

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

January 13, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Mark Largent, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education
and Dean of Undergraduate Studies

FROM: Joy Speas, University Curriculum Administrator

RE: Request for a New Minor in Design Justice

For Transmittal to the University Committee on Undergraduate
Education (UCUE)

The request referenced above is being sent to the University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE) in accordance with the *Bylaws for Academic Governance*, 4.4.

UCUE Response Requested:

Please ask the committee to consider the request referenced above and provide consultative commentary. Please mail the related materials referenced under the heading Attachments at the end of this memorandum to the committee members.

After receiving the committee's consultative response, the Provost will make a determination to forward or not to forward the request to the University Committee on Curriculum for its approval of curriculum and degree requirements.

If you have any questions, please call me at 5-8420.

Thank you.

Attachments:

1. Request to Establish a New Academic Program form dated September 21, 2022: Minor in Design Justice and attachments.



**University
Curriculum and
Catalog**

Hannah Admin. Building
426 Auditorium Road
Suite 430
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-355-8420
Fax: 517-355-9601

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	RCAH 203	Transcultural Relations	4
	RCAH 235	Introduction to Language and Culture Studies	4
	RCAH 316	Topics in the Arts	3
3.	One of the following courses (4 credits):		
	RCAH 112	Writing, Research and Technologies	4
	RCAH 202	Presence of the Past	4
4.	One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):		
	RCAH 325	Methods in Community Engagement	4
	RCAH 326	Topics in Community Engagement	3

Effective Fall 2023.



View a Program

Joy Speas, Office of the Registrar

Friday, 1/6/2023

Program Name: Design Justice
Degree: MNUN Sequence Number: 1

Program Request ID: 4796

Effective Dates: Fall 2023 - Open Status: Interim Initial Action: New

Requested Date: 9/12/2022 10:38:48 AM

1. Department/School/College:

10006257 Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Dean

2. Name of Program:

Design Justice

3. Name of Degree:

MNUN

4. Type of Program:

Minor

5. Effective Start Semester:

Fall 2023

6. Target student audience for the program:

all MSU UG students

7. Enrollment:

What is the expected enrollment per year: 20

What is the minimum enrollment acceptable: 10

8. Source of budget for the program:

To align academic planning and curricular change, ALL requests for NEW funds must be included in the College's annual planning letter. Provost approval of new funds and the effective date for the new program must align. If funding is not approved, then the program request will not be forwarded to Faculty Senate.

Internal reallocation

If new funds, was this request included in the College's annual planning letter? Indicate yes or no. If no, then this is a department or college fund reallocation (If the program is implemented, no additional resources are required.).

9. Projected Costs as compared to other programs in unit:

Lower

10. Staff requirement:

How many additional staff will be required: 0

Who will provide the primary instruction. Describe any external linkages(industry, government, etc.):

Existing at RCAH; EGR100 at College of Engineering.

11. Will additional equipment be required:

Approximate cost: 0

Source of funding:

12. Will additional library materials be required:

Approximate cost: 0

Source of funding:

13. Will additional space be required:

Type:

Approximate amount:

14. If the program requirements contain a named concentration, do you wish for the concentration to be noted on the student's transcript?:

No

15. Detailed Description:

1. Detailed description:

a. *Background Information:* This minor came out of existing collaboration between College of Engineering and Residential College in the Arts and Humanities called the Peace Engineering Initiative. Students requested more opportunities to consider the relationship between design thinking, used by engineers and other creators, and justice. Proposal writers Vincent Delgado (RCAH) and Timothy J. Hinds (EGR) researched existing programs at U.S. colleges and universities using various combinations of design, justice, peace engineering and sustainability (See attached: *Design Justice and Sustainability Programs*). They found there appear to be no design justice- or design sustainability-specific undergraduate minors in the Big Ten or connected to U.S. R1 universities. The University of Minnesota and the Ohio State University appear to be contemplating the development of some sort of curricular pathway in design justice as both have co-curricular initiatives underway. Oregon State University offers a minor in Humanitarian

