

MEMORANDUM

May 28, 2026

TO: Michael Johnson
Associate Provost for Academic Enhancement and
Interim Provost for Academic Affairs

THROUGH: Alicia Dorsey
Associate Vice President for Academic Effectiveness & Planning
and SACSCOC Liaison

FROM: Simon North
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

SUBJECT: Exception Requests for Fall 2026

This memo is a follow-up to the decisions made by the provost and president regarding exception requests submitted by the College of Arts and Sciences for Fall 2026 courses.

I am confirming that the courses listed below were cancelled on May 16th:

ENGL 333/WGST 333 - LGBTQ Literatures (2 instructors x 2 sections)

WGST 205 - Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

The Women's and Gender Studies Program Director (Kristan Poirot) and the Interim Head of English (Andrew Pilsch) were informed of this decision which was then shared with the instructors. Our office sent an email to the students registered in all five sections with information to let them know that the class had been cancelled and to provide guidance on how to enroll in a different course. Our office also worked with the registrar's office to remove students from these classes, and to remove the courses from the Howdy portal.

I am also confirming that the courses listed below have been mitigated to ensure that they are in compliance with system policy 08.01:

COMM 435 – Rhetoric of Television and Film

- The instructor has removed the discussion of critical race theory and associated materials from the syllabus.

SOCI 229 – Qualitative Methods

- The instructor has been reminded to not advocate while teaching this class, using the definition of “advocacy” on the provost’s website.

SOCI 316 – Sociology of Gender

- The instructor has been informed that they need to use Anne Fausto-Sterling’s initial essay entitled “The Five Sexes” rather than her later essay “Five Sexes, Revisited.”
- The college initially informed heads that syllabi for approved exceptions did not need to be uploaded to Simple Syllabus until the August deadline. The syllabus will be added at that time.

SOCI 430 – Contemporary Sociological Theory

- The instructor has been instructed to revise their syllabus to clarify the two chapters of Judith Butler’s book *Gender Trouble* that students should read.
- The instructor has been reminded to not advocate while teaching this class, using the definition of “advocacy” on the provost’s website.
- The college initially informed heads that syllabi for approved exceptions did not need to be uploaded to Simple Syllabus until the August deadline. The syllabus will be added at that time.

SOCI 489 – Special Topics: The Sociology of Appearance

- The instructor has been reminded to not advocate while teaching this class, using the definition of “advocacy” on the provost’s website.

WGST 200 – Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies

- The program director and advisor have been informed that additional enrollment is limited to WGST majors and minors. The course is currently capped such that students cannot enroll without seeking approval.

WGST 401 – Feminist Theory

- The instructor has removed the Bolivar essay from their syllabus.
- The program director and advisor have been informed that additional enrollment is limited to WGST majors and minors. The course is currently capped such that students cannot enroll without seeking approval.
- The college initially informed the program director that syllabi for approved exceptions did not need to be uploaded to Simple Syllabus until the August deadline. The syllabus will be added at that time.