



Department of Economics

410 Arps Hall
1945 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43210-1172

Phone (614) 292-6701
Fax (614) 292-3906

September 28, 2015

Professor Meg Daly
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval of Revision to the Political Science BA Program

Dear Meg:

The SBS Panel on September 21, 2015 approved a proposal by Political Science to revise its Bachelor of Arts program.

The program has depth and breadth requirements. Currently, students in the program satisfy the depth requirement by taking four courses from one of the four traditional sub-fields or from a self-designed cluster. The proposal adds an additional way to satisfy the requirement. Students could alternatively take four courses from one of seven specific clusters of courses. The proposal aims to reflect more accurately the substantive interest of a specialization. It is also part of the larger effort to make the Political Science majors more responsive to the needs of the undergraduate population.

The panel agreed that the revision is worthwhile, and voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Lam'.

Pok-sang Lam
Chair, ASCC SBS Panel

State the title of the proposed major and indicate whether it is new or a modification of an existing major.

Political Science (Bachelor of Arts)

This is a modification of an existing major.

State the rationale for initiating the proposal. Briefly explain how assessment data has served as an impetus for the proposal (i.e., program review, reaccreditation data, majors, or student data gathered).

Currently, students seeking a BA in Political Science must meet depth and breadth requirements. They meet the depth requirement (specialization) by taking four courses either in one of the four traditional subfields (American, Comparative, International Relations, or Political Theory) or in a self-designed cluster of courses. The Undergraduate Studies Committee developed thematic clusters to serve as guidelines for this latter category. Thus far the clusters have been used for advisory purposes only. We now propose to transition these clusters into formal specializations and to make specializations transcriptable. Upon this change, students would be able to specialize either in one of the clusters or in one of the four traditional subfields. The breadth requirement would remain unchanged.

In the past five years the Department has sought to revise the major. Last year, 2014-2015, we rolled out two new majors, a BA in World Politics and a BS in Political Science. We also were looking into ways to make the traditional BA in Political Science more responsive to our undergraduate population. In discussing revisions to the BA in Political Science, the committee was guided by two considerations. On the one hand, the major is organized around disciplinary categories and language that are sometimes unappealing and even unintelligible to undergraduates: for example, few people who aren't already Political Science majors know what the terms "comparative politics" or "political theory" mean. This speaks in favor of repackaging the major in a way that reflects the substantive interests that students actually bring to the study of politics. On the other hand, the administrative and pedagogical costs of completely restructuring the major would be high. With these considerations in mind, the committee recommends that we leave the existing structure of the major in place but group our courses into seven thematic clusters to guide students' choices of specialization:

- (1) Democracy and law
- (2) Political identities and allegiances
- (3) Political economy and development
- (4) Cooperation, conflict and violence
- (5) Inequality and justice
- (6) Political leadership and reform
- (7) Political analysis

We believe that these clusters will be useful in answering the "what is political science?" question for potential majors, and that students can use them as focus areas or "tracks" to pursue depending on their interests. This will provide more structure in the major for students who want

it. Because all of the clusters contain courses from more than one subfield, and many contain courses from 3 or 4 subfields, it should be fairly easy for students to meet the existing requirements in the major while making use of the clusters. If this idea catches on with students and faculty, then over time courses could be created or modified to correspond more closely with the cluster themes. And if it doesn't catch on, then the cluster idea could be withdrawn without any further changes to the major being necessary. A more detailed description of the clusters, including a list of the courses that we have tentatively grouped under each heading, is attached.

Indicate the proposed implementation date for the new major.

Spring, 2016

Describe the major in catalog style, including each concentration or option.

The Bachelor of Arts in Political Science offers students a wide range of opportunities to study the many dimensions of politics and government, including elections and electoral behavior, legal and judicial politics, foreign policy and war, political economy and development, the political implications of race, gender and ethnicity, and the moral and ethical issues associated with democracy, global justice, and human rights. Students take at least one course in each of the four main subfields of the discipline: American Politics (the study of political behavior and institutions in the United States), Comparative Politics (the study of non-US political behavior and institutions), International Relations (the study of relationships between states), and Political Theory (the study of the concepts and values that inform political life).

