

**SENATE RESOLUTION #2767**



**TITLE:** ASUW Support for the Implementation of a Bachelor of Arts and Undergraduate Minor in Social Justice

**DATE INTRODUCED:** November 30, 2021

**AUTHOR:** Senator Talamantes

**SPONSORS:** Senator Titus and Wilkins; President Swilling

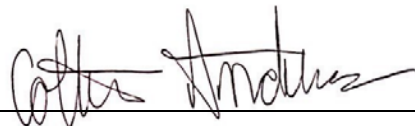
1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible;
3. and,
4. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming (UW) continuously strives to improve our land
5. grant and flagship mission by offering top-tier programs that are comparable to our peer
6. institutions; and,
7. WHEREAS, the School of Culture, Gender, and Social Justice (SoCGSJ) seeks to
8. leverage its existing resources and degree programs to create a new major and minor in
9. Social Justice; and,
10. WHEREAS, the SoCGSJ does not intend to use the new degree program to serve as a
11. replacement for their other academic offerings; and,
12. WHEREAS, existing degree programs in the SoCGSJ are necessary to maintain the
13. efficacy of the new degree program; and,
14. WHEREAS, the new degree program would build off of existing offerings in the SoCGSJ
15. and only three new courses would be need to be created; and,
16. WHEREAS, with the United States and our world experiencing many grand challenges,
17. cultural competency and the ability to understand and address complex and interlocking
18. problems is a highly sought out skill by employers in a variety of disciplines; and,

19. WHEREAS, the new degree program will equip students with the skills to understand,  
20. analyze and think critically about multivariant problems and to be able to work across  
21. disciplinary lines to develop creative, innovative and effective solutions to today's most  
22. pressing problems; and,  
23. WHEREAS, Addendum A references the outline of the anticipated curriculum and  
24. learning outcomes; and,  
25. WHEREAS, the new degree program will not need additional funding from the  
26. university so long as UW maintains its existing SoCGSJ faculty lines; and,  
27. WHEREAS, the proposed degree program would give students a degree path that has not  
28. yet existed at UW and would give students the opportunity to integrate a social justice  
29. education and perspective into any academic field; and,  
30. WHEREAS, Addendum B demonstrates how the new degree program will align with  
31. the missions and goals of UW's Strategic Plan.  
32. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming  
33. (ASUW) Student Government that we support the implementation of the Bachelor of  
34. Arts and Undergraduate Minor in Social Justice; and,  
35. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ASUW does not support the implementation  
36. of this new program if it will replace all other degree offerings in the School of Culture,  
37. Gender, and Social Justice.

**Referred to:** Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy

**Date of Passage:** December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Signed:**



**(ASUW Chairperson)**

**"Being enacted on** December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**, I do hereby sign my**

PASSED 24-1

name hereto and approve this Senate action.” *Hunter Swilling*  
ASUW President

## **Addendum A**

### **School of Culture, Gender and Social Justice**

#### **Social Justice Degree Learning Outcomes**

- Demonstrate the cultural competency and leadership skills necessary to work with diverse communities, in a variety of workplaces, in order to be effective leaders in an increasingly diverse and global world.
- Articulate the historical, cultural, and political underpinnings and systemic structures that create and perpetuate social justice issues.
- Analyze major contemporary social justice issues from a multi/inter-disciplinary perspective.
- Demonstrate and apply critical thinking skills to recognize and understand social justice issues from a multivariant causal perspective.
- Demonstrate and apply problem solving skills that allow students to synthesize creative solutions to difficult, complex, multivariant social justice problems.
- Identify and analyze complex intersectional and interrelational constructs and systems of discrimination and oppression, that inform and impact social justice issues.
- Translate social justice theories into community-based advocacy skills.

**School of Culture, Gender and Social Justice**

**BA In Social Justice Overview**

**Social Justice Major Requirements**

30 Credit Hours

9 Hours Foundational Courses

- 3 Hours Social Justice in 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- 3 Hours one of the existing intro courses
- 3 Hours one of the existing history courses

6 Hours Upper Division Required

- 3 Hours Theory & Methods
- 3 Hours Advanced Social Justice Elective

3 Hour Capstone Course (would include advanced theory and methods)

3 Hours Internship, Independent Study, or International Experience

9 Hours Free electives any SCGSJ course not already taken, at least one has to be 3000 or above.

\* To successfully complete the major, when fulfilling the above requirements, each student would also have to take at least one course in each of the four programs.



