



Curriculum and Assessment Office
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Daniel Mendelsohn
Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering
E 338 Scott Lab
201 West 19th Avenue
CAMPUS

Dear Dan:

The Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (CCI) unanimously approved a revision to the Portuguese Major on January 16, 2009. Scott Schwenter and Richard Gordon represented the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at this meeting. The CCI Subcommittee on Arts and Humanities (then "Subcommittee B") approved the proposal with contingencies at their meeting on June 6, 2008, all of which were satisfied prior to January 16. The Humanities College Curriculum Committee approved this proposal on May 30, 2008. Please see the attached transmittal history for detailed minutes from these meetings, which includes responses to questions from the Portuguese program in capital letters.

The revisions to the Portuguese major (which does not entail an increase in required credit hours) were driven by expansion in both the size of the faculty and student interest and enrollments. The program now has six core faculty as compared to only two a few years ago. Partially due to the increase in Spanish majors, the Portuguese program has experienced an increase of approximately 300% in both the minor and major, making it the largest major of its kind in the CIC. Both of these factors have provided the opportunity to strengthen the program's core and streamline the structure of choices within the major's categories to make it more parallel in structure to the Spanish major.

The details of the proposed structure are summarized in Jay Hobgood's transmittal letter as well as in the proposal, which is complete with sample four-year plans for students with no prior knowledge of Portuguese or Spanish as well as for those with prior knowledge. There are no new or revised course requests associated with this proposal. Rather, this proposal is the culmination of thoughtful and deliberate revisions and additions to the curriculum over the past several years.

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance as CAA considers these changes.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Hallihan
Director, Curriculum and Assessment

c: Randy Smith
Briggs Cormier
Terry Gustafson