Students also choose a specialization from among seven thematic specializations (described in greater detail below), in which they take at least four courses: democracy and law; political identities and allegiances; political economy and development; cooperation, conflict and violence; inequality and justice; political leadership and reform; or political analysis. A student may opt instead to specialize in one of the four traditional subfields.

Prior to declaring this major, a student must have credit for one of the following courses: Political Science 1100, 1165, 1200, 1300, 2150, 2300, or 2400.

Requirements for the undergraduate major in Political Science:

1. An undergraduate major in Political Science consists of a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 33 hours of course work numbered at the 2000 level or higher.
2. (A) At least 24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher. These 24 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program. (B) A minimum of 21 credit hours must be earned at The Ohio State University. This limits to 12 hours the course work that can be earned through study at another domestic or foreign institution or through Ohio State-sponsored off-campus programs, and ensures that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least 15 of the 21 Ohio State credit hours must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher.

3. Major programs must include at least 1 course from each of four fields in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Political Science 4781 (Data Analysis in Political Science I) may be counted toward any one of the fields in satisfying this requirement.
4. Major programs must include a 4-course specialization, which can be in one of the seven clusters or one of the four fields. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an advisor or faculty member.
5. A grade of "C-" or better is necessary in order for a course to count as part of a major program. A student must earn a Cumulative Point-Hour Ratio of 2.0 or higher in all courses included on the major.
6. A maximum combined total of 6 credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and relevant research, problems and topics courses.
7. As many as 6 credit hours of the 33 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an advisor in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.

Political Science Course Clusters

Democracy and law

What is democracy? What makes democracy possible? How can the performance of democratic institutions be improved? This course of study focuses on the workings of democratic institutions: how they are designed, how they influence political outcomes, and how they perform in different social and historical contexts. Students will learn how institutions shape individual behavior, how political, economic, and social institutions work together, and how political values and ideals are given concrete legal form.

| | |
|------|--|
| 2367 | Contemporary Issues in American Politics |
| 3100 | American Politics & Policy Making |
| 3115 | Introduction to the Policy Process |
| 3420 | Political Theories of Democracy |
| 3450 | Ethics and Public Policy |
| 3912 | Political Leadership |
| 4110 | The American Presidency |
| 4115 | Bureaucracy and Public Policy |
| 4120 | U.S. Congress |
| 4125 | American State Politics |
| 4126 | Ohio Politics |
| 4127 | Governing Urban America |

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| 4130 | Law and Politics |
| 4132H | Supreme Court Decision Making |
| 4135 | American Constitutional Law |
| 4136 | Civil Liberties |
| 4137 | Politics of Legal Decision Making |
| 4138 | Women and the Law |
| 4139 | Gun Politics |
| 4150 | American Political Parties |
| 4152 | Campaign Politics |
| 4190 | Political Decision-Making and Public Policy |
| 4192 | Policy Analysis |
| 4200 | Politics of Modern Democracies |
| 4210 | Politics of European Integration |
| 4212 | Southern European Politics |
| 4214 | Northern European Politics |
| 4216 | East European Politics |
| 4218 | Russian Politics |
| 4219 | European Political Development |
| 4225H | Democracy in Muslim Majority Countries |
| 4230 | Chinese Political System |
| 4231 | China: State & Society |
| 4232 | Contemporary Politics of South Asia |
| 4235 | Japanese Politics |
| 4236 | SE Asian Politics |
| 4240 | Latin American Politics |
| 4241 | Special Topics in Latin American Politics |
| 4242 | Incomplete Democracies |
| 4250(H) | African Politics |
| 4270 | Canadian Political System |
| 4280 | State and Economy |
| 4285 | Comparative Politics of the Welfare State |
| 4420H | Debating Democracy |
| 4460 | American Political Ideas |
| 4910 | Business-Government Relations |

Political identities and allegiances

How does who you are – your gender, race, ethnicity, religion, and nationality – matter in politics? This course of study examines how individual and group identities are created and how they shape political decisions ranging from how to vote to whether to join a revolution. By studying a variety of political and legal issues, students will develop critical thinking, writing and speaking skills and will learn how to gather and synthesize information, develop hypotheses, and draw inferences about the causes and consequences of political behavior.

