Program Coordinator: R. Bernard

The Minor in Appalachian Studies is designed to broaden Graduate & Professional Studies (GPS) students’ understanding of the culture, literature, history, music, and religion of the southern Appalachian region. This 20-hour minor will examine major themes and concepts, such as cultural identity, sense of place, regional and racial identity of Appalachian people found in current as well as past forms of regional literature, oral traditions, history, and scholarship.

Knowledge of one’s background and heritage is imperative in remaining culturally relevant. This curriculum is designed to empower and prepare students by reinforcing independent thinking and self-reliance established by our Appalachian ancestors. More importantly, this curriculum will impart prideful knowledge of Appalachian culture and heritage to a new generation of Appalachian professionals and Christians.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students will be expected:
1. to reiterate and understand the history of Appalachia and its inhabitants;
2. to identify and analyze typical Appalachian themes such as nature, spirituality, family and community, sense of place;
3. to understand the Appalachian region, its culture, social, economic, and political origins, characteristics, and institutions; to understand the fundamental relationship between the physical environment and natural resources of the geographic region and development of an industrial culture and its social institutions;
4. to identify major contemporary Appalachian religions or branches of faith;
5. and most importantly, to become better readers, critical thinkers, speakers, and writers.

Computer Requirements
Laptop computer with minimum of Microsoft Office 2010 or later, wireless capability, and webcam required.

Appalachian Studies Minor
APAL 3110
Appalachian Culture ................................................................. 4 s.h.
APAL 3120
Appalachian Literature ................................................................. 4 s.h.
APAL 3130
Appalachian Music ................................................................. 4 s.h.
APAL 3140
Appalachian Religion ................................................................. 4 s.h.
APAL 3150
History of Appalachia ................................................................. 4 s.h.

Total Minor Requirements ................................................................. 20 s.h.