

LSC Use Only No:	LSC Action-Date:	UWUCC USE Only No.	UWUCC Action-Date:	Senate Action Date:
App-9/25/14		14-546.	AP-9/30/14	App-12/2/14

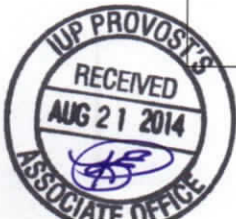
Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit Geography and Regional Planning	Phone 724-357-2250

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)		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Course	<input type="checkbox"/> Course Prefix Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Course Deletion
<input type="checkbox"/> Course Revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Course Number and/or Title Change	<input type="checkbox"/> 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		
<input type="checkbox"/> This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: (e.g., Women's Studies, Pan-African)	
<input type="checkbox"/> This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.		
3. Program Proposals		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Degree Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Title Change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Revision
<input type="checkbox"/> New Minor Program	<input type="checkbox"/> New Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Bachelor of Science - Regional Planning/Environmental Planner Concentration		
<u>Current</u> program name		<u>Proposed</u> program name, if changing
4. Approvals		
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	Gail Schriest	2/21/14
Department Chair(s)	John Benhart	2/21/14
College Curriculum Committee Chair	Deby Hee	7/16/14
College Dean	Ram	7/17/14
Director of Liberal Studies *	JL H Prof	9/25/14
Director of Honors College *		
Provost *	Theresa S. Meekal (chm)	8/25/14
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	Gail Schriest	11/19/14

* where applicable



Liberal Studies
 Received
 NOV 19 2014
 JUL 17 2014
 Received
 Liberal Studies

Department of Geography and Regional Planning: Program Revision

II. Track Change: Bachelor of Science - Regional Planning/Environmental Planning Concentration

1. Catalogue Description: Regional Planning/Environmental Planning Concentration

The Environmental track 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 upon 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 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 waste water treatment, water pollution, acid rain, watershed planning, carbon footprints, deforestation, and natural resource extraction.

Proposed Program	
Bachelor of Science- Regional Planning/Environmental Planner Concentration	
Liberal Studies: As outlined in the Liberal Studies section with the following specifications:	49-50
Mathematics: MATH 217 recommended	
Social Science: RGPL 103 required	
Liberal Studies Electives: 9cr, BTED/COSC/IMFG 101 recommended, no courses with RGPL prefix	
College:	
Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6
Major:	
54	
Required Courses in Planning:	
RGPL 203 Planning History	3cr
RGPL 213 Cartography I	3cr
RGPL 316 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3cr
RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning	3cr
RGPL 352 Planning Methods	3cr
RGPL 410 Community Participation and Civic Engagement Seminar	3cr
RGPL 412 Community Planning Practicum	3cr
RGPL 426 Environmental Land Use Planning	3cr
RGPL 453 Planning Design Studio I	3cr
RGPL 454 Planning Design Studio II	3cr
RGPL 458 Land Use Law	3cr
RGPL 462 Planning Policy, Implementation and Administration	3cr
RGPL 468 Planning Theory	3cr
RGPL 493 Internship	3cr
Concentration Courses: Four courses from the following	
GEOG 425 Global Positioning Systems Concepts and Techniques	3cr
GEOG 435 Geography of Energy	3cr
GEOG 444 Energy Development and Compliance I	3cr
RGPL 314 Map and Photo Interpretation	3cr
RGPL 341 Climatology	3cr
RGPL 342 Physiography	3cr
RGPL 343 Geography of Fresh Water Resources	3cr
RGPL 345 Biogeography for Environmental Managers	3cr
RGPL 415 Remote Sensing	3cr
RGPL 440 Conservation: Environmental Analysis	3cr
Free Electives:	
	10-17
Total Degree Requirements:	
	120
(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives	
(2) As they pass through the program students will be expected to develop and maintain a portfolio of planning course work as a requirement for graduation.	