2150 Voters and Elections

| | |
|---------|--|
| 2367 | Contemporary Issues in American Politics |
| 2400(H) | Introduction to Political Theory |
| 3170 | Political Psychology |
| 3549 | Survey Research in Political Science |
| 3596(H) | Nationalism and Ethnicity: The Politics of Belonging |
| 3910 | Identity Politics |
| 4138 | Women and the Law |
| 4140 | Black Politics |
| 4145 | Asian American Politics |
| 4150 | American Political Parties |
| 4160 | Public Opinion |
| 4162 | Religion and American Politics |
| 4164 | Political Participation and Voting Behavior |
| 4165 | Mass Media and American Politics |
| 4170 | Gender and Politics |
| 4175 | Women, Government, and Public Policy |
| 4262 | New Religious Politics |
| 4282 | The Politics of Income Inequality |
| 4460 | American Political Ideas |
| 4465 | Feminist Political Theory |
| 4597 | .02 Political Problems of the Contemporary World |
| 4597 | .03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World |
| 4940 | The Politics of Immigration |
| 5124 | Urban Politics |
| 5140 | Ethnic Politics in American Cities |

Political economy and development

How do political institutions promote or hinder economic development in a globalizing world? This course of study is designed to build the skills necessary to understand the political dimensions of economic policy. Students will learn how to analyze the complex relationships between state and economy both domestically and internationally, and to assess competing theories about the causes and consequences of globalization. They will also gain a theoretical and historical understanding of the development of domestic and international political and economic institutions.

| | |
|---------|--|
| 3220 | Politics of the Developing World |
| 3460 | Global Justice |
| 3596(H) | Nationalism and Ethnicity: The Politics of Belonging |
| 4230 | Chinese Political System |
| 4231 | China: State & Society |
| 4232 | Contemporary Politics of South Asia |
| 4236 | Southeast Asian Politics |
| 4240 | Latin American Politics |
| 4241 | Special Topics in Latin American Politics |
| 4242 | Incomplete Democracies |

| | |
|-------|--|
| 4250 | African Politics |
| 4280 | State and Economy |
| 4282 | The Politics of Income Inequality |
| 4285 | Comparative Politics of the Welfare State |
| 4327 | Politics in the Middle East |
| 4330 | Global Governance |
| 4331 | United Nations System |
| 4332 | Globalization |
| 4335 | International Environmental Politics |
| 4380 | Political Analysis of International Economic Relations |
| 4381 | Comparative International Political Economy |
| 4597 | .02 Political Problems of the Contemporary World |
| 4940 | The Politics of Immigration |
| 4225H | Democracy in Muslim Majority Countries |

Cooperation, conflict and violence

Political order is precarious: nationalism, ideological extremism, ethnic divisions, resource scarcity and national security concerns all have the potential to fuel conflict and even war. This course of study addresses the origins of violent conflict and the sources of cooperation and stability at both the domestic and international levels. Students will acquire the critical and analytical tools that are needed to promote peaceful conflict resolution, stable and inclusive political institutions, and more effective global governance and diplomacy.

| | |
|---------|--|
| 2300 | American Foreign Policy |
| 3460 | Global Justice |
| 3596(H) | Nationalism and Ethnicity: The Politics of Belonging |
| 4249 | Domestic Politics of International Conflict |
| 4300 | Theories of International Relations |
| 4310 | Security Policy |
| 4315 | International Security and the Causes of War |
| 4318 | The Politics of International Terrorism |
| 4320 | Strategies for War and Peace |
| 4326 | Russian Foreign Policy |
| 4327 | Politics in the Middle East |
| 4330 | Global Governance |
| 4331 | United Nations System |
| 4332 | Globalization |
| 4335 | International Environmental Politics |
| 4380 | Political Analysis of International Economic Relations |
| 4381 | Comparative International Political Economy |
| 4455 | Human Rights |

