

JUL 09 2014

LSC Use Only Proposal No:
LSC Action-Date:

UWUCC Use Only Proposal No: 14542
UWUCC Action-Date: AP-9/16/14

Senate Action Date: App 10/7/14

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Contact Person(s)	Gail S. Sechrist	Email Address	gailsech@iup.edu
Proposing Department/Unit	Geography & Regional Planning	Phone	357-2250

Check all appropriate lines and complete all information. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and/or 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

Current course prefix, number and full title: _____

Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing: _____

2. Liberal Studies Course Designations, as appropriate

This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course (please mark the appropriate categories below)

Learning Skills
 Knowledge Area
 Global and Multicultural Awareness
 Writing Across the Curriculum (W Course)
 Liberal Studies Elective (please mark the designation(s) that applies – must meet at least one)

Global Citizenship
 Information Literacy
 Oral Communication
 Quantitative Reasoning
 Scientific Literacy
 Technological Literacy

3. Other Designations, as appropriate

Honors College Course
 Other: (e.g. Women's Studies, Pan African)

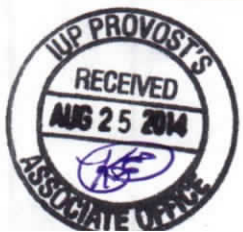
4. Program Proposals

Catalog Description Change
 Program Revision
 Program Title Change
 New Track
 New Degree Program
 New Minor Program
 Liberal Studies Requirement Changes
 Other

Current program name: Minor--Geography; Minor--Regional Planning

Proposed program name, if changing: _____

5. Approvals	Signature	Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	<i>Gail S. Sechrist</i>	4/4/14
Department Chairperson(s)	<i>Jim Sechrist</i>	4/4/14
College Curriculum Committee Chair	<i>Weller</i>	4/9/14
College Dean	<i>Tracy</i>	4/9/14
Director of Liberal Studies (as needed)		
Director of Honors College (as needed)		
Provost (as needed)	<i>Tracy S. Muekel (com)</i>	8/22/14
Additional signature (with title) as appropriate	<i>Gail Sechrist</i>	9/17/14
UWUCC Co-Chairs		



Received Received Received
 SEP 17 2014 AUG 25 2014 JUL 16 2014
 Liberal Studies Liberal Studies Liberal Studies

Current Catalog Description (Geography):

The Department of Geography and Regional Planning offers three separate degree programs for the geographer, planner, and teacher: bachelor of arts degree with a major in geography, bachelor of science degree with a major in regional planning, and bachelor of science in education degree with a major in social studies education/ geography track.

Specific core requirements in Geography and Regional Planning offer a structured approach for majors. Appropriate subfields or **tracks** are available in both programs to prepare students for graduate work and to support different career options for majors. There are **four tracks** for the geography major and **four tracks** for the regional planning major.

Geography

Geography has several traditions of study. Two of the more important traditions are the study of relationships between humans and environment, or the ecological tradition, and the study of spatial organization, which involves the way people use space on the earth's surface. In both traditions the focus is on understanding regions of the world and the interactions within and between them. Geographers make important contributions to the understanding of all aspects of humankind's use of and impact on the earth's surface.

In addition to the geography core (GEOG), there are **four tracks** for specific geographic competencies: GIS/cartographer, environmental geographer, economic geographer, and general geographer.

A minor in Geography is appropriate for majors in all other fields of the natural and social sciences. Students in marketing and information systems will find a minor in this field relevant. A minor consists of **15 credits** in GEOG courses. The department suggests students take the core in this program if graduate study is anticipated.

Geography—General Geography Track

The general geography **track** encourages the major to sample courses from different subfields of the discipline. This **track** prepares the major for graduate work in geography and related fields of employment. Job options include report writing, research analysis, and data gathering. In government employment, the State Department, Department of Commerce, and the Census Bureau are significant places for geography skills.

Geography—Geographic Information Systems and Cartographer Concentration

The geographic information systems and cartographer **track** prepares students for employment as geographic information specialists, facilities managers, cartographers, and remote sensing specialists. Course work includes methods for identifying, modeling, and analyzing the spatial organization of human and environmental systems from both practical and theoretical perspectives. Data collection, spatial information management, and graphic presentation are integral skills taught in the program. Such skills could be and are used in course work for the analysis of wildlife habitat, facilities management, land use planning and site design, and transportation systems design and maintenance.

A minor in regional planning is appropriate for majors in all other fields of the natural and social sciences. Students in marketing and information systems will find a minor in this field relevant. A minor consists of **15 credits** in RGPL courses. The department suggests students take the core in this program if graduate study is anticipated.

