

Checklist for Curriculum Proposals

1. Are all **signatures** on the hard copy of the proposal?

2. Is the **effective date** correct?

3. Is the **rationale** for the proposal consistent with the changes proposed?

4. Does the proposed **number of credits** match the stated number?

5. Have affected units been identified and contacted? Are required **support letters** attached?

6. Is a **resolution** necessary? If so, is it attached?

(Necessary for: establishing a major; disestablishing a major; a name change to any program with permanent status; a name change to a department or college; a transfer or creation of any department; request for permanent status).

7. Are all **courses (required or referenced)** in the UDSIS Inventory or in the approval process?

8. Are all **university requirements** correctly specified?

A. Breadth requirements.

B. Multicultural requirement.

C. Writing requirement.

D. DLE requirement.

9. Are all **college requirements** correctly specified?

9. Is a **side-by-side comparison** provided?

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

Submitted by: Professor Gretchen Bauer, Chair phone number 831-2357

Department: Political Science and International Relations email address gbauer@udel.edu

Action: Add Concentration to Political Science Major

(Example: add major/minor/concentration, delete major/minor/concentration, revise major/minor/concentration, academic unit name change, request for permanent status, policy change, etc.)

Effective term 13F

(use format 04F, 05W)

Current degree BA

(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed change leads to the degree of: BA

(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed name: Politics, Groups, and Identities

Proposed new name for revised or new major / minor / concentration / academic unit (if applicable)

Revising or Deleting:

Undergraduate major / Concentration: Political Science – Politics, Groups, and Identities BA

(Example: Applied Music – Instrumental degree BMAS)

Undergraduate minor: _____

(Example: African Studies, Business Administration, English, Leadership, etc.)

Graduate Program Policy statement change: _____

(Must attach your Graduate Program Policy Statement)

Graduate Program of Study: _____

(Example: Animal Science: MS Animal Science: PHD Economics: MA Economics: PHD)

Graduate minor / concentration: _____

Note: all graduate studies proposals must include an electronic copy of the Graduate Program Policy Document, highlighting the changes made to the original policy document.

List new courses required for the new or revised curriculum. How do they support the overall program objectives of the major/minor/concentrations)?

(Be aware that approval of the curriculum is dependent upon these courses successfully passing through the Course Challenge list. If there are no new courses enter "None")

None. We are not currently proposing new required courses for the concentration although we are adding some new courses (courses that have been previously taught as topics classes); faculty members will be encouraged to teach current courses with an emphasis on subjects and frameworks related to the politics of groups and identities.

Explain, when appropriate, how this new/revised curriculum supports the 10 goals of undergraduate education: <http://www.ugs.udel.edu/gened/>

1. *Attain effective skills in (a) oral and (b) written communication, (c) quantitative reasoning, and (d) the use of information technology.*

One of the purposes of the additional concentration is to enable students who are interested in studying diverse populations and identity politics to study these questions across subfields in political science, looking at these issues from a range of differing perspectives and approaches. The coursework includes training in methodology, exposure to the use of different information technologies, and opportunities to present ideas in written and oral format. The courses offered range from large lectures to smaller, discussion-oriented courses. Students completing the concentration will be competent in conducting research, analyzing data, and presenting their findings in written and oral format.

2. *Learn to think critically to solve problems.*

Courses in the concentration focus on how and why to study different social groups and their political conflicts with particular interest in how disputes get resolved or exacerbated in the real world. By looking at a range of different groups, students will learn how to apply their general knowledge and skills obtained in the discipline of political science to questions of diversity.

3. *Be able to work and learn both independently and collaboratively.*

Our courses include extensive independent work with exams, writing, and research opportunities. In addition, our coursework includes many opportunities to work collaboratively with other students on projects including collaborative research and presentations (such as the Blue Hen Poll), in-class simulations of political processes, and mock court exercises.

4. *Engage questions of ethics and recognize responsibilities to self, community, and society at large.*

The concentration in Politics, Groups and Identities is intended to expose students to the complex political and ethical questions involved in living in a diverse world with competing and often conflicting and misunderstood perceptions. Students will be exposed to a range of intellectual perspectives and will have the opportunity to study marginalized groups to gain a better understanding of their political world.

5. *Understand the diverse ways of thinking that underlie the search for knowledge in the*

arts, humanities, sciences and social sciences.

The new concentration includes courses across the discipline of political science and will expose students to different kinds of analysis, theoretical approaches, and legal analysis. In the course of studying marginalized populations, students will get a good grasp of the range of methodological approaches in the social sciences.

6. Develop the intellectual curiosity, confidence, and engagement that will lead to lifelong learning.

Students will gain important intellectual skills including conducting independent research, analyzing data, and knowledge of the relevant literature and contemporary debates. In addition, the goal is to spark student interest in marginalized populations and their political concerns.

7. Develop the ability to integrate academic knowledge with experiences that extend the boundaries of the classroom.

Students will reflect on contemporary political and social issues in the classroom and develop critical thinking skills they can apply outside the classroom. Students are allowed to use an internship or independent research for credit in the concentration. These are experiences that students can use to integrate knowledge with experiences beyond the classroom.

8. Expand understanding and appreciation of human creativity and diverse forms of aesthetic and intellectual expression.

The coursework includes a range of intellectual perspectives including differing methodologies and exposure to competing political ideologies.

9. Understand the foundations of United States society including the significance of its cultural diversity.

The concentration focuses on exposing students to the diversity of social groups in the United States (and globally). Many of these courses analyze how diversity is shaped and managed by political institutions and values within the U.S.

10. Develop an international perspective in order to live and work effectively in an increasingly global society.

Coursework for the concentration includes the study of diverse populations globally including the flow of people and ideas across borders.

Identify other units affected by the proposed changes:

(Attach permission from the affected units. If no other unit is affected, enter "None")

None. The proposed concentration draws on no courses from other units. As it is a unique concentration, it also does not rival concentrations or majors in departments most likely to offer a similar kind of concentration.

Describe the rationale for the proposed program change(s):

(Explain your reasons for creating, revising, or deleting the curriculum or program)

The Department of Political Science and International Relations (POSCIR) has strong

reasons for creating a new concentration which revises our political science major.

POSCIR seeks to align its curriculum with the University of Delaware's (UD) strategic plan to "embrace diversity as ...a cornerstone value" of the institution, and with the College of Arts and Sciences' (CAS) plan to promote diversity.

By offering a plethora of courses under the new Politics, Groups, and Identities concentration POSCIR hopes to foster what the UD strategic plan describes as, "a robust educational environment" that "supports critical thinking, free inquiry, and respect for diverse views and values." We also believe the new concentration meets the CAS's desire to target a "diversity of backgrounds, interests, intellectual approaches, global perspectives and identities ... essential to ... deep and engaged learning."

The new concentration will also allow POSCIR faculty to develop and teach courses on politically relevant issues and subjects which reflect their academic interests, but are often seen as peripheral to the discipline. These include subjects such as the politics of sexuality and sexual identity, gender, race and ethnicity, religiosity and denominational conflict, socioeconomic status and class, nationality and immigration, and intergroup relations among cross-national boundaries. Currently, these topics are spread out among the more traditional subfields of the political science discipline like "American Politics," "Comparative Politics," "International Relations," and "Political Theory." We will continue to add and revise courses for the concentration as it evolves and as POSCIR continues to assess and evaluate interest and engagement in the new concentration.

We believe that by providing students with an additional concentration option in the political science major, one that explicitly focuses on the range of individuals and issues related to historically protected and threatened groups and their respective identities, we will provide the aforementioned environment for learning and thinking about, as well as respecting, diverse views