.
- State course requirements in the major and any allied areas, giving number of hours and specific courses; specify electives or elective areas and give numbers of hours and courses in elective pools or categories; identify any other course requirements.
- State any other requirements (required GPA, internship, exit exam, project, thesis, etc.).
- Identify name and requirements for each concentration (if any).
- Specify whether a minor or other program component is allowed or required and provide details.
- State eight-semester plan requirements

**For minors, state requirements in terms of hours, required courses, electives, etc.**

**For graduate program/units, include elements (as needed) parallel to those listed for undergraduate programs above.**

**For Law School program/units, prepare text consistent with current catalog style.**

**For centers, prepare text consistent with current catalog style.**

### Minor in Southern Studies (SOST)

Todd Shields  
Director, Diane D. Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society  
428 Old Main  
479-575-3356

The southern studies minor is designed to provide students with a thorough, interdisciplinary grounding in the major themes, issues, and theoretical assumptions concerning southern history, literature, and politics. Students who secure a southern studies minor will be prepared to pursue careers in business, education, law, and in post-graduate work in history, literature, or political science, particularly as it relates to the southern region of the United States.

Students wishing to minor in Southern Studies must take Introduction to Southern Studies (SOST 2003) Students who minor in Southern Studies will be required to take Introduction to Southern Studies, a 3-credit hour interdisciplinary course that explores the history, politics, literature, and culture of the U.S. South from the colonial era to the present. Students must also take an additional 15 elective credit hours (5 courses) from among numerous options listed below. Only 6 hours can count towards the requirements of another major or minor.

AAST 3233 & HIST 3233 African American History to 1877  
AAST 3243 & HIST 3243 African American History Since 1877  
AAST 4093 & HIST 4093 The History of African Americans and Social Justice

AAST 4293 & PLSC 4293 African American Politics  
 AAST 4383 & HIST 4383 The American Civil Rights Movement  
 AAST 4933 & PLSC 4933 African American Political Ideology  
 ANTH 3253 & PLSC 3273 Culture of the South  
 ENGL 3013 Folklore  
 ENGL 3863 Topics in Literature and Culture of the American South  
 ENGL 3853 Topics in African-American Literature and Culture  
 ENGL 5803 & AAST 499V Politics and Immobility in African American Literature  
 HIST 4503 History of the Political Parties in the United States, 1789-1896  
 HIST 4563 The Old South, 1607-1865  
 HIST 4573 The New South, 1860 to the Present  
 HIST 4653 Antebellum America, 1828-1850  
 HIST 4663 Rebellion to Reconstruction 1850-1877  
 HIST 4673 The American Civil War  
 PLSC 3213 The South and the Law: Race, Gender, and Citizenship  
 PLSC 4333 Southern Politics  
 HIST 4583 Arkansas in the Nation\* or HIST 3383 Arkansas and the Southwest\*  
 PLSC 3223 Arkansas Politics\*

\*a maximum of 6 hours can be taken in Arkansas-specific courses

### SECTION VIII: Action Recorded by Registrar's Office

#### PROGRAM INVENTORY/DARS

PGRM \_\_\_\_\_ SUBJ \_\_\_\_\_ CIP \_\_\_\_\_ CRTS \_\_\_\_\_  
 DGRE \_\_\_\_\_ PGCT \_\_\_\_\_ OFFC&CRTY VALID \_\_\_\_\_

#### REPORTING CODES

PROG. DEF. \_\_\_\_\_ REQ. DEF. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Distribution

Notification to:

- (1) College (2) Department (3) Admissions (4) Institutional Research (5) Continuing Education (6) Graduate School  
 (7) Treasurer (8) Undergraduate Program Committee

5/12/08