Proposed Catalog Description:

The Department of Geography and Regional Planning offers three separate degree programs for the geographer, planner, and teacher: bachelor of arts degree with a major in geography, bachelor of science degree with a major

in regional planning, and bachelor of science in education degree with a major in social studies education/ geography track.

Specific core requirements in Geography and Regional Planning offer a structured approach for majors. Appropriate subfields or **concentrations** are available in both programs to prepare students for graduate work and to support different career options for majors. There are **five concentrations** for the geography major and **two concentrations** for the regional planning major.

Geography

Geography has several traditions of study. Two of the more important traditions are the study of relationships between humans and environment, or the ecological tradition, and the study of spatial organization, which involves the way people use space on the earth's surface. In both traditions the focus is on understanding regions of the world and the interactions within and between them. Geographers make important contributions to the understanding of all aspects of humankind's use of and impact on the earth's surface.

In addition to the geography core (GEOG), there are **five concentrations** for specific geographic competencies: GIS/cartographer, environmental geographer, economic geographer, **energy geotechnology/environmental compliance**, and general geographer.

Geography Minor

A minor in Geography is appropriate for majors in all other fields of the natural and social sciences. Students in marketing and information systems will find a minor in this field relevant. A minor consists of **18 credits** in courses taken only with the GEOG prefix; at least two courses must be at the 200 level and at least two courses must be at the 300 level. The department suggests students take major core courses if graduate study is anticipated.

Geography—General Geography Concentration

The general geography **concentration** encourages the major to sample courses from different subfields of the discipline. This **concentration** prepares the major for graduate work in geography and related fields of employment. Job options include report writing, research analysis, and data gathering. In government employment, the State Department, Department of Commerce, and the Census Bureau are significant places for geography skills.

Geography—Geographic Information Systems and Cartographer Concentration

The geographic information systems and cartographer **concentration** prepares students for employment as geographic information specialists, facilities managers, cartographers, and remote sensing specialists. Course work includes methods for identifying, modeling, and analyzing the spatial organization of human and environmental systems from both practical and theoretical perspectives. Data collection, spatial information management, and graphic presentation are integral skills taught in the program. Such skills could be and are used in course work for the analysis of wildlife habitat, facilities management, land use planning and site design, and transportation systems design and maintenance.

Minor—Geography (1)

18

Controlled Electives:

At least two courses at the 200 level

At least two courses at the 300 level

(1) Only courses taken as GEOG may be counted toward the minor.

Current Catalog Description (Regional Planning):

Regional Planning

The focus of the bachelor of science in regional planning is to prepare students for eventual leadership positions as professional planners. A broad range of technical skills, land use, and environmental training prepare our students for public or private service as spatial and physical planners.

Geography and regional planning are in the same department because “planning is the art of which geography is the science.” Employment opportunities for geographers and regional planners are excellent. Geography and planning occupations have been identified among the fastest-growing job fields by *US News and World Report*. Alumni occupy a wide variety of positions in government, business, industry, planning, and education. Environmental, locational, and spatial knowledge gained in the department’s programs provides skills desperately needed in today’s job market. Students interested in additional career information should visit the departmental office in room 10, Leonard Hall, or the website www.iup.edu/geography.

A minor in regional planning is appropriate for majors in all other fields of the natural and social sciences. Students in marketing and information systems will find a minor in this field relevant. A minor consists of 15 credits in RGPL courses. The department suggests students take the core in this program if graduate study is anticipated.

Regional Planning—Land Use Planning and Geographic Information Systems Concentration

The land use planning and geographic information systems concentration prepares students for employment as professional planners adept at applying advanced techniques to the development of livable communities. Data collection, spatial information management, and graphic presentation are integral skills taught in the program. Course work also equips students for facilities planning and management, remote sensing applications in planning, and site location analysis. Course work includes methods for identifying, modeling, and analyzing the spatial organization of community systems from both practical and theoretical perspectives. Students in planning graduate with a working knowledge of subdivision, land use, and zoning regulation. They are familiar with strategies of economic development. They understand both the theory and ethics of planning. Students completing this track should be able to assist diverse communities and organizations in identifying and finding solutions to a wide variety of land use, siting, and transportation problems.

