

**Proposal for a New/Revised
Major, Minor, Emphasis, Certificate**

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Prepare your proposal according to the following outline. (Hand written forms will not be accepted.)
 - Attach the new/current catalog copy with all affected changes clearly noted. List all courses and requirements, indicate new courses, deleted courses and/or course changes.
Note: *A form must be submitted for each change.*
 - Submit the signed proposal to the Office of Academic Affairs. All forms must be completed in full with appropriate signatures to be added to the agenda. You will be contacted by the Curriculum Committee Coordinator with a date and time to present the proposal.
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I. Identification of Department(s)/Program(s): Center for Interdisciplinary Studies

II. Is this a New or Revised Proposal? New Revised

Type of proposal: Major Minor Emphasis Certificate

Title of Proposal: *European Studies Major*

III. Rationale for the proposal:

- a. What research/evidence supports the need for the proposal?
Courses on European themes are popular across the university, and especially so at our European campuses. Students at the home campus have shown increasing interest in studying in Europe. The European studies major is a key step forward in knitting our curriculum together and providing synergy between our programs overseas and in St. Louis. It will also provide a common ground for faculty and staff from diverse parts of the university who share a common interest in European affairs.
- b. How will it support departmental philosophy/mission and existing curriculum? How will it support the philosophy/mission and existing curriculum of your School/College and the University?
The School of Arts & Sciences is dedicated to "internationalizing" the curriculum. The CIS promotes interdisciplinarity on campus. The European studies major will serve both these goals directly.
- c. List the learning objectives/outcomes:
Students who major in European studies will be expected to demonstrate :
 - 1) proficiency in at least one major European language*
 - 2) familiarity with the geography of Europe
 - 3) familiarity with major events and major literary, philosophic, and artistic movements in European history
 - 4) an understanding of overall periodization of European history, as well as some social, political, and economic facts about each period

- 5) the ability to critically analyze, compare and contrast multiple interpretive frameworks for the study of European society and culture
 - 6) the ability to describe the outlines of religious beliefs and ideological belief systems like liberalism, feminism, and Marxism,
 - 7) the ability to draw connections between the study of European culture, history, and society
- d. How will these outcomes be assessed?

The principal tool of assessment will be the capstone course for seniors. In the last meeting, the course instructor will lead a discussion in which students discuss their experience in the program. The instructor will then provide a report to the advisory board, which parses the students comments and give his own perspective on the extent to which students have met their learning objectives.

At the end of each year, the advisory board will read all student papers from the capstone course and also look at student evaluations from courses offered as part of the major. They will conduct bi-annual surveys of majors and minors and participating faculty. Before the start of the new academic year, the advisory board will discuss the results of this assessment and consider whwether it warrant changes to the program.

- e. Why is this being proposed?

The European studies major will contribute to the life of the university in the following ways:

- 1) help faculty and students with an interest in Europe, now scattered across university departments, develop a common intellectual identity and sense of academic purpose
- 2) create stronger links between Webster's campuses and programs in St. Louis, Vienna, Geneva, Leiden, and London
- 3) draw more explicitly upon the expertise and interests of Webster's large worldwide population of European-born students
- 4) encourage students to take courses across the disciplines in the humanities and to encourage interdisciplinary majors at Webster
- 5) give students the opportunity to build their own distinctive, interesting, practical liberal arts major by combining courses from a range of departments

- f. Will this proposal have an impact on other Webster departments, schools/colleges or campuses (including overseas)? Yes No. If yes, please provide a brief explanation.
Careful care was taken to consult with the European campuses and to create a curriculum that would be attractive to overseas students.

- g. What Campus(es) will offer this?
St. Louis, Leiden, London, Geneva, Vienna

- h. Does this proposal require a new course? Yes No. If yes, what course(s)? ISTL 4800

- i. Does this proposal require a new prefix? Yes No. If yes, what prefix?

Note: A New Course Proposal Form and/or Course Change Form must be submitted with this proposal for any course(s) affected by this change (including those that are converting to the new prefix.)

IV. Staffing Information:

- a. What additions or changes in staffing are necessary for this proposal?

none

b. How will this be coordinated?

A steering committee has been formed.

c. Who will coordinate this program? (name, title and department)

Warren Rosenblum, Associate Professor, History, Politics & IR Dept.

V. Feasibility information:

a. What are the resources necessary for this proposal? (space, equipment, etc)

None

b. What are the projections for enrollment and growth for this upon implementation?

By the end of the first year (2008-2009), we hope to recruit as majors 10 students in St. Louis and at least 5 overseas.

VI. Endorsements & Approvals:

Please have the Chair of the Department/Committee, Dean of each School/College and other programs that may be affected by this proposal, review prior to submission to the Office of Academic Affairs.

Warren Rosenblum
Petitioner

9/16/08
Date

Don Guy-Lang
Chair of the Department/Committee

2 Oct 08
Date

Janis Lang
Dean of the School/College

10/1/08
Date

Chair of the Curriculum Committee

Date

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