Inequality and justice

How does the experience of inequality and injustice motivate and frustrate political action? This course of study focuses on the values that structure political life and the ways in which those values are shaped by and embodied in political institutions. Students will learn how political ideals such as democracy, freedom, justice, and human rights have been defined in different ideological traditions and different historical contexts, and how these ideals inform individuals' understandings of what their interests are.

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|---------|--|
| 2400(H) | Introduction to Political Theory |
| 3220 | Politics of the Developing World |
| 3420 | Political Theories of Democracy |
| 3430 | Political Theories of Freedom |
| 3440 | Political Theories of Justice |
| 3450 | Ethics and Public Policy |
| 3460 | Global Justice |
| 4130 | Law and Politics |
| 4132H | Supreme Court Decision Making |
| 4135 | American Constitutional Law |
| 4136 | Civil Liberties |
| 4137 | Politics of Legal Decision Making |
| 4138 | Women and the Law |
| 4139 | Gun Politics |
| 4140 | Black Politics |
| 4145 | Asian American Politics |
| 4170 | Gender and Politics |
| 4225H | Democracy in Muslim Majority Countries |
| 4280 | State and Economy |
| 4282 | The Politics of Income Inequality |
| 4285 | Comparative Politics of the Welfare State |
| 4380 | Political Analysis of International Economic Relations |
| 4381 | Comparative International Political Economy |
| 4411 | Ancient and Medieval Political Thought |
| 4412 | Early Modern Political Thought |
| 4413 | Modern Political Thought |
| 4414 | Topics in Contemporary Political Thought |
| 4420H | Debating Democracy |
| 4450H | Politics and Ethics |
| 4455 | Human Rights |
| 4460 | American Political Ideas |
| 4465 | Feminist Political Theory |
| 4597 | .03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World |
| 4940 | The Politics of Immigration |
| 5124 | Urban Politics |
| 5140 | Ethnic Politics in American Cities |

Political leadership and reform

How can political actors and ordinary citizens make a difference in the world? This course of study is designed to build the skills that are necessary to organize and lead successful campaigns for political change. Through comparative, historical, policy, and case-study analyses, students will learn how to organize political campaigns and movements, how to build coalitions with like-minded allies, and how to translate ideals into effective policies.

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|---------|---|
| 2400(H) | Introduction to Political Theory |
| 3100 | American Politics and Policy Making |
| 3115 | Introduction to the Policy Process |
| 3420 | Political Theories of Democracy |
| 3430 | Political Theories of Freedom |
| 3440 | Political Theories of Justice |
| 3450 | Ethics and Public Policy |
| 3460 | Global Justice |
| 3912 | Political Leadership |
| 4130 | Law and Politics |
| 4135 | American Constitutional Law |
| 4136 | Civil Liberties |
| 4138 | Women and the Law |
| 4150 | American Political Parties |
| 4152 | Campaign Politics |
| 4160 | Public Opinion |
| 4164 | Political Participation and Voting Behavior |
| 4165 | Mass Media and American Politics |
| 4190 | Political Decision-Making and Public Policy |
| 4192 | Policy Analysis |
| 4335 | International Environmental Politics |
| 4420H | Debating Democracy |
| 4450H | Politics and Ethics |
| 4455 | Human Rights |
| 4460 | American Political Ideas |
| 4465 | Feminist Political Theory |

Political analysis

What tools do we need to understand political life? All social-scientific inquiry appeals to concepts, values and empirical claims about the world that are contestable in principle, and often contested in fact. This course of study is designed to build the analytical, conceptual, and methodological skills that are necessary to critically evaluate such claims and to apply them intelligently to the study of political life.

