



## Part II. Description of Curriculum Change

### 1) Complete catalog description for new track.

The Town Manager Track is designed to prepare planning students for careers in local government and graduate work in public administration. Students electing this track will become familiar with the structure, operation and actions of municipal government and the political, organizational and institutional basis of municipal management and decision making. Skills acquired with this track will enable students to undertake a variety of analytic activities designed to describe, project and prescribe courses of action for municipal improvement.

### 2) Detailed description.

#### a) Rationale/justification:

The Town Manager Track prepares students to assume responsible public leadership with local units of government. Career trajectories in planning often advance through various levels of public management. This track recognizes the need to provide students with a broader view of urban affairs.

#### b) Credit requirements:

Students will complete the Town Manager Track by taking four courses in the track (12 credits). Two geography courses and two political science courses. Although PS 354 & PS 355 and PS 370 & PS 371 are each paired courses, students may choose to take Metropolitan Problems and Introduction to Public Administration.

GE 231	Economic Geography	3 sh
RP 332	Urban Geography	3 sh
PS 354	Metropolitan Problems	3 sh
PS 355	Intergovernmental Relations	3 sh
	or	
PS 370	Introduction to Public Administration	3 sh
PS 371	Issues in Public Administration	3 sh

It is recommended that students take PS 251 State and Local Politics as a free elective because of the course emphasis on Pennsylvania.

#### c) Sequencing:

The courses in the track may be taken in any sequence or concurrently; none have prerequisites. All four courses on the list are in the catalog and actively offered in regular schedule rotation. All are within the topical expertise of faculty currently in the two departments.

**Part III. Implementation**

1) Effect on students in the existing program.

Students currently enrolled in the program will not be negatively impacted by the creation of this track. Since this track is an option, it will not affect the standing of any student currently enrolled in the program.

2) Effect on teaching loads.

Since the courses identified for the Town Manager Track are already offered on a regular basis faculty teaching loads will not be affected. No additional faculty will be needed to implement this track.

3) Effect on resources.

The Town Manager Track will place no new demands on the resources of the departments except to increase the number of ditto copies that are made in courses that have larger numbers of students.

4) Effect on enrollments.

Modest enrollment increases are expected in the four track courses. We anticipate there would be 0-4 new students per year into these courses because they are required for this track. Identification of the Town Manager Track will make career opportunities in local government more visible to students, and this incentive should draw students to the major.

**Part V. Letters of Support.**

A letter of support was requested from the Political Science Department on Aug. 29.