TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)

SUBJECT: 18-19 CIC 9: New Prefix request for Information Studies

PURPOSE: Approval of the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the use of the INFO prefix for courses offered by the University Library; upon the signature of the President, effective Fall 2019

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
On December 3, CIC reviewed the request from the University to use the INFO prefix in place of the LIBY prefix to reflect changes in the discipline to focus on the broader world of information (both inside and outside libraries).

CIC approved the request unanimously.
INFO - Information Studies
(2019-20 Catalog) New Request - Prefix

General Catalog Information

***READ BEFORE YOU BEGIN***

Use this form to request a new course prefix for your department.

See Policy Guidelines for Requesting New Course Prefixes for more information. Please turn on Help Text for this form by selecting the Show Help Text icon above this section.

Earliest Effective Term: Fall 2019  Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

From 08-09 CIC 17 revised Policy Guidelines for Requesting New Course Prefixes:

Requests for new course prefixes must meet one of the following requirements:

Refer to the name of the degree (ex. POSC for courses in the B.A. Political Science).
Refer to the name of the department (ex. EPSY for the M.A. Counseling which is located in the Department of Educational Psychology).
Refer to the name of the academic unit/area of study which has a critical mass of courses not leading to a degree in that subject area (ex. SCI for college-wide courses in Science or GS for university-wide courses in General Studies).
Refer to an option within a degree that has no courses in common with any other option in that degree (ex. OTL for the Option in Online Teaching and Learning in the M.S. Education), with a critical mass of courses available in the curriculum to warrant a new prefix, as determined by CIC.
Refer to an innovative new interdisciplinary area of study with a critical mass of courses available in the curriculum to warrant a new prefix, as determined by CIC.

College* University Libraries

Department/Unit* University Libraries

Proposed Prefix (4 letters max)* INFO

Prefix Title (see help text)* Information Studies
Describe the reason for the request. Why, in particular, is it important that a new prefix be established? Why is it necessary that the courses be distinguished from those of other academic units?*
The current prefix is misleading in that it encourages students to think our courses are about library skills exclusively. The new prefix will more correctly represent the content of our courses. Our curricula is concerned with the critical study of information in society, the changing information needs of the individual in various life stages, the critical evaluation of knowledge production and information sources, access to information, the relationship of information to systems of power, etc. In light of the emphasis from WASC on the importance of Information Literacy in the accreditation process, this prefix change will clarify our campus’ embrace of Information Literacy.

Describe the curricula with which the courses offered under the new prefix are to be associated. List the courses that will be offered under the new prefix.*
The current courses that will be offered under the new prefix are LIBY 200: Information Literacy Skills, LIBY 210: Introduction to Information Literacy Skills, and LIBY 220: Topics in Information Literacy.

Describe the organizational unit (department or program) that administers the courses listed under the new prefix.*
The department consists of library faculty with a variety of subject specializations, with demonstrated involvement in scholarly and professional endeavors. Currently, there are 12 full time tenured/tenure track library faculty, three FERPers, and one lecturer on a 3-year contract.

CONSULTATION with other affected departments and program committee:
The following department(s) has (have) been consulted and raised no objections:*

The following department(s) has (have) been consulted and raised concerns:

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