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|------|--|
| 3549 | Survey Research in Political Science |
| 3780 | Data Literacy & Visualization |
| 3905 | Political Manipulation |
| 4411 | Ancient and Medieval Political Thought |
| 4412 | Early Modern Political Thought |

4413 Modern Political Thought
4414 Topics in Contemporary Political Thought
4460 American Political Ideas
4553 Game Theory for Political Scientists
4780 Political Science Research Colloquium
4781 Data Analysis in Political Science I
4782 Data Analysis in Political Science II

Subject: FW: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program
Date: Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 10:51:20 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Lam, Pok-Sang
To: Wills, Celia, Daly, Marymegan
CC: Reed, Katie, Hadley, Susan, Miriti, Maria, Whipple, Sam, Vankeerbergen, Bernadette, Haddad, Deborah, Toohey, Meagan, Mitzen, Jennifer

Dear Dr. Wills:

The following emails contain comments from Meagan Toohey (Director, ASC Honors) and Jennifer Mitzen (Director of Undergraduate Studies, Political Science) concerning the potential impact on honors students.

I would summarize their comments as follows. Meagan commented that these specializations could pose a challenge to honors students, and may require more intensive departmental advising and a commitment to offering more honors courses. Meagan also felt adding honors-embedded courses would help. Jennifer noted that it is indeed the intention of Political Science to provide, on a regular basis, a variety of courses suitable for honors students. Jennifer added that two courses with an “E” option are being worked through the system— Political Science 4139E (Gun Politics) and Political Science 4305E (International Theory). Jennifer further pointed out that the requirement of taking four honors courses is not as stringent as it appears, since students could also fulfill the requirement by taking honors electives. Also, in the case of reverting back to the current system, students in transition will be allowed to finish out in clusters.

As to the question about the review/approval needed for this proposal, I understand that the proposal has followed the university curricular procedure to reach your committee. First, Political Science voted to approve the proposal. Then the proposal went through the Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Divisional Curricular Assistant Dean, the SBS Panel of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (ASCC), the full ASCC, and finally to the Office of Academic Affairs.

I hope this helps. Thanks.

Pok-sang

From: Mitzen, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 4:52 PM
To: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette; Toohey, Meagan
Cc: Lam, Pok-Sang; Haddad, Deborah
Subject: RE: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Dear All,

I've now had a chance to read over the correspondence:

On the specific highlighted question from the initial email - Honors students must take four honors courses, **but these courses need not be in their specialization. They all can be electives.** This means that the transition from subfields to clusters will not affect students' abilities to fulfill their honors requirements.

The second question is, what would happen to students if the department reverts back to subfields – there, the answer is that we'll allow the current student to finish out their degrees in clusters and begin with the freshmen.

Thanks, Meagan for your helpful feedback – we definitely are working to expand our honors offerings by adding more courses with an “E” option (two such proposals are working their way through the system now and we hope for them to be on the books for spring semester 2016); we also are increasing our 5000 level offerings (four have been approved lately and at least two more proposals that I know of are in the works). We try each semester to offer four honors courses, which we are doing through a combination of H, E, and 5000 level courses. Honors undergrads also can take our 6000 and 7000 level courses with permission of instructor.

I hope this is helpful!

Best, Jennifer



Jennifer Mitzen

Associate Professor and

Director of Undergraduate Studies and Honors

Department of Political Science

614-292-7400

mitzen.1@osu.edu

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette

Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 8:45 AM

To: Toohey, Meagan; Mitzen, Jennifer

Cc: Lam, Pok-Sang; Haddad, Deborah

Subject: RE: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Dear Jennifer,

Please see Meagan Toohey's response about the Political Science BA question (how the changes might affect Honors students).

We are looking forward to receiving your response as well.

