Statement of Justification

Humanities 2319, American Minority Studies, has a course description: The study of the historical, economic, social, and cultural development of minorities in the U.S. It may include African-American, Mexican-American, Asian-American and Native-American Issues. This course should be included in the inventory of courses in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture Component Area because it covers cultural issues from an Minority Studies perspective. Courses in Language, Philosophy, and Culture “focus on how ideas and values reflect and impact human experience, and involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.” Humanities 2319 fulfills this definition of this component area through its focus on the broad range of human experience in the United States minority communities.

The four Core Objectives of critical thinking skills, communication skills, social responsibility, and personal responsibility are addressed by this course in a variety of ways. For instance students have to analyze a variety of concepts relating to minority/majority cultural processes. They grow to understand the differences and similarities in communication, responsibility across and within cultures, and their individual roles/responsibilities in those cultures. Through a Research Project, they will be able to demonstrate competencies in the Core Components required of this Component Area:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills** to include effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Social Responsibility** to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility** to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.