

LSC Use Only No: <i>App-4/19/12</i>	LSC Action-Date:	UWUCC USE Only No. <i>11-30a</i>	UWUCC Action-Date: <i>App-4/19/12</i>	Senate Action Date: <i>App-5/1/12</i>
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**Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

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Proposing Department/Unit Political Science	Phone X7-2290

Check all appropriate lines and complete information as requested. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and for each program proposal.

**1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)**  
 New Course                       Course Prefix Change                       Course Deletion  
 Course Revision                       Course Number and/or Title Change                       Catalog Description Change

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*Current Course prefix, number and full title*                      *Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing*

**2. Additional Course Designations: check if appropriate**  
 This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course.                       Other: (e.g., Women's Studies, Pan-African)  
 This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.

**3. Program Proposals**                       Catalog Description Change                       Program Revision  
 New Degree Program                       Program Title Change                       Other  
 New Minor Program                       New Track

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**Bachelor of Arts —**  
**International Studies/Political Science**

*Current program name*                      *Proposed program name, if changing*

4. Approvals		Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	<i>Sarah W. [Signature]</i>	5-26-11
Department Chair(s)	<i>H. F. [Signature]</i>	5-26-2011
College Curriculum Committee Chair	<i>[Signature]</i>	5-31-2011
College Dean	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/2/11
Director of Liberal Studies *	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/19/12
Director of Honors College *	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Provost *	<i>[Signature]</i>	9/23/11
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	<i>Gail Sedquist</i>	4/19/12

\* where applicable

APR 11 2012

OCT 7 2011

SEP 21 2011

**Part II. Description of Curriculum Change**

**Part II. 1. Catalog description for the revised program:**

Political scientists focus upon political systems, including the effect of environment on the system, inputs, the decision-making agencies which render binding public policies, and system outputs. Approaches to the study of government and politics include the normative approach, in which philosophical attention centers on values by asking the question "What ought to be?" and the behavioral approach, in which an attempt is made to develop verifiable theories through scientific methods by asking the questions "How?" and "Why?"

Students majoring in political science have employment opportunities in federal, state, and local governments and with private civic groups, interest groups, and political groups. Students who go on to graduate work find appointments at higher levels and in college teaching. Students graduating in political science, as in any of the social sciences, are in demand by employers in business and industry. Students completing the Political Science Internship Program have experienced considerable success in finding employment upon graduation. The political science major is also especially suitable for the pre-law student.

Degrees offered by the Political Science Department are the Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in Political Science, in Government and Public Service,\* and in Political Science Pre-Law track. An interdisciplinary major and a minor in International Studies are sponsored by the Political Science Department. The department also offers a minor in political science.

*\*In July 2010, the B.A. degree with a major in Government and Public Service was placed in moratorium. Programs in moratorium are closed to new admits, readmits, and continuing students requesting a Change of Major. However, continuing students previously admitted into a program that is in moratorium are given three years (from when the program is placed in moratorium) to complete the program.*

**Bachelor of Arts–International Studies/Political Science**

**Liberal Studies:** As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: 46-47

**Mathematics:** 3cr

**Social Science:** PLSC 111

**Liberal Studies Electives:** 6cr, no courses with PLSC prefix

**College:** Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1) 0-6

**Major:** 30

**Required Courses:** (9 credits)

PLSC 101 World Politics \*cr (2)

PLSC 111 American Politics \*cr (3)

PLSC 260 Contemporary Political Ideas

PLSC 282 International Relations

PLSC 300 Research Methods in Political Science

**Specialization** (21 credits)

**International Political Economy**

Required specialization course: PLSC 422

Any six courses from the following: ACCT 471;

BTST 342; COMM 320; ECON 121, 325, 326,

339, 345, 346, 350; FSMR 357; GEOG 231, 333;

MGMT 350, 451, 454, 459; MKTG 350, 430;

PLSC 361, 383; SOC 337.

**International Security Studies**

Required specialization course: PLSC 283, 388, or 465

Any six courses from the following: BIOL 117, 119;

CRIM 344; ECON 361; GEOG 230, 331, 334, 335,

341; HIST 251, 308, 361, 362; JRNL 375; PLSC 283\*,

422, 388\*, 465\*; RLST 110, 200.

\*(if not taken as the required specialization course)

**International Political Systems**

Required specialization course: PLSC 280, 285, or 389

Any six courses from the following: ANTH 271, 272,

273, 274, 370; ASIA 200; ENGL 226, 396, 398, 437,

463; FLNG 100; FRNC 254, 370, 373, 375, 376, 460,

463; GEOG 104, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 331;

HIST 206, 208, 307, 308, 310, 311, 312, 313, 321, 322,

323, 325, 327, 330, 331, 334, 337, 351, 356; PLSC 280\*,

285\*, 383, 384, 387, 389\*; PNAF 131; RLST 220, 311,

360, 370, 372, 373, 380; SOC 271, 273, 274; SPAN 342,

382, 383, 384, 385, 410, 411, 412.