My best,
Bernadette

Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.
Program Director, Curriculum and Assessment
Arts and Sciences
The Ohio State University
154D Denney Hall
164 W 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614-688-5679
Fax: 614-292-6303
<http://asccas.osu.edu>

From: Toohey, Meagan
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2015 2:29 PM
To: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>
Cc: Lam, Pok-Sang <lam.1@osu.edu>; Haddad, Deborah <haddad.2@osu.edu>
Subject: RE: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Hello Bernadette (et al.),

For graduation *with honors in the Arts and Sciences*, the Arts and Sciences Honors Program requires students to complete the honors versions of their majors (and minors, if any) according to the honors standards set by the relevant departments. In the case of Political Science, I understand that honors students majoring in Political Science are required by the department to complete at least four honors courses at the 3000-level or above (or appropriate equivalents) in order to satisfy the honors requirements for the major.

From an advising perspective, it does seem like the introduction of the new specializations could pose some difficulties for honors students due to the somewhat limited availability of 3000- and 4000-level honors courses. While I don't think this proposed change to the major is necessarily unworkable, I imagine that honors students may require fairly intensive departmental advising on the major to enable them to be more strategic than they perhaps have been in choosing honors courses (in a timely fashion) that will satisfy their needed major distribution and/or specialization requirements.

With the introduction of these specializations, I think it would also be helpful for the department to commit to offering a sufficient variety of honors courses (meeting an array of subfields or specializations) on a regular and at least somewhat predictable basis to ensure that students have sufficient options to satisfy their honors major requirements while completing their desired specializations. (I don't mean to suggest that the department is not doing this now, but I think it would be even more important to be as transparent as possible about honors course availability with implementation of the proposed change.) As long as the department's honors offerings continue to represent a variety of subfields/specializations and as long as students know what to expect early on with respect to honors course availability, I think that most students will be able to work with somewhat limited honors offerings. That said, the addition of some honors-embedded course options would no doubt be welcome (and I understand that there are some in the works).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Meagan



Meagan Toohey, J.D.

Assistant Dean and Director

College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program

3180 Smith Laboratory, 174 West 18th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210

614-292-5104 Office / 614-688-8791 Fax

toohey.4@osu.edu aschonors.osu.edu

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette

Sent: Monday, November 02, 2015 10:49 AM

To: Toohey, Meagan

Cc: Lam, Pok-Sang; Haddad, Deborah; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette

Subject: FW: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Hello Meagan,

Please see correspondence below. Recently the SBS Panel and then the full ASCC approved a proposal (attached) to revise the Political Science BA—create transcriptable specializations. Students can specialize in one of the 4 traditional subfields or in a cluster. Please note that the Dept of Political Science has already been implementing all this on an advisory level. Now they want to make this official/transcriptable.

(Students will still be able to design their own cluster if they so wish.)

The proposal was advanced to the Council on Academic Affairs on October 7. Now CAA is asking a question to Meg Daly and Pok-sang Lam on how this change would affect Honors students—see the portion that I highlight in yellow. Could you please provide some feedback to Pok-sang about the Honors implications (if any) of the proposed change. Do you see any issues? We will, of course, also seek feedback from the Dept of Political Science. Your response and the response from the Dept of Political Science will enable Pok-sang to address the issues raised by CAA.

Many thanks,
Bernadette

Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.
Program Director, Curriculum and Assessment
Arts and Sciences
The Ohio State University
154D Denney Hall
164 W 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614-688-5679
Fax: 614-292-6303
<http://asccas.osu.edu>

From: Lam, Pok-Sang
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2015 9:39 AM
To: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Haddad, Deborah <haddad.2@osu.edu>
Subject: FW: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Bernadette and Deborah:

I got this email from CAA. They have a few issues about the Political Science BA Revision. Embarrassingly, I am not familiar with the requirements for a honor student in the program. I could not find any information from the proposal. Where could I read about this? Any advice on how I should proceed? Thanks.

