To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to Political Science/International Affairs Major

PRESENT:

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Political Science/International Affairs are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (two courses [10 units]):
   One course from a and one course from b
   a) POSC 015 or POSC 017
   b) POSC 020 or POSC 020H

Upper-division requirements (16 courses [at least 64 units]):

   a) International Relations (four courses)
      POSC 123, POSC 124 or POSC 124S, POSC 125, POSC 126, POSC 127, POSC 128, POSC 129, POSC 130, POSC 135, POSC 147, POSC 150, POSC 169
   
   b) Comparative Politics (four courses)
      POSC 120, POSC 131, POSC 133, POSC 151, POSC 152, POSC 153, POSC 154, POSC 155, POSC 156, POSC 157, POSC 158/LNST 148, POSC 159, POSC 160, POSC 162/LNST 142, POSC 164 or POSC 164S

   c) General Political Science (four other political science courses in any subfield).

   d) In addition, students must take four courses from the following:

PROPOSED:

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Political Science/International Affairs are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (two courses [10 units]):
   One course from a and one course from b
   a) POSC 015 or POSC 015H or POSC 017
   b) POSC 020 or POSC 020H

   Students in the major must complete two lower-division Political Science courses with a grade of "C" or better in order to take upper-division political science courses.

Upper-division requirements (16 courses [at least 64 units]):

   a) International Relations (four courses)
      POSC 123, POSC 124 or POSC 124S, POSC 125, POSC 126, POSC 127, POSC 128, POSC 129, POSC 130, POSC 132 or POSC 132S, POSC 134 or POSC 134S, POSC 135, POSC 147 or POSC 147S, POSC 150 or POSC 150S, POSC 169

   b) Comparative Politics (four courses)
      POSC 120, POSC 131, POSC 133, POSC 151, POSC 152, POSC 153, POSC 154, POSC 155 or POSC 155S, POSC 156, POSC 157, POSC 158/LNST 148, POSC 159, POSC 160, POSC 161/LNST 188, POSC 162/LNST 142, POSC 164 or POSC 164S, POSC 178

   c) General Political Science (four other political science courses in any subfield).

   d) In addition, students must take four courses from the following:

   No Change
ANTH 161/LNST 161, ANTH 163, ANTH 164/LNST 164/WMST 164, ANTH 186/LNST 166

ECON 171, ECON 175, ECON 178/BUS 178, ECON 181, ECON 182, ECON 185/LNST 185

HISA 117B, HISA 164B, HISE 141, HISE 142, HISE 145, HISE 146, HISE 174, HIST 182

SOC 135, SOC 137, SOC 161

Students may petition for permission to count a specific course not on this list. Political Science/International Affairs majors are strongly encouraged to learn a language other than English. The university offers language instruction in Chinese, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

JUSTIFICATION:

The political science department is proposing that students in the major would have to pass two lower-division political science courses with a grade of “C” or higher before moving on to any upper-division courses. This would apply to majors only. The Political Science International Affairs Major requires only two lower-division political science courses.

Information: Last quarter 234 students failed to get a grade of “C” or higher in lower-division courses. They represented 20% of all those enrolled in lower-division courses. We would expect some decline in enrollment in upper division courses in the future, as the new requirement takes effect. But of course, some % of students will improve their performance, so we don’t expect any dramatic declines. (This quarter 27% of the students enrolled in upper division courses are non-majors).

We would not anticipate a large increase in enrollments in the lower-division courses because no one would be grandfathered into this system. It would just pertain to incoming Freshman once the catalog change has been made.

The underlined courses are new approved courses that need to be added to their respective areas.

(I have verified that all courses listed in this curriculum change are active via the Committee on Courses reports from 12/1/09 to 2/15/11) Cherrie Veriato.

APPROVALS:

Approved by the faculty of the Department of Political Science: 2/2/11
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences: 4/6/11
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: 4/27/11