

EP.04.33
Revised

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



June 7, 2004

O. Vernon Burton, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Burton:

Enclosed are copies of a revised proposal from the College of Applied Life Studies for the Revision of the Undergraduate Curriculum in the Department of Leisure Studies.

This revision is in response to questions raised by the Senate Educational Policy Subcommittee at the May 3, 2004 meeting.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Marshall, Ph.D.
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: K. Bloom
C. Livingstone
C. McDonald

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Applied Life Studies

Office of the Dean
108 Huff Hall, MC-586
1206 South Fourth Street
Champaign, IL 61820



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MAY 14 2004
OFFICE of the PROVOST

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Keith Marshall
Assistant Provost
Swanlund Administration Building
MC - 304

Keith:

The Department of Leisure Studies of the College of Applied Life Studies has addressed the issues raised by the Senate Educational Policy committee with regard to the following proposal:

Revision of the Undergraduate Curriculum in the Department of Leisure Studies.

If further information is needed, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Kristi Bloom
Assistant Dean

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Leisure Studies

College of Applied Life Studies
104 Huff Hall
1206 South Fourth Street
Champaign, IL 61820



MEMORANDUM

To: Kristi Bloom, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Applied Life Studies

From: Cary McDonald, Head *CM*
Department of Leisure Studies

Date: April 21, 2004

Re: Undergraduate Curriculum—Revisions

Based on comments received from the Faculty Senate's Educational Policy Sub-Committee, the Department of Leisure Studies has made revisions to the attached proposal. These revisions focus on clarifying the intent of the "Foreign Language" designation in the curriculum sheets and the recommendation of including the curriculum as it would appear in the Curriculum Catalogue (Appendix II). Please let me know if other documentation is needed from the department in support of this request. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Appendices are available for review
in the Senate Office.

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

TITLE OF THE PROPOSAL: Revision of the Undergraduate Curriculum in the Department of Leisure Studies, College of Applied Life Studies

SPONSOR: College of Applied Life Studies
Department of Leisure Studies
Contact: Dr. Cary McDonald, Head
104 Huff Hall, 333-4410

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Department of Leisure Studies maintains an excellent reputation for the development of undergraduates who soon obtain leadership positions in the private and public sectors of the leisure service industry. Revision of the undergraduate curriculum in leisure studies is being proposed to set new standards for undergraduate education for the leisure studies field. These changes have occurred incrementally within the Leisure Studies curriculum over the past few years, and this proposal seeks formal approval of the changes. Specifically, the revised program ensures that each student is provided the opportunity to acquire: (1) a strong theoretical understanding of the antecedents and consequences of leisure grounded in a social science perspective, (2) the managerial knowledge required for the operation of leisure service agencies, and (3) the ability to independently conduct applied research required for professional practice. The curriculum provides a balance among social science and management content and a theoretical base for professional preparation. The proposed curriculum can be found in Appendix I.

The major changes being proposed include:

1. Total hours required for graduation (128 hours) remain the same; however, the hours for specific components of the program have changed.
 - a. General education hours have been reduced from 51 to 41 hours, although the curriculum continues to exceed the General Education Council standards. In addition, there are several courses within Leisure Studies Core Requirements designated as General Education status.
 - b. Department core requirements (required of all students in the department) have been increased from 45 to 54 hours. The primary reason for this change is to provide a stronger and more comprehensive foundation in leisure studies. This increase results from a redefinition of the fundamental core requirements in theory, practice, and research necessary to be successful in the field-- with the increase in leisure studies core (to strengthen the theoretical understanding grounded in social science) and management core (to strengthen the theoretical understanding and the application in the leisure service industry) requirements.
 - c. The hours required in the concentrations have been reduced from 21 to 15-17 hours, depending on concentration area.
 - d. Electives have been increased from 14 to 16-18 hours, depending on concentration area.

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

2. The number of concentrations is reduced from four to three to streamline departmental course offerings and due to the dwindling number of students in the Park & Natural Resource Management concentration. The remaining concentrations are Community Recreation Management, Sport Management, and Tourism Management. Students interested in Park & Natural Resource Management are directed to the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

JUSTIFICATION: Since the last revision to the undergraduate curriculum was approved in 1995, the field of leisure studies and its delivery systems have changed in both diversity of content and level of sophistication. In preparing this proposal, the department examined carefully the knowledge requirements for entry-level leisure service managers and emerging trends in the field of leisure service delivery. The proposed revisions address: (1) the skills necessary for critical thinking and analysis, (2) a strong understanding of general education areas of study, (3) the theoretical and applied knowledge necessary for professional practice, and (4) the ability to express ideas and communicate orally and in writing.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: The Department has 11 faculty to meet the needs of both the undergraduate and graduate program. In addition, searches are currently underway for two additional faculty members bringing the total to 13 beginning FY05. The proposed curriculum revisions will not require additional financial resources or staffing. Most of the courses in this proposal have been taught as special topics courses for the past several years and do not constitute new line items on, or a reallocation of, the departmental budget. In addition, reducing the number of concentrations from four to three has provided some flexibility in faculty reassignments. The proposed revisions maintain an appropriate faculty teaching load. Proposed changes will not significantly increase our demands on library or computer facilities.

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Through general education coursework requirements, students are able to expand their historical, aesthetic, cultural, literacy, scientific, and philosophical perspectives; improve critical and analytical thinking; and learn skills in finding, managing, and communicating knowledge. A strong "core" set of courses builds the theoretical base of understanding as well as application in the profession. Through the concentrations, students are afforded the opportunity to focus a portion of their studies on a major market segment of the leisure services industry. All students, regardless of the concentration, will graduate with the same degree.

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

CLEARANCES:

<u>Cary McDonald</u> Dr. Cary McDonald, Department Head, Leisure Studies	<u>4-30-04</u> Date
<u>Ms. Kristi Bloom, Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs</u>	<u> </u> Date
<u>Dr. Tanya Gallagher, Dean, College of Applied Life Studies</u>	<u> </u> Date

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAM OF STUDY CATALOG: The curriculum prepares students to design, manage, and deliver leisure services to a variety of populations in diverse settings and provides a firm foundation from which students may pursue graduate studies. A broad general education is emphasized and complemented with a core of theoretical and professional courses. Beyond a strong core integrating leisure theory, management, and research, the program allows students to focus their studies on a major market segment within the leisure and recreation field. These three areas of concentration include community recreation management, sport management, and tourism management. The 128 credit hours required for graduation include a core set of leisure theory and management courses; courses in an area of concentration; a semester long supervised practicum; and the requirements of the General Education Board. (Curriculum catalogue description attached, Appendix II)

Further information regarding career opportunities is available from the Director of Undergraduate Studies, 104 Huff Hall, 1206 South Fourth Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 333-4410.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 2004