The programs offered through the Dean’s Office in the College of Arts and Sciences are unique among the college's majors because they are not housed in a department, they have no faculty exclusively affiliated with them, and are not tied to a single discipline. It is rather a set of courses drawn from a range of college departments that, when taken together, make up the degree requirements.

Nonetheless, these programs are central to the mission of K-State because in addition to being some of the very largest majors in the university, they provide students who do not want to limit themselves to a single focused area of study, but to a more general liberal arts education.

These are high quality degrees because students benefit from taking courses from faculty who come from diverse disciplines. There is substantial need for these degrees, particularly as evidenced by the number of social science majors. While the humanities and physical sciences programs have lower enrollments, it is still true they provide a unique program for our students. These are extraordinarily cost effective degrees, as they add almost no extra administrative or staff cost, no additional faculty, and no extra resources.

The same is true for Secondary programs in the Dean’s Office. One cannot imagine a university today which did not offer courses in American Ethnic Studies, Latin American Studies and International Studies, and all of these secondary majors exist because of faculty from other departments. We have recently identified an Assistant Dean for Diversity in our office and a part of her job will be to increase enrollments in the American Ethnic Studies program.