2. Summary of Changes

a. Table Comparing Old and New Programs

Old Program		Proposed Program	
Bachelor of Science- Regional Planning/Environmental Planner Concentration		Bachelor of Science- Regional Planning/Environmental Planner Concentration	
Liberal Studies: As outlined in the Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: Mathematics: MATH 217 recommended Liberal Studies Electives: 9cr, BTED/COSC/IMFG 101 recommended, no course with RGPL prefix	49-50	Liberal Studies: As outlined in the Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: Mathematics: MATH 217 recommended Social Science: RGPL 103 required Liberal Studies Electives: 9cr, BTED/COSC/IMFG 101 recommended, no course with RGPL prefix	49-50
College: Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6	College: Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)	0-6
Major:	54	Major:	54
Required Courses in Planning:		Required Courses in Planning:	
RGPL 213 Cartography I	3cr	RGPL 203 Planning History	3cr
RGPL 316 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3cr	RGPL 213 Cartography I	3cr
RGPL 332 Urban Geography	3cr	RGPL 316 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3cr
RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning	3cr	RGPL 350 Introduction to Planning	3cr
RGPL 352 Planning Methods	3cr	RGPL 352 Planning Methods	3cr
RGPL 410 Community Participation and Civic Engagement Seminar	3cr	RGPL 410 Community Participation and Civic Engagement Seminar	3cr
RGPL 412 Community Planning Practicum	3cr	RGPL 412 Community Planning Practicum	3cr
RGPL 426 Environmental Land Use Planning	3cr	RGPL 426 Environmental Land Use Planning	3cr
RGPL 453 Planning Design Studio I	3cr	RGPL 453 Planning Design Studio I	3cr
RGPL 454 Planning Design Studio II	3cr	RGPL 454 Planning Design Studio II	3cr
RGPL 458 Land Use Law	3cr	RGPL 458 Land Use Law	3cr
RGPL 464 Land Use Policy	3cr	RGPL 462 Planning Policy, Implementation and Administration	3cr
RGPL 468 Planning Theory	3cr	RGPL 468 Planning Theory	3cr
RGPL 493 Internship	3cr	RGPL 493 Internship	3cr
Track Courses: Four courses from the following:		Concentration Courses: Four courses from the following:	
RGPL 314 Map and Photo Interpretation	3cr	GEOG 425 Global Positioning Systems Concepts and Techniques	3cr
RGPL 341 Climatology	3cr	GEOG 435 Geography of Energy	3cr
RGPL 342 Physiography	3cr	GEOG 444 Energy Development and Compliance I	3cr
RGPL 343 Geography of Fresh Water Resources	3cr	RGPL 314 Map and Photo Interpretation	3cr
RGPL 345 Biogeography for Environmental Managers	3cr	RGPL 341 Climatology	3cr
RGPL 415 Remote Sensing	3cr	RGPL 342 Physiography	3cr
GEOG 435 Geography of Energy	3cr	RGPL 343 Geography of Fresh Water Resources	3cr
RGPL 440 Conservation: Environmental Analysis	3cr	RGPL 345 Biogeography for Environmental Managers	3cr
Free Electives:	10-17	RGPL 415 Remote Sensing	3cr
PLSC 376 strongly recommended and BIOL 114 recommended		RGPL 440 Conservation: Environmental Analysis	3cr
		Free Electives:	10-17
Total Degree Requirements:	120	Total Degree Requirements (2):	120
(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives.		(1) Intermediate-level Foreign Language may be included in Liberal Studies electives	
(2) As they pass through the program students will be expected to develop and maintain a portfolio of planning course work as a requirement for graduation.		(2) As they pass through the program students will be expected to develop and maintain a portfolio of planning course work as a requirement for graduation.	

2b. List of all associated changes.

Addition of RGPL 103 Global Cities as a required course for the Social Science liberal studies requirement for the Regional Planning major.

Addition of RGPL 203 Planning History as a required core course for the Regional Planning major.

Addition of RGPL 462 Planning Policy, Implementation and Administration as a required core course for the Regional Planning major.

Deletion of RGPL 332 Urban Geography as a required core course for the Regional Planning major.

Deletion of RGPL 464 Planning Policy as a required core course for the Regional Planning major.

Addition of GEOG 425 Global Positioning Systems Concepts and Techniques as a Regional Planning – Environmental concentration course.

Addition of GEOG 444 Energy Development and Compliance I as a Regional Planning – Environmental concentration course.

3. Rationale for changes.

During the fall of 2012, a site visit team (SVT) from the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) visited the Department of Geography & Regional Planning as part of the accreditation evaluation of the Department's Bachelor of Science in Regional Planning program. Although the program received an overwhelmingly positive review, the SVT did have some specific recommendations regarding curriculum and utilization of resources.

In terms of curriculum, the team felt that there needed to be a course that newly-declared majors could enter that would provide them with a focused introduction to the origins, history and traditions of the planning discipline. We have added *RGPL 203 Planning History* to the Regional Planning core to address these issues. The SVT also suggested that planning administration and implementation needed to be explicitly dealt with in a core program course, so we have proposed *RGPL 462 Planning Policy, Implementation and Administration* as a required core course for the Regional Planning major (replacing *RGPL 464 Land Use Policy*). In adding these courses, we needed to remove a course from the Regional Planning core to stay with the 120 credit PASSHE degree requirement, so *RGPL 332 Urban Geography* has been moved from the core to an option in the GIS/Land Use Planning concentration. *GEOG 425 Global Positioning Concepts & Techniques* and *GEOG 444 Energy Development & Compliance I* have been added as options to the Environmental Planning concentration, since these courses did not exist at the time of our last program revision. *PLSC 376* and *BIOL 114* are being removed as recommended free electives because they have not been offered for years and no longer appear in the current catalog.

Finally, *GEOG/RGPL 103 Global Cities* has been added as a Liberal Studies Social Science requirement for the Regional Planning program. The major reason for this change is that the SVT refused to give us credit towards faculty FTEs in the Regional Planning program for *RGPL 103* during our last review, because they said that the course was not a curricular requirement for the program. This was problematic, as it caused our program faculty FTEs to be calculated at under 5 (4.25), which is a benchmark in PAB accreditation documents. The Regional Planning faculty decided to respond to the SVT's interpretation of the FTE calculation by making *RGPL 103* an LS Social Science requirement for the program, which will immediately increase our FTE calculation to 6.28 (based on the 2013-2014 academic year).

III. Implementation

1. Students already in the program or entering this year will be given the option of finishing under the present requirements. All new students new to the program in 2014-15 will be expected to follow the new curriculum.
2. Faculty resources are adequate, as new faculty have been hired over the last two years who will teach the proposed courses.
3. The enrollment in the Regional Planning program has more than tripled over the last seven years. We are projecting continued growth based on the program's strong position of being one of only 15 accredited undergraduate planning degree programs in the United States.

IV. Periodic Assessment

1. The Department of Geography and Regional Planning engages in constant quality improvement. In addition to the 5-year planning cycle mandated by the University, we hold annual retreats to review enrollment, curriculum, and external context. The curricular changes proposed here are the result of an external evaluation completed during the Fall of 2012. Accreditation mandates ongoing internal evaluation and 5-year external reviews. Criteria are complex, but include: student interviews, an advisory board of program graduates that meets annually, consulting with

professional planners, and measuring the program against national curricular and performance standards.

2. Internal evaluations are on-going with annual reports. External evaluations are every 5 years.
3. Internally the Planning Program faculty and the Planning Advisory Board made up of professional planners review the program annually.