Pok-sang

From: Wills, Celia
Sent: Sunday, November 01, 2015 3:17 PM
To: Daly, Marymegan; Lam, Pok-Sang
Cc: Reed, Katie; Hadley, Susan; Miriti, Maria; Whipple, Sam
Subject: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Dear Drs. Daly and Lam,

Subcommittee A of the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) has reviewed the attached proposal for changes to the Political Science BA program. Comments and questions of the reviewers are copied below. Could you please reply to this email to address responses for the review feedback? I will provide the reply to the reviewers for any additional feedback before this proposal moves forward to the agenda for the full CAA review.

- I like the flexibility it [the proposal] brings to the major, and I think that transcriptable specializations will deliver more value to the students. I have a few concerns about Honors offerings and the future of the clusters.
 - Honors students are required to take 4 honors courses. This is already difficult under the subfields, and it would become even more so under certain clusters. For example, "Political Identities and Allegiances" has just two honors courses, and none at the 4000 level. The Department should expand honors course offerings across all new clusters, or, at a minimum, create more embedded (E) options. Is there such a plan?
 - At the top of page 3, the proposal states that the cluster idea may be withdrawn should it fail to catch on with students. How might that affect students who had already begun to work in a cluster, and would then have to migrate to one of the four main subfields?
- Please clarify the levels of faculty review/approval that may be required for this proposal at the department and college level. That is, beyond the curriculum committee level, were any other college level reviews/approval required for this proposal?

Thank you,

Celia E. Wills



Celia E. Wills, PhD, RN Graduate Studies Chairperson & College Secretary, Associate Professor
College of Nursing Center for Excellence in Critical and Complex Care (CECCC)
394 Newton Hall | 1585 Neil Avenue Columbus, OH 43210-1289
614-292-4699 Office | 614-292-7976 Fax
wills.120@osu.edu <http://nursing.osu.edu/faculty-and-staff/faculty-directory/wills-celia-e.html>

Subject: Re: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program
Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 10:10:02 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: Wills, Celia
To: Lam, Pok-Sang, Daly, Marymegan
CC: Whipple, Sam, Miriti, Maria, Hadley, Susan, Reed, Katie, Vankeerbergen, Bernadette

Thank you Pok-sang, the reviewer question was in regard to the curriculum review and approval process at the department and college level. As note below the concurrence process would not ordinarily apply to a minor program revision, Celia



Celia E. Wills, PhD, RN Graduate Studies Chairperson & College Secretary, Associate Professor
College of Nursing Center for Excellence in Critical and Complex Care (CECCC)
394 Newton Hall | 1585 Neil Avenue Columbus, OH 43210-1289
614-292-4699 Office | 614-292-7976 Fax
wills.120@osu.edu <http://nursing.osu.edu/faculty-and-staff/faculty-directory/wills-celia-e.html>

From: "Lam, Pok-Sang" <lam.1@osu.edu>
Date: Sunday, November 1, 2015 at 6:14 PM
To: "Daly, Marymegan" <daly.66@osu.edu>, Celia <wills.120@osu.edu>
Cc: "Whipple, Sam" <whipple.55@buckeyemail.osu.edu>, "Miriti, Maria" <miriti.1@osu.edu>, "Hadley, Susan" <hadley.4@osu.edu>, "Reed, Katie" <reed.901@osu.edu>, "Vankeerbergen, Bernadette" <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>
Subject: RE: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Dear Dr. Wills (et al.):

We typically do not ask for concurrences for a *revision* to a program, so we did not. If this were a proposal for a *new* program, I imagine we would. I am not quite sure whether Dr. Wills is concerned about concurrences specifically. I wonder if Dr. Wills is concerned about the approval process in general.

Regarding the honor courses, we have not discussed the issue in our meetings. The proposal is a formalization of a procedure that they have been doing informally through their advisors. My hunch therefore is that there are honor courses, outside the clusters, that a honor student is expected to take, so the clusters do not need to have four honor courses necessarily. But I will look into it, together with their strategy to deal with withdrawal .