Engineering that requires 27 credits and a study away. However, the focus is different than relationship between design, justice and sustainability that we contemplate with our proposed minor. The University of St. Thomas Minnesota offers a Peace Engineering program that results in a minor in Peace and Justice Studies. The rest of the minors we were able to find did not involve colleges of engineering or were minors offered for graduate study. The rest of the listings related to design, justice and sustainability involved certificates, initiatives or co-curricular programs. Delgado and Hinds also researched *MSU Programs Related to Design, Justice and Sustainability* (See attached). They found that MSU has major and minor programs related to design (or engineering), programs related to justice – peace and justice studies is one that is most well-known and focused on peace and justice, and programs related to sustainability or environmental studies. However, there are no programs that combine the study of design, justice and sustainability available at MSU. The following lists MSU minors and majors connected in some way to design, justice and sustainability. Below is a list of minors and majors tangentially related to design, justice and/or sustainability.

- b. *Rationale for offering the program at MSU:* A RCAH design justice minor offered in collaboration with the College of Engineering offers students to critically examine how design and justice relate critically to one another in the pursuit of justice, sustainable communities. Design justice draws on and builds upon the commitment of both EGR and RCAH to building a just and sustainable world.
- c. *Rationale for the program being housed in the primary administrative unit:* RCAH, as the university's primary institution connecting the arts and humanities with community engagement, sustainability and critiques related to social justice, is also focused on teaching and learning related to creativity, innovation and design. It's collaboration with engineering is related on nearly a decade of co-generative teaching and learning as well as domestic and international community engagement projects and courses that connect community engagement, sustainability and justice with community-engaged design, the study of creative culture and courses on design justice.
- d. *Educational objectives of the program and their relationship to those of the college and the university.* The minor will prepare students to address an important question: Given the challenges of global conflict, globalization, climate change and sustainability, how should we design for justice and human sustainability? This is a complex question that calls for engineers, designers, artists and other change makers to identify, design and implement creative solutions that address and acknowledge human conflict – solutions that can radically transform and improve well-being. This objective radically challenges the work of engineers, artists and makers to complicate and reconsider their work using deep consideration of (in)equity, inclusion, voice, history, culture, identity, community and art, as well as with questions like:
 - What is the nature of the complex challenges we face?
 - How do these problems challenge us to reconceptualize our practice for justice as designers, engineers, artists and change makers?

- How can new ideas about design, justice, engineering, the arts and community change expand our understanding of technology and help us consider new ways of designing just and sustainable worlds?

This minor also offers experiential learning opportunities in community-engaged design projects, education abroad programs and collaborations with organizations working to find just solutions to complex design problems at home, at work, in community and around the globe. (see additional objective and university relationship information in the evaluation section below).

- e. *Faculty who were instrumental in developing the program and faculty who will be responsible for implementing the program.* Vincent Delgado (RCAH Senior Academic Specialist) and Timothy J. Hinds (EGR Senior Academic Specialist).
- f. *Plan for evaluating the program. Plan for assessing student outcomes.* This program's goal is to prepare students to address an important question: Given the challenges of global conflict, globalization, climate change and sustainability, how should we design for justice and human sustainability? Such preparation requires the program to meet particular program-related objectives as well as MSU Undergraduate Learning Goals-related objectives.

Program-related objectives

- Acquires knowledge related to design, including design, creativity, and innovation, including the design thinking process and community-participatory design.
- Acquires knowledge related to justice, including (in)equity, inclusion, voice, history, culture, identity, community.
- Acquires knowledge related to the field of design justice, including historical foundations and recent innovations.
- Practices skills related to design justice and community engaged design methodologies including co-generative problem and context identification, contextualization, prototype development and iteration.
- Develops attitudes demonstrating a commitment to understanding and critiquing the relationship between design, justice, (post)development and sustainability.

