



Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Dear Chair and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

On May 4, 2023, the ASCC's Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel reviewed and unanimously approved a proposal from the Department of Geography for changes to their Geographic Information Sciences (GIS) minor. There are four proposed revisions to the GIS minor, as follows:

- 1) A reduction in the total number of credit hours. The current minor requires 18 credits. The revision reduces this to 15 credits, which brings the minor in line with other ASC minors. The reduction in credits is accomplished by reducing the number of required courses from four to three.
- 2) Inclusion of a new course (GEOG 5101) to the list of electives. GEOG 5101 is a newly added course to the curriculum that was designed to develop students' moral compass related to geographic information science and technology.
- 3) Reclassification of GEOG 4103 from a required to elective course. The topics covered in GEOG 4103 (statistical concepts and methods) are available in other courses and/or departments. Therefore, this course does not need to be required for the minor.
- 4) Removal of courses from the minor curriculum. Three courses will no longer be included in the minor because they have either been moved to the 6000 level or are related to specialty areas not at the core of the GIS minor.

The Department of Geography has put together a thorough revision proposal with a clearly articulated rationale and transition plan for the GIS minor. Therefore, we advance the proposal for the revised GIS minor to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

Christina M. Roup, Ph.D.
Associate Professor