Regional Planning—Environmental Planner Concentration

The environmental planner concentration is designed to prepare majors in regional planning for careers as environmental planners or further graduate studies. Students who select this track learn about aspects of the natural environment, methods to preserve and conserve resources, and how to plan communities where humans both benefit from the natural environment and have minimal impact on it. They are knowledgeable about environmental regulation and policy. They understand community strategies for ameliorating environmental problems and have both a theoretical and working knowledge of subdivision, land use, and zoning regulation. They are familiar with the regulation and management of flood plains and wetlands, the management of waste and storm water, and environmental impact assessment. They understand both the theory and ethics of planning. Students completing this track should be able to assist diverse communities and organizations in identifying and finding solutions to a wide variety of environmental issues such as wastewater treatment, water pollution, acid rain, watershed planning, carbon footprints, deforestation, and natural resource extraction.

Proposed Catalog Description (Regional Planning):

Regional Planning

The mission of the regional planning program is to provide opportunities for our students, planning professionals and citizens of a diverse regional community to master fundamental and innovative planning principles. The program trains students to become professional planners through a process that emphasizes

conceptual knowledge, experiential learning, innovative planning skills, and civic engagement. Students work with colleagues and planners to guide change in a way that will make our communities better places to live for present and future generations.

Employment opportunities for planners are excellent. Our program has prepared students to work in planning agencies at the federal, state, regional, county and local levels as well as in the private sector with planning consulting and engineering firms. As planners they have been trained to work with the public to guide growth and change in metropolitan regions across the country. Our two concentrations – Environmental Planning and GIS/Land Use Planning – are designed to focus on the knowledge, techniques and strengths of our faculty, as well as provide students maximum opportunity to be competitive in the planning job market. As part of their course of study, our students address and solve real world problems through class projects and intern with practicing planners who deal with these issues in a professional environment. Planners work with communities to improve the quality of life for people who live there. They take a comprehensive view of issues, listen to all citizen perspectives, endeavor to reconcile controversy, and propose alternatives that can guide community decision-making in allocating finite resources to create better places to live.

Regional Planning—Land Use Planning and Geographic Information Systems Concentration

The land use planning and geographic information systems concentration prepares students for employment as professional planners adept at applying advanced techniques to the development of livable communities. Data collection, spatial information management, and graphic presentation are integral skills taught in the program. Course work also equips students for facilities planning and management, remote sensing applications in planning, and site location analysis. Course work includes methods for identifying, modeling, and analyzing the spatial organization of community systems from both practical and theoretical perspectives. Students in planning graduate with a working knowledge of subdivision, land use, and zoning regulation. They are familiar with strategies of economic development. They understand both the theory and ethics of planning. Students completing this **concentration** should be able to assist diverse communities and organizations in identifying and finding solutions to a wide variety of land use, siting, and transportation problems.

Regional Planning—Environmental Planner Concentration

The environmental planner concentration is designed to prepare majors in regional planning for careers as environmental planners or further graduate studies. Students who select this **concentration** learn about aspects of the natural environment, methods to preserve and conserve resources, and how to plan communities where humans both benefit from the natural environment and have minimal impact on it. They are knowledgeable about environmental regulation and policy. They understand community strategies for ameliorating environmental problems and have both a theoretical and working knowledge of subdivision, land use, and zoning regulation. They are familiar with the regulation and management of flood plains and wetlands, the management of waste and storm water, and environmental impact assessment. They understand both the theory and ethics of planning. Students completing this **concentration** should be able to assist diverse communities and organizations in identifying and finding solutions to a wide variety of environmental issues such as wastewater treatment, water pollution, acid rain, watershed planning, carbon footprints, deforestation, and natural resource extraction.

Regional Planning Minor

A minor in regional planning is appropriate for majors in all other fields of the natural and social sciences. Students in marketing and information systems will find a minor in this field relevant. A minor consists of **18 credits in courses taken with the RGPL prefix.** The department suggests students take the core in this program if graduate study is anticipated.

Minor—Regional Planning

18

Controlled Electives:

Six RGPL courses (1)

(1) Only courses taken as RGPL may be counted toward the minor.

Rationale: The Geography and Regional Planning minors are being increased to 18 credits because of the PASSHE BOG policy. The minors are also being made more comparable to the major and will include at least two 300 level or higher classes per the BOG policy. Footnote one is being added because the department has so many crosslisted courses between Geography and Regional Planning and so we are trying to make it clear that only courses taken with the that prefix may be counted towards the minor.

Additionally several years ago when the department changed the tracks to concentrations all of the substitutions of the word track for concentration were not made. Also when a fifth concentration was added to Geography and when four tracks were reduced to two concentrations in Regional Planning, the numbers in the second paragraph of the department's description were not corrected. In the Regional Planning description, text is being added to meet the specifications of the Planning Accreditation Board.