

LSC Use Only No:	LSC Action-Date:	UWUCC USE Only No.	UWUCC Action-Date:	Senate Action Date:
		08-316	AP-11/11/08	App 2/24/09

**Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

Contact Person John Benhart, Jr.	Email Address jbenhart@iup.edu
Proposing Department/Unit Geography & Regional Planning	Phone 724.357.7652

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

<u>Current</u> Course prefix, number and full title	<u>Proposed</u> 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**

New Degree Program                       Program Title Change                       Program Revision  
 New Minor Program                       New Track                       Other

Bachelor of Arts – Geography/ Economic Geographer Track	
<u>Current</u> program name	<u>Proposed</u> program name, if changing

4. Approvals		Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	Gail S Sechrest	9/15/08
Department Chair(s)	John Benhart Jr	9/15/08
College Curriculum Committee Chair	[Signature]	10/1/08
College Dean	[Signature]	10/27/08
Director of Liberal Studies *	[Signature]	10/10/08
Director of Honors College *	[Signature]	10/28/08
Provost *	[Signature]	10/28/08
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	Gail S Sechrest	11/11/08

\* where applicable

Received  
NOV 03 2008  
Liberal Studies
Received  
OCT 27 2008  
Liberal Studies
Received  
OCT 03 2008  
Liberal Studies

## Part II. Description of Curricular Change

### 1. Catalog Description for Revised Program

There are no changes being made to the program description paragraph.

## Bachelor of Arts—Geography/Economic Geographer Track

<b>Liberal Studies:</b> As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: <b>Mathematics:</b> MATH 217 or 6 credits of MATH courses <b>Social Science:</b> ECON 121 <b>Liberal Studies Electives:</b> 9cr, BTED/COSC/IFMG 101 recommended; no courses with GEOG prefix	53-56
<b>College:</b> Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6
<b>Major:</b> <b>Required Courses:</b> GEOG 213 Cartography I GEOG 230 Cultural Geography GEOG 231 Economic Geography GEOG 341 Climatology GEOG 342 Physiography GEOG 411 History of Geography GEOG 412 Research Seminar RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning <b>Controlled Elective:</b> One course from GEOG 251-257 <b>Track Courses:</b> Five Courses from the following: GEOG 331 Population Geography GEOG 332 Urban Geography GEOG 333 Trade and Transportation GEOG 334 Political Geography GEOG 336 Social Geography GEOG 464 Land Use Policy <b>Free Electives:</b> ECON 383 Urban/Regional Economics (recommended) GEOG 493 Internship (strongly recommended) RGPL 458 Land Use Law (recommended)	42
<b>Total Degree Requirements:</b>	120

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

**2. Summary of changes:**  
**a. Table Comparing old and new programs.**

**Current Program:**  
**Bachelor of Arts—Geography/  
Economic Geographer Track**

**Liberal Studies:** As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications:  
**Mathematics:** MATH 121 or 217  
**Social Science:** ECON 121  
**Liberal Studies Electives:** 9cr, BTED/COSC/IFMG 101 recommended; no courses with GEOG prefix

**College:**  
Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)

**Major:**

**Required Courses:**

GEOG 213 Cartography I  
GEOG 230 Cultural Geography  
GEOG 231 Economic Geography  
GEOG 411 History of Geography  
GEOG 412 Research Seminar

**Controlled Electives:**

One course from GEOG 251-257  
One course from GEOG 341-342

**Track Courses:** Five courses from the following:

GEOG 331 Population Geography  
GEOG 332 Urban Geography  
GEOG 333 Trade and Transportation  
GEOG 334 Political Geography  
GEOG 336 Social Geography  
GEOG 464 Land Use Policy

**Free Electives:**

ECON 383 Urban/Regional Economics (recommended)

**Total Degree Requirements:**

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

**Proposed Program:**  
**Bachelor of Arts—Geography/  
Economic Geographer Track**

**53 Liberal Studies:** As outlined in Liberal Studies with the following specifications: **53-56**  
**Mathematics:** MATH 217 or 6cr of MATH courses  
**Social Science:** ECON 121  
**Liberal Studies Electives:** : 9cr, BTED/COSC/IFMG 101 recommended; no courses with GEOG prefix

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

**36 Major:** **42**

**Required Courses:**

GEOG 213	Cartography I	3cr
GEOG 230	Cultural Geography	3cr
GEOG 231	Economic Geography	3cr
GEOG 341	Climatology	3cr
GEOG 342	Physiography	3cr
GEOG 411	History of Geography	3cr
GEOG 412	Research Seminar	3cr
RGPL 350	Introduction to Planning	3cr

