The University of Oklahoma

**Academic Programs Council**

**Program Proposal Requests Distributed for September 1, 2017 meeting**

**SUBSTANTIVE:**

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

Urban Studies, Master of Science in Architectural Urban Studies (RPC 338, MC M864, M410, M521). Change Level II degree designation to Master of Urban Design, change Level III program name to Urban Design, change Level IV option name Urban Studies to Urban Design; delete Level IV options Environmental Technology and Human Resources; course requirement change ARCH 6680 title to Urban Design Studio and change the list of approved core curriculum major option courses to reflect deletion of the Environmental Technology and Human Resources options and add new courses for the Urban Design (formerly General Urban Studies) option. Total credit hours for the degree will not change.  
Reason for request: Urban Studies is a multidisciplinary pursuit and degree programs in the field originate in a variety academic departments. Our program originated in the College of Architecture and as such emphasizes the built environment, urban design, placemaking, and community based participatory planning. We wish to change the name of the program to Master of Urban Design to reflect this emphasis. It will allow prospective students with undergraduate backgrounds in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Civil Engineering, Real Estate, and City Planning to clearly identify the type of program we have and the subjects and skills we focus on. A survey of similar programs at peer institutions finds that Master of Urban Design is the most common designation for similar courses of study. We hope the name change will help to recruit students to the program. Furthermore, we hope the name change will also be clearer for employers looking to hire our graduates. The options being deleted have only attracted a handful of students since their inception. The option in Environmental Technology is difficult to pursue since the courses are not available at OU-Tulsa and require students to commute to Norman, transfer courses from OSU-Tulsa, or complete independent study and petition for approval. We would like to change the Urban Studies option name to Urban Design to reflect the name change of the degree to Master of Urban Design as described in Item 3. With the revised Urban Design option, we will simplify the program and focus on our strengths in design, placemaking, and community based participatory planning. The new name for ARCH 6680, Urban Design Studio, better reflects the course content and program name change. The change to the approved courses for the core curriculum major options reflect the deletion of the Environmental Technology and Human Relations options. There are also several additional courses added from the college offerings that are well suited for students in the Urban Design option that were not offered when the original list was compiled.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

English, Bachelor of Arts (RPC 068, MC B375-P421, B375-P696). Degree program requirement change.

The English Department proposes to reduce its requirement for majors to complete two semesters of intermediate level courses in a language other than English. We request that our new requirement be the completion of one intermediate level course in a language other than English. Total credit hours for the degree will not change.   
Reason for request: Reducing the foreign language requirement to one semester at the intermediate level will make our department's requirements for a BA identical to the number of foreign language courses required for an undergraduate degree from OU's College of Arts and Sciences. This modification to our requirements aligns our department with other disciplines in CAS that cultivate students' communication and critical thinking abilities. The change also removes a barrier to timely graduation.

COLLEGE OF ATMOSPHERIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES

Environmental Sustainability, Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability (RPC 381, MC B408-P161, B408-P516, B408-591). Course requirement change. A&GS is requesting two changes to the College's BA requirements: 1) Reducing the currently required six hours of intermediate (2000+) foreign language to three hours and 2) Increasing the currently required three hours of social science or humanities to Gen Ed to six hours, to include both a course from both social science and humanities. Total credit hours for the degree will not change.   
Reason for request: It is hoped that this change will make the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences more competitive with degree programs offered through the College of Arts & Sciences, which requires only one, 3-hour intermediate (2000+) foreign language course. A number of OU students start out as majors in the College of Arts & Sciences, and complete the A&S foreign language requirement early in their academic careers. Many students then discover bachelor of arts degree programs in the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences, but are discouraged from changing to A&GS, due to the (currently required) second intermediate foreign language course, since most have completed the first intermediate course anywhere from 1-2 years earlier.

Geography, Bachelor of Arts in Geography (RPC 328, MC B460-P268, B460-P506). Course requirement change. A&GS is requesting two changes to the College's BA requirements: 1) Reducing the currently required six hours of inte1mediate (2000+) foreign language to three hours and 2) Increasing the currently required three hours of social science or humanities to Gen Ed to six hours, to include both a course from both social science and humanities. Total credit hours for the degree will not change.   
Reason for request: It is hoped that this change will make the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences more competitive with degree programs offered through the College of Arts & Sciences, which requires only one, 3-hour intermediate (2000+) foreign language course. A number of OU students start out as majors in the College of Arts & Sciences, and complete the A&S foreign language requirement early in their academic careers. Many students then discover bachelor of arts degree programs in the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences, but are discouraged from changing to A&GS, due to the (currently required) second intermediate foreign language course, since most have completed the first intermediate course anywhere from 1-2 years earlier.

