

Amendment to the Constitution of the Portland State University Faculty  
 Faculty Senate, 14 June 2021  
 Introduced and modified 7 June 2021

## Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement Committee (RESRC)

### Background, rationale, and implementation

**Background:** Upon the development of the university-wide Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement (RESR) for the BA/BS degree at Portland State University, the creation of a Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement Committee (RESRC) to both review and evaluate courses that will meet the RESR will be required. The proposed RESR is supported by the university administration.

**Rationale:** This proposed constitutional amendment creates the said committee, i.e., the **Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement Committee (RESRC)**. As with the passing of the **RESR**, this action will locate Portland State University as a leader and a model for other institutions who seek to implement a race and ethnic studies requirement in Oregon and the nation. As one of the largest public institutions of higher education in the state of Oregon, PSU will lead as a voice of authority and expertise.

### Proposed Amendment to the Faculty Constitution

The Constitution of the Portland State University Faculty is hereby amended to create the Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement Committee (RESRC), to be constituted beginning Fall 2021, by inserting the following text into Article IV, Section 4(4) in the appropriate alphabetical order, and renumbering other committee listings accordingly:

**Race and Ethnic Studies Requirement Committee.** This committee shall consist of four faculty from the School of Gender, Race, and Nations (SGRN) and three faculty with relevant expertise outside of SGRN (including two with expertise in international, non-US critical race and ethnic studies). The four SGRN faculty, shall be chosen by a majority vote of the faculty of SGRN which shall notify the Committee on Committees of their elected committee members each year by June 1. It will also include one student enrolled in the SGRN MA certificate program nominated by Student Activities and Leadership Programs (SALP) in conversation with the ASPSU. All members of the committee, including the graduate student, will be voting members.

The committee shall:

1. Identify topical areas, learning goals, and pedagogies associated with the RES requirement.
2. Examine syllabi and recommend which courses will count toward the RES requirement for BA/ BS degrees.
3. Recommend courses that will meet the RES requirement to be voted on by the Faculty Senate.

4. Establish guidelines for reviewing for new courses to receive RES designation.
  5. Review transfer credits to meet the RES requirement when necessary.
  6. Act in liaison with other committees, units, and stakeholders (including undergraduate students) as needed, in providing guidance and reviewing course requirements.
  7. Report to the Faculty Senate at least once each year.
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*Procedural note from Secretary:*

*Art. VIII of the Faculty Constitution prescribes a two-stage process for consideration of amendments. The proposed amendment was introduced as item D.2 at the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, discussed, and modified (amendment to the amendment) in one sentence. The final text has been submitted to Advisory Council for review for "proper form and numbering."*

*The vote on the final text occurs at the next regular meeting. A two-thirds majority is required for approval of constitutional amendments.*