	Internship or Independent Study or International Experience	3	
19	Advanced Social Justice Elective	3	
20		<b>Credit Hours Subtotal</b>	21
21	<b>Major Related Courses</b>		
22	Any SCGSJ course (any level) *	6	Excludes core courses.
23	Upper Division SCGSJ course (3000/4000 level)	3	Excludes core courses.
26		<b>Credit hours subtotal:</b>	9
	<b>BA in Social Justice Total Credit Hours</b>		62
27	<b>Elective Courses</b>		
28	General Elective	58	Electives may include courses taken for an additional major or minor.
29	A&S Core Diversity in the US	3	ASD (may be fulfilled through major course work)
30	A&S Core Global Awareness	3	ASG(may be fulfilled through major course work)
31		<b>Credit hours subtotal:</b>	64
32			
33		<b>BA Social Justice total credit hours:</b>	120
34			
35	<b>B.A. Social Justice Program Notes:</b>		
36	When fulfilling the requirements for the Social Justice B.A., a student must take at least one course in each of the School of Culture, Gender, and Social Justice Programs (African American & Diaspora Studies, Gender & Women's Studies, Latina/o Studies, Native American & Indigenous Studies). This requirement may be fulfilled concurrently.		
37	* <b>Quantitative:</b> See the "Prerequisite and MPE Cut Score Reference Chart" on the Math Placement website for the most up-to-date math placement equivalencies: <a href="http://www.uwyo.edu/mathstats/math-placement/">http://www.uwyo.edu/mathstats/math-placement/</a> .		
38	* Students may not take a course for S/U credit to satisfy any requirement, unless the course is offered for S/U credit only.		
39			
40	<b>University of Wyoming Requirements</b>		
41	* Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to graduate.		
42	* Students must complete 42 hours of upper division (3000-level or above) coursework, 30 of which must be from the University of Wyoming.		
43	* Courses must be taken for a single letter grade unless offered only for S/U.		
44	* University Studies Program (USP), Human Culture (H) and Physical & Natural World (PN) courses must be taken outside of the major subject, but can be cross-listed with the major.		
45			
46	<b>College of Arts and Sciences Requirements</b>		
47	* Students must take two "core" courses in addition to UW's USP requirements: Diversity in the United States (ASD) and Global Awareness (ASG).		
48	* No more than 60 hours in the major subject may be used toward the 120 credit hours required for graduation.		
49	* At least 30 hours in the major subject must be completed with a grade of C or better (individual majors may require more).		
50			
51	The University of Wyoming Office of the Registrar provides final approval of degree completion requirements prior to the awarding of any degree.		

**School of Culture, Gender and Social Justice**  
**Undergraduate Minor in Social Justice Overview**

**Social Justice Minor Requirements**

18 Credit Hours

9 Hours of Required Courses

- 3 Hours Social Justice in 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- 3 Hours Theory & Methods
- 3 Hour Capstone Course (would include advanced theory and methods) or independent study

9 Hours electives

- At least one has to be above the 3000 level





**Minor in Social Justice**  
**Outline of Anticipated Curriculum**  
**January 2021**

University of Wyoming

Minor Social Justice

cr

Min Grade

Notes

USP - University Studies Program Requirements

USP: First Year Seminar	3	FYS
USP: Communications I	3	C1
USP: Communications II	3	C2
USP: Communications III	3	C3
USP: US & Wyoming Constitutions	3	V
USP: Human Culture	3	H
USP: Quantitative	3	Q
USP: Physical & Natural World	4	PN
	4	PN
Credit hours subtotal:		32

Core Minor Courses

AAST 1030, LTST 1030, NAIS 1030, WMST 1030 Social Justice in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	3	
Theory & Methods	3	
Capstone Course or Independent Study	3	

Credit  
Hours  
Subtotal

9

Major Related Courses

Any SCGSJ course (any level) *	6	Excludes core courses.
Upper Division SCGSJ course (3000/4000 level)	3	Excludes core courses.
Credit hours subtotal:		9

Minor in Social Justice Total Credit Hours

50

Elective Courses

General Elective	58	Electives may include courses taken for an additional major or minor.
A&S Core Diversity in the US	3	ASD (may be fulfilled)

		through major course work)
30	A&S Core Global Awareness	3
		ASG(may be fulfilled through major course work)
31	Credit hours subtotal:	
32		64
33	BA Social Justice total credit hours:	
34		120
35	<b>Minor Social Justice Program Notes:</b>	
37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quantitative:</b> See the "Prerequisite and MPE Cut Score Reference Chart" on the Math Placement website for the most up-to-date math placement equivalencies: <a href="http://www.uwyo.edu/mathstats/math-placement/">http://www.uwyo.edu/mathstats/math-placement/</a>.</li> </ul>	
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## **Addendum B**

As we look to the future, President Seidel has articulated that continued viability of UW rests on UW's ability to be more digital, more entrepreneurial, more interdisciplinary, and more inclusive. Not only is it hoped that building our future on these four pillars will help UW adapt and change in ways that will allow it to thrive in the future, the hope is that moving our institution in this direction will help UW spur economic growth within the state of Wyoming as well. The social justice degrees we propose will help directly support UW's mission to be more interdisciplinary and inclusive, and will contribute to the innovation necessary for strong entrepreneurial work as well.

As noted above, the social justice degrees we propose, like all of SCGSJ's degrees, are interdisciplinary degrees centered on helping students develop their ability to think critically, such that they can understand some of society's most complex, systemic, and multivariant problems in such a way that they can use an interdisciplinary approach to offer concrete, practical solutions. As also noted, the Social Justice degree is designed to be easily paired with any other degree a student might pursue, such that a student's education will be more well-rounded, thus preparing students for the complex and unpredictable challenges they will face. The SCGSJ is at the forefront of nearly all of UW's diversity and inclusion efforts and the creation of the proposed social justice degrees will continue to further and support that work. UW graduates are increasingly entering into a diverse world where cultural competency is a necessary and required job skill. Perhaps more importantly, in order to be leaders in their fields, they will have to be able to develop and support cultures of diversity and inclusion, as study after study shows that "Diverse and inclusive cultures are providing companies with a competitive edge over their peers."<sup>3</sup> Those same studies also show that diverse workforces help spur innovation, a key component of developing entrepreneurial businesses. Each of the SCGSJ's existing degrees require students to acquire the necessary cultural competency skills in order to graduate. By incorporating key existing courses into the proposed social justice degrees, the social justice degrees will require students to obtain the same cultural competency skills.