MSU Undergraduate Learning Goals-related objectives

- Acquires, analyzes, and evaluates information from multiple sources
- Synthesizes and applies information within and across disciplines
- Reflects on experiences with diversity to demonstrate knowledge and sensitivity
- Demonstrates awareness of how diversity emerges within and across cultures (transculturation)
- Applies knowledge and abilities to solve societal problems in ethical ways.
- Identifies how contexts affect communication strategies and practices
- Engages in effective communication practices in a variety of situations and with a variety of media.
- Critically applies liberal arts knowledge in disciplinary contexts and disciplinary knowledge in liberal arts contexts
- Uses a variety of inquiry strategies incorporating multiple views to make value judgments, solve problems, answer questions, and generate new understanding

The program's assessment will be developed strategically overtime, utilizing surveys of the perception of current students engaged in the minor and exit surveys of students who have completed the minor. Assuming the minor begins in January 2023, RCAH will assess existing student perceptions of their engagement with the minor in January

2024. The first exit surveys of student exiting the minor will be implemented in May 2024. Annual surveys of current students and students exiting the minor will be utilized starting in May 2025.

g. Program description including statement and specific requirements of the program as they will appear in the university catalog: Students who pursue the Design Justice minor are interested in how design and justice relate critically to one another in the pursuit of justice, sustainable communities. It is designed for College of Engineering (EGR), Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH) and non-EGR and non-RCAH majors.

Design justice draws on and builds upon the commitment of both EGR and RCAH to building a just and sustainable world. The minor will prepare students to address an important question: Given the challenges of global conflict, globalization, climate change and sustainability, how should we design for justice and human sustainability? This is a complex question that calls for engineers, designers, artists and other change makers to identify, design and implement creative solutions that address and acknowledge human conflict – solutions that can radically transform and improve well-being. This objective radically challenges the work of engineers, artists and makers to complicate and reconsider their work using deep consideration of (in)equity, inclusion, voice, history, culture, identity, community and art, as well as with questions like:

- What is the nature of the complex challenges we face?
- How do these problems challenge us to reconceptualize our practice for justice as designers, engineers, artists and change makers?
- How can new ideas about design, justice, engineering, the arts and community change expand our understanding of technology and help us consider new ways of designing just and sustainable worlds?

This minor also offers experiential learning opportunities in community-engaged design projects, education abroad programs and collaborations with organizations working to find just solutions to complex design problems at home, at work, in community and around the globe.

Requirements

Minimum 16 credits as described below. Other courses may be used to satisfy this requirement with approval of minor advisor. The minor is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at Michigan State University. With the approval of the department and college that administers the student's degree program, the courses that are used to satisfy the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

Required

1. Introduction to Design Justice

Required

RCAH205: Transculturation through the Ages: Design Justice (4)

[Transcultural Relations through the Ages: Design Justice](#)

Satisfies upper-level university integrated arts and humanities requirement

EGR100: Introduction to Engineering Design (2)

Community-engaged sections encouraged but not required

At least 3 credits from each of the following categories

2. Designing Justice: The Role of Art, Language, Culture and Identity

Minimum 3 Credits

through the Ages

RCAH203: Transcultural Relations (4)

RCAH235: Introduction to Language and Culture Studies (4)

RCAH316: Topics in the Arts (3)

3. Design, Justice and Sustainability

Minimum 4 credits

RCAH112: Writing Research and Technologies (4)

Satisfies University Tier 1 Writing Requirement

RCAH202: Presence of the Past (4)

Satisfies lower-level university integrated arts and humanities requirement

4. Community Engagement and Design

Minimum 3 credits

Methods in Community Engagement

RCAH325: Community Engagement Methods (4)

RCAH326: Topics in Community Engagement (3)

h. *If the program will be offered in a location other than the main campus in East Lansing, specify the location(s):* East Lansing campus and some education abroad programs, including the RCAH Program on Sustainability in Costa Rica.

i. *List the name and describe any certificate program that is associated with a new or extant degree program.* None.

j. *Other information that will assist the Provost and the University-level committees in evaluating the request:* The minor's authors as well as the RCAH and EGR curriculum committees involved in considering, developing and proposing the minor to the university carefully considered programs related to design, justice and sustainability across campus, including possible courses. They found that the particular form of design justice, concentrating on a critiques and applications of theories related to design/innovation/creativity, social justice, community engagement, (post)development and sustainability currently practiced

collaboratively between EGR and RCAH, as well as proposed here, was sufficiently distinct from other major and minor programs at the university - as well as those offered nationally.

