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# Developing an Interdisciplinary Digital Media Studies Minor

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## **Thinkfinity Interim Report**

### **DEVELOPING AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DIGITAL MEDIA STUDIES MINOR**

Proposed by: Dr. Emilie Zaslow, Communication Studies & Dr. Ruth D. Johnston, Film & Screen Studies

### **Report on Part 1: Development of a Digital Media Studies Minor**

#### **Timetable for completion:**

January – August 2013

Research similar minors across the country

September - December 2013

Present report to Office of the Dean;

Convene committee in consultation with Dean's office to review report;

Develop minor with existing and new courses;

Approval process for minor in Dyson Curriculum Committee and New York Faculty Council.

January 2014

Launch Digital Media Studies minor

#### **Task 1.**

The Project Director will work with the co-director and a student assistant to research the requirements for Digital Media Studies minors at benchmark institutions and as well as the most innovative media programs across the country.

#### **Status:**

I hired Communication Studies student Kristen Greco to work with me on researching all related digital media majors and minors at Pace's benchmark institutions and at the model programs across the country.

We have identified the relevant academic programs of each school and selected all programs that had any relation to the proposed Digital Studies program. We then explored the curriculum and required classes of each program and determined if the program was a match. Three working documents have been created and are in the process of being turned into a report: a spreadsheet on the benchmark institutions, a spreadsheet on the model programs, and a report on each program by degree and department, number of credits, and all classes required within the Digital Studies category. Ruth Johnston and I have met to review the findings to date and are very excited to see that the Pace minor will be unique amongst its benchmark institutions.

**Task 2**

The Project Director will also work with the co-director to identify both existing courses that are relevant to the minor as well as interested faculty throughout the University who may wish to create courses for the minor.

**Status:**

I have met with Ruth Johnston to begin the process of identifying existing courses for the minor. We plan to develop a list in Summer 2 as part of the proposal for the minor.

**Task 3**

The Project Director will convene a committee, in consultation with the office of the Dean, to review these findings and develop the strategy for moving forward with this interdisciplinary minor.

**Status:**

This will be a process completed in the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year as designated by the accepted timetable above. Ruth Johnston and I have begun conversations about who will be asked to serve on the committee.