Geographic Information Science, Bachelor of Arts in Geographic Information Science (RPC 367, MC B450). Course requirement change. A&GS is requesting two changes to the College's BA requirements: 1) Reducing the currently required six hours of inte1mediate (2000+) foreign language to three hours and 2) Increasing the currently required three hours of social science or humanities to Gen Ed to six hours, to include both a course from both social science and humanities. Total credit hours for the degree will not change.   
Reason for request: It is hoped that this change will make the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences more competitive with degree programs offered through the College of Arts & Sciences, which requires only one, 3-hour intermediate (2000+) foreign language course. A number of OU students start out as majors in the College of Arts & Sciences, and complete the A&S foreign language requirement early in their academic careers. Many students then discover bachelor of arts degree programs in the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences, but are discouraged from changing to A&GS, due to the (currently required) second intermediate foreign language course, since most have completed the first intermediate course anywhere from 1-2 years earlier.

JEANNINE RAINBOLT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum, Master of Education (RPC 063, MC TBD). Program option addition: Reading Specialist. Provide a professional track for certified teachers to satisfy requirements for advanced certification as a reading specialist, one requirement of which is a Master's degree. A total of 32 hours is required for this degree consisting of 10 hours of core courses and 22 hours of concentration courses.

Reason for request: This degree will be a professional degree for teachers who are initially certified in any initial certification area who wish to become ce1tified as a Reading Specialist. The Reading Specialist Certification program is a nationally recognized accredited advanced teacher preparation program in the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education at the University of Oklahoma. Our Specialized Professional Association, The International Literacy Association, provides standards for any accredited reading specialist program which include a minimum of 30 hours of reading/literacy content courses of which a minimum of 6 hours must contain a supervised practicum or clinic component. This degree will have 32 hours of content courses and will include an enhanced clinic component which will enable our students to better learn how to meet the needs of all children, including those with special needs such as dyslexia. In addition, because the degree is 10 courses, students will be able to complete the degree in 5 semesters making it more affordable on a teacher's salary.

COLLEGE OF LAW

Law and Energy and Natural Resources Law-LLM and Indigenous Peoples Law-LLM, Master of Laws and embedded Graduate Certificates (RPC 384, 155, 156 MC M360, G038, G068). Existing program online delivery request for Master of Laws and both embedded graduate certificates. The delivery method will be the same as the Masters of Legal Studies programs being offered by the College of Law. The courses will be offered in the Canvas LMS and will utilize, recorded lectures, online discussion forums, quizzes, tests, and written assignments.   
Reason for request: The College of Law has found it more difficult in recent years for students from foreign countries to enroll in the traditional LLM program. As a result of several energy producing states such as Kazakhstan and Kurdistan reducing government support, the added cost of travel and living expenses in the United States makes it much more financially burdensome for students to move to Norman to complete the degree in a traditional format. Increasing uncertainty and complexity surrounding a US visa has also been a contributing factor to deter foreign student enrollment. As a result, the number of students from outside the US matriculating has been declining. Yet, we still observe strong interest in the LLM program and the embedded certificates from overseas applicants. By way of example in the month of April we had contact with 137 potential applicants. Yet the vast majority of potential applicants are unable to stay in the process through obtaining a US visa and securing enough funding to cover tuition and travel. We also continue to receive inquiries from universities in countries such as India who have students interested in our LLM degree in Oil and Gas and Energy Law but who cannot relocate to the United States for a year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/INTERNAL:**

ATMOSPHERIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES

Geography, Minor (MC N466). Course requirement change. Add GEOG 1123 Introduction to Geohumanities as an option for students to take in the fundamentals portion of the minor sheet. Total credit hours will not change.   
Reason for request: GEOG 1123 is a new course that needs to be added to the minor options.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Naval Science, Minor (MC N737). Course requirement change. For Marine­Options, the course NS 4333 Amphibious Warfare has been removed from the OU course inventory and the course NS 4443 Fundamentals of Maneuver Warfare has been added in its place. This change would take effect at the beginning of the spring 2018 semester. Total credit hours will not change.   
Reason for request: Nationwide Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) curriculum change for Marine-Options.

**Administrative/Internal requests for APC Chair to review**

BA in Environmental Sustainability/ Master of Regional & City Planning – requesting same changes to accelerated that are being requested for BA.

BA in Geography/Master of Regional & City Planning – requesting same changes to accelerated that are being requested for BA.

BA in Geographic Information Science/Master of Regional & City Planning – requesting same changes to accelerated that are being requested for BA.