**Rationale Document for:**

MSM101-Introduction to the World of Museums

MSM310\_Collections Care & Management

MSM320\_Museum Education & Interpretation

MSM321\_Exhibition Design & Development

Three of the Museum Studies syllabi presented are three of the remaining five syllabi needed to officially post the previously approved Museum Studies major and minor. That proposal was passed by the faculty at the September 6, 2016 Faculty Meeting. That document can be found in the Faculty Portal. Technically all the courses embedded within the proposal were passed at that time, but due to modifications to the program PSLOs, the Department felt it is prudent to have them officially passed again via the Curriculum Committee. This would include the three 300 level courses listed above.

**MSM101-*Introduction to the World of Museums*** is a new course not embedded within the original proposal. The rationale for this course is to serve as a gateway course to reach incoming freshman to introduce them to the potential of majoring or minoring in Museum Studies. MSM101 will have no prerequisites and will be able to reach students early in their matriculation giving them an opportunity to determine if a museum studies major or minor would assist in their potential professional careers. Unlike MSM210-Museum & Collections I and MSM211-Museums & Collections II that focus on specific museum studies concepts, MSM101 will provide a general overview of the history of the museum and an analysis of the various types of museums, and how each type serves society at large within the humanities. Documentation of the significance of such a course within an HBCU is outlined in the original Museum Studies proposal past last September.

In the near future, this course will be offered at least once per year and will most likely be taught by an adjunct faculty, preferably by someone affiliated with a nearby museum. The growth of the program and the staffing of the new museum on campus, may impact how, and by whom, this course will be taught.

This course may impact other departments by providing their students an opportunity to minor in an area that is aligned with their field of study. This would include History, Pan-Africana Studies, Anthropology, as well as those in the natural sciences.