Pok-sang

From: Daly, Marymegan
Sent: Sunday, November 01, 2015 5:52 PM
To: Wills, Celia
Cc: Whipple, Sam; Lam, Pok-Sang; Miriti, Maria; Hadley, Susan; Reed, Katie; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
Subject: Re: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

Dear Dr. Wills (et al.),

These are good questions. I'll let Pok-Sang chime in as expert in the curriculum and in this proposed change, but I can give you some immediate feedback.

In my experience with other transcripts programs, they are phased out rather than having a hard end date to circumvent the problem of a student being left out when the program changes. If it's being phased out because of a lack of interest, keeping track of the few enrollees doesn't pose much of a problem. In most cases, the phase out happens because there are no enrollees, so this is more of an in-theory than an in-practice issue. I think that language stating this explicitly can be added to the proposal without any trouble.

The issue of Honor's courses did not come up in the full ASCC discussion. I think that this is worth bringing to the attention of the department and possibly getting some feedback from the Honor's panel. As I recall, they did not weigh in on this change in a direct way.

The proposal was discussed and approved by the full ASCC. I don't recall the programs or departments that provided concurrence- Pok-Sang should chime in if he recalls. Otherwise, I will check into it.

What is the timeline for us to get a complete response to you? The issue of Honor's will probably take a bit of time as we will need to check in with the department.

Thanks!
Meg

On Nov 1, 2015 2:17 PM, "Wills, Celia" <wills.120@osu.edu> wrote:
Dear Drs. Daly and Lam,

Subcommittee A of the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) has reviewed the attached proposal for changes to the Political Science BA program. Comments and questions of the reviewers are copied below. Could you please reply to this email to address responses for the review feedback? I will provide the reply to the reviewers for any additional feedback before this proposal moves forward to the agenda for the full CAA review.

- I like the flexibility it [the proposal] brings to the major, and I think that transcriptable specializations will deliver more value to the students. I have a few concerns about Honors offerings and the future of the clusters.
 - Honors students are required to take 4 honors courses. This is already difficult under the subfields, and it would become even more so under certain clusters. For example, "Political Identities and Allegiances" has just two honors courses, and none at the 4000 level. The Department should expand honors course offerings across all new clusters, or, at a minimum, create more embedded (E) options. Is there such a plan?
 - At the top of page 3, the proposal states that the cluster idea may be withdrawn should it fail to catch on with students. How might that affect students who had already begun to work in a cluster, and would then have to migrate to one of the four main subfields?

- Please clarify the levels of faculty review/approval that may be required for this proposal at the department and college level. That is, beyond the curriculum committee level, were any other college level reviews/approval required for this proposal?

Thank you,

Celia E. Wills

The Ohio State University



Celia E. Wills, PhD, RN Graduate Studies Chairperson & College Secretary, Associate Professor
College of Nursing Center for Excellence in Critical and Complex Care (CECCC)
394 Newton Hall | 1585 Neil Avenue Columbus, OH 43210-1289
614-292-4699 Office | 614-292-7976 Fax
wills.120@osu.edu <http://nursing.osu.edu/faculty-and-staff/faculty-directory/wills-celia-e.html>

Subject: Re: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program
Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 10:07:42 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: Wills, Celia
To: Daly, Marymegan
CC: Whipple, Sam, Lam, Pok-Sang, Miriti, Maria, Hadley, Susan, Reed, Katie, Vankeerbergen, Bernadette

Thanks Meg, these clarifications are very helpful. Re the additional consultation, whenever is feasible for you and Pok-Sang would be fine, within plan to move the proposal review forward as soon as possible, Celia



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Date: Sunday, November 1, 2015 at 5:51 PM
To: Celia <wills.120@osu.edu>
Cc: "Whipple, Sam" <whipple.55@buckeyemail.osu.edu>, "Lam, Pok-Sang" <lam.1@osu.edu>, "Miriti, Maria" <miriti.1@osu.edu>, "Hadley, Susan" <hadley.4@osu.edu>, "Reed, Katie" <reed.901@osu.edu>, "Vankeerbergen, Bernadette" <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: CAA subcommittee questions re proposed changes to Political Science BA program

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