**Controlled Elective:**

One course from GEOG 251-257 **3cr**

**Track Courses:** Five courses from the following:

GEOG 331	Population Geography	3cr
GEOG 332	Urban Geography	3cr
GEOG 333	Trade and Transportation	3cr
GEOG 334	Political Geography	3cr
GEOG 336	Social Geography	3cr
GEOG 464	Land Use Policy	3cr

**Free Electives:**

ECON 383	Urban/Regional Economics (recommended)	16-25
		3cr
GEOG 493	Internship (strongly recommended)	3cr
RGPL 458	Land Use Law (recommended)	3cr
		<b>120</b>

**Total Degree Requirements:**

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

**b. List of all associated changes:**

1. Moving GEOG 341 Climatology and 342 Physiography from Controlled Electives where students took one or the other to the required courses list where students take both.
2. Addition of RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning as a required course.
3. Addition of GEOG 493 Internship as a strongly recommended Free Elective option.
4. Addition of RGPL 458 Land Use Law as recommended electives under Free Electives

### **3. Rationale for Changes**

1. With respect to change number 1, the faculty determined during a recent retreat that it is beneficial and necessary that geography students be exposed to both curriculum regarding weather and climate patterns (Climatology) and landforms (Physiography). Presently, geography majors are only required to take one of these courses.
2. With respect to changes number 2 and 4, the Department as a result of feedback from an external consultant (Paul Rollinson of Missouri State University) determined that there should be more “cross pollination” between the Department’s Geography and Regional Planning majors, in particular more planning courses as requirements and recommended electives for geography majors. Dr. Rollinson suggested that exposure to planning courses by geography majors would be beneficial, as many geography students will go on to careers in the field of planning or at the very least where knowledge of planning regimes will be useful. In addition, our senior exit surveys have revealed that many students wish they had been exposed to the field of planning sooner in their academic careers, as they found it interesting but as juniors or seniors felt it was too late to change their program emphasis. A review of geography curriculum at universities where departments offer both the geography and planning majors (such as Appalachian State University, California State University – Chico, University of Toronto and Wayne State University) indicates that it is common for planning courses to be part of the geography major core and recommended course requirements.
3. With respect to change number 3, our regional planning major has internship listed as a requirement, therefore to achieve some uniformity and emphasize the importance of the internship experience we would like to add it to the catalog program description for geography.
4. With respect to change number 5, the Department has determined that the previous requirement was confusing for students, and that MATH 217 Probability and Statistics is the math course that provides the most benefit for geography majors. By making the course the preferred requirement, we hope to advise a vast majority of students into MATH 217 while allowing for flexibility for the small number of students who cannot pass the course and will need to pass six credits of math courses.

### **Part III. Implementation**

1. Students already in the program or entering this year will be given the option of finishing under the present requirements and with the present tracks. All new students new to the program in 2009-10 will be expected to follow the new curriculum.
2. Faculty resources are adequate, no new courses are being added to the program.
3. No new physical resources will be required.
4. There should be a small increase in the number of students enrolling in GEOG 341 Climatology and GEOG 342 Physiography, but not enough to necessitate additional

sections, as many of our students presently take both of these courses of their own accord. We expect that the number of students who will need to take RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning will increase, as all geography majors will be required to take the class. We also believe that there may be an increase in the number of students who will become double majors in geography and regional planning, with the exposure of geography students to the field of planning. Even if both of these come to fruition, adding one additional section of RGPL 350 per academic year with a maximum enrollment of 30 should meet student demand. To offer this additional section, a departmental faculty member will teach one less 100-level geography course per academic year. The addition of RGPL 458 and RGPL 464 as a recommended elective is not expected to cause a need for an additional section of this course.

### **III. Periodic Assessment**

1. There is no accrediting body for Geography so the only evaluation is the university's five year review, which will include student outcomes of the program. The proposed changes actually come partly as a result of student feedback from exit surveys that the Department implemented after its last Five Year review. In terms of assessing impacts of the proposed curriculum revision, in the short term we would expect to see our students perform significantly better on an exit exam that the Department plans on administering in GEOG 412 Research Seminar, as well as higher quality research papers and portfolio products in this capstone course.
2. Every five years or whenever the next IUP five year review is called for.
3. Department and outside reviewer, if recommended.