\*(if not taken as the required specialization course)

**Other Requirements:** 0 (4)

**Free Electives:** 37-44

**Total Degree Requirements:** 120

(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives.

(2) Credits for PLSC 101 are counted in the Liberal Studies Global and Multi-Cultural Awareness requirements.

(3) Credits for PLSC 111 are counted in the Liberal Studies Social Science requirements.

(4) Majors are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the study abroad opportunities available through IUP departmental programs and of exchange opportunities available through the Office of International Education.

**Part II. 2. Summary of Changes**

**2a. Table comparing old and new programs**

<b>Bachelor of Arts–International Studies/Political Science</b>	
<b>Liberal Studies:</b> As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: <b>Mathematics:</b> 3cr <b>Social Science:</b> PLSC 111 <b>Liberal Studies Electives:</b> 6cr, no courses with PLSC prefix	50
<b>College:</b> Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6
<b>Major:</b> <b>Required Courses:</b> PLSC 101 World Politics 3cr PLSC 111 American Politics *cr (2) Interdisciplinary sequence 15cr (3) Cultural specialization sequence 15cr (4)	33
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	0 (5)
<b>Free Electives:</b>	31-37
<b>Total Degree Requirements:</b>	120
<p>(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives. Only courses 300 level and beyond may count in the cultural specialization sequence.</p> <p>(2) Credits for PLSC 111 are counted in the Liberal Studies Social Science requirements.</p> <p>(3) The interdisciplinary sequence includes an introductory or comparative international course from each of five social science disciplines: anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, and sociology. Selection depends on goal(s) of major and should be planned in consultation with the International Studies advisor.</p> <p>(4) The specialization sequence focuses on one area or culture and three disciplines: economic systems, political systems, language, literature, history, geography. Currently, three specializations are offered: Latin America, the Far East, and Soviet Studies. Consult with advisor for planning course selection.</p> <p>(5) Majors are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the study abroad opportunities available through IUP departmental programs and of exchange opportunities available through the International Education Office.</p>	

<b>Bachelor of Arts–International Studies/Political Science</b>	
<b>Liberal Studies:</b> As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: <b>Mathematics:</b> 3cr <b>Social Science:</b> PLSC 111 <b>Liberal Studies Electives:</b> 6cr, no courses with PLSC prefix	46-47
<b>College:</b> Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6
<b>Major:</b> <b>Required Courses:</b> PLSC 101 World Politics *cr (2) PLSC 111 American Politics *cr (3) PLSC 260 Contemporary Political Ideas PLSC 282 International Relations PLSC 300 Research Methods in Political Science	30 (9 credits)
<b>Specialization</b> <b>International Political Economy</b> Required specialization course: PLSC 422 Any six courses from the following: ACCT 471; BTST 342; COMM 320; ECON 121, 325, 326, 339, 345, 346, 350; FSMR 357; GEOG 231, 333; MGMT 350, 451, 454, 459; MKTG 350, 430; PLSC 361, 383; SOC 337.	(21 credits)
<b>International Security Studies</b> Required specialization course: PLSC 283, 388, or 465 Any six courses from the following: BIOL 117, 119; CRIM 344; ECON 361; GEOG 230, 331, 334, 335, 341; HIST 251, 308, 361, 362; JRNL 375; PLSC 283*, 422, 388*, 465*; RLST 110, 200. *(if not taken as the required specialization course)	
<b>International Political Systems</b> Required specialization course: PLSC 280, 285, or 389 Any six courses from the following: ANTH 271, 272, 273, 274, 370; ASIA 200; ENGL 226, 396, 398, 437, 463; FLNG 100; FRNC 254, 370, 373, 375, 376, 460, 463; GEOG 104, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 331; HIST 206, 208, 307, 308, 310, 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 325, 327, 330, 331, 334, 337, 351, 356; PLSC 280*, 285*, 383, 384, 387, 389*; PNAF 131; RLST 220, 311, 360, 370, 372, 373, 380; SOC 271, 273, 274; SPAN 342, 382, 383, 384, 385, 410, 411, 412. *(if not taken as the required specialization course)	
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	0 (4)
<b>Free Electives:</b>	37-44
<b>Total Degree Requirements:</b>	120
<p>(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives.</p> <p>(2) Credits for PLSC 101 are counted in the Liberal Studies Global and Multi-Cultural Awareness requirements.</p> <p>(3) Credits for PLSC 111 are counted in the Liberal Studies Social Science requirements.</p> <p>(4) Majors are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the study abroad opportunities available through IUP departmental programs and of exchange opportunities available through the Office of International Education.</p>	

2b. Associated course changes.

- 1) LSE credits changed to reflect new LSE requirements.
- 2) PLSC 101 added as required non-western culture requirement.
- 3) Major required course credits reduced from 33 to 30.
- 4) Interdisciplinary sequence and Cultural specialization sequence were replaced with Specializations.
- 4) Free electives credits increased from 31 – 37 to 37 – 44.
- 5) New Comment (2) added.
- 6) Original Comment (2) changed to Comment (3).
- 7) Original Comment (6) changed to Comment (4).
- 8) Original Comments (4 & 5) deleted.

**3. Rationale for change.**

**Problems of the Current Major:** Currently, the International Studies major within Political Science has a substantial area-studies focus. After taking core and disciplinary electives within the major (21 semester hours), students then take fifteen semester hours within "cultural specializations," which are regionally organized. The catalog lists three areas: Latin America, Far East [*sic*], and Soviet studies [*sic*]. The department currently has no staff for the Soviet studies areas, and does not anticipate new lines with which to staff those courses. The current major does specify a number of courses outside of the political science department in those areas, but without a political science introduction to those areas, the description of the program as a "political science" degree with only six semester hours of political science (PLSC101 and PLSC111) is problematic. The current program based upon cultural specialization also is inconsistent in its treatment of areas: some such as the Middle East do not have a catalog listing, and yet our university resources in this area are very good. The current undergraduate manual used by the department for advising ITST majors is also no help in addressing these problems. Its treatment of half of the cultural specializations is adequate (Soviet Studies, International Business, and Latin America) but in the cases of "Far East," International Law, Atlantic Community and Developing Nations, no courses are listed. Rather than try to repair an inconsistent and flawed concept, the Department's Five Year reviewer suggested creating broader categories for the ITST major and at the same time strengthen the disciplinary focus of those categories.

The current state of the departmental undergraduate handbook is dated and incomplete. Several of the courses listed in other departments have not been offered for a considerable amount of time, and even those within the department are often dated. Four of the specialization areas list no courses whatsoever, merely instructing students to develop these specializations "in consultation with faculty adviser..." The turnover in the department with retirements, new faculty, and changes in positions has resulted in a morass of inconsistent and sometimes contradictory advice, since the nature of the specializations is so open to interpretation. The result has become a nightmare for graduation check-outs, in which students' "programs" sometimes lack coherence or focus.

Additionally, the Political Science department supports the UWUCC's belief that any degree program is stronger if it includes the opportunity for students to select freely at least some courses that reflect their own intellectual interests (Undergraduate Curriculum Handbook, 2009 [R], p. 87).

**Part III. Implementation**

**1. Effect on Students in Existing Program**

Existing students would be given the option of continuing under the catalog of their admission or the new program. The new program is more clearly structured than the old program, yet retains significant flexibility for student choices in their courses.

## **2. Faculty Resources**

Current faculty and faculty lines would be adequate for the program. The department currently has faculty with expertise in Latin America, the Middle East, East Asia, international energy, international security, and development.

## **3. Other Resources**

Currently the program relies on Educational Services Fee revenues, annual library allocations, and departmental budget revenues to purchase books, periodicals, films, video, etc. Again, given the necessity to revise the International Studies program consistent with current resource levels, no additional resources are required.

- (b) Instructional equipment. The International Studies major's greatest sources of revenue to purchase instructional equipment are (in order of magnitude) an annual Educational Services Fee allocation, the department budget (a variable sum), and grant funds received by individual faculty members for the express purpose of purchasing instructional equipment. These sources are adequate to the equipment demands of this program revision.
- (c) Facilities. All courses are currently taught in Keith Hall. Consequently, current facilities are adequate to the goals of this revision.

## **4. Expected Impact on Enrollments**

Given the simplification of the major requirements and the consequently greater ease of advisement, it is anticipated that a slight increase in majors may occur, but entirely within the capacity of the department to handle and advise.

## **Part IV. Periodic Assessment**

Program assessment will be conducted in conjunction with the department's five year review process, including outside evaluators. Criteria for evaluation include: rate of acceptance of graduates to graduate programs, employment, currency of course content and adherence to disciplinary developments, and graduation rates.

## **Part V. Course Proposal**

All courses have been passed by the curriculum process.

## **Part VI. Letters of Support.**

This program revision does not have significant impact on courses outside of the Political Science Department.