16. Are there admissions requirements for this program?:

Grade or grade-point average requirements and if so in which course(s), portfolio requirement, audition, essay, etc. If there are not admission requirements other than those required by the University policy indicate "none".

none

DEPARTMENT LEVEL APPROVAL STATUS

Approved: Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Dean
9/12/2022 10:48:59 AM by Dylan Miner for Dylan Miner, Dean, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

SIGNOFFS STATUS

Signed Off: College of Engineering
9/12/2022 2:59:13 PM by Amanda Idema for Amanda Idema, Acting Associate Dean

Not Signed Off by: Department of Art, Art History, and Design
9/12/2022 3:25:57 PM by Ben VanDyke for Tanya Hartman, Chairperson

Signed Off: Department of Media and Information
9/13/2022 12:10:33 PM by Grant Mike Stern for Michael Stern, Chairperson

Signed Off: Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures
9/20/2022 10:15:52 AM by Danielle DeVoss for Danielle De Voss, Chairperson

COLLEGE LEVEL APPROVAL STATUS

Approved: Residential College in the Arts and Humanities
9/21/2022 11:05:07 AM by Dylan Miner for Dylan Miner, Dean, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

Call us: (517) 355-3300

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RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES 3 + 3 OPTION

The Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, in collaboration with the MSU College of Law, offers an opportunity for selected Residential College in the Arts and Humanities students to earn a baccalaureate degree after satisfactory completion of a minimum of 91 credits at Michigan State University, and a minimum of 29 credits through subsequent enrollment at the Michigan State University College of Law. Students interested in this option should consult with their college academic advisor during their first year in the college.

Admission to the MSU College of Law component of this program is limited to a small number of students who complete the specified university and college requirements and who earn a grade-point average and LSAT score that is acceptable for admission to the Michigan State University College of Law.

All students in this program will complete a minimum of 91 credits at Michigan State University with at least 52 of those credits in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities. The requirements for the program are as follows:

1. Completion of all the university-level graduation requirements, including integrative studies, writing, and mathematics.
2. Completion of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities required courses, language proficiency, and elective pathway.
3. Completion of a minimum of 29 credits at the Michigan State University College of Law

Upon satisfactory completion of the specified 120 credits, students in this program will be eligible for the baccalaureate degree and may apply for conferral of their degree.

← Insert 1

MINOR IN DESIGN JUSTICE

The Minor in Design Justice prepares students to address the challenges of global conflict, globalization, climate change and sustainability and how we design for justice and human sustainability. Students will learn to identify, design and implement creative solutions that address and acknowledge human conflict. The minor also offers experiential learning opportunities in community-engaged design projects, education abroad programs and collaborations with organizations working to find solutions to complex design problems at home, at work, in community, and around the globe.

The minor is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at Michigan State University. With the approval of the department and college that administer the student's degree program, the courses that are used to satisfy the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

Students who plan to complete the requirements of the minor should consult the undergraduate advisor in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities.

Requirements for the Minor in Design Justice

	CREDITS
Students must complete a minimum of 16 credits from the following:	
1. Both of the following courses (6 credits):	
EGR 100 Introduction to Engineering Design	2
RCAH 205 Transcultural Relations through the Ages: Design Justice	4
2. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):	
RCAH 203 Transcultural Relations	4
RCAH 235 Introduction to Language and Culture Studies	4
RCAH 316 Topics in the Arts	3
3. One of the following courses (4 credits):	
RCAH 112 Writing, Research and Technologies	4
RCAH 202 Presence of the Past	4
4. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):	
RCAH 325 Methods in Community Engagement	4
RCAH 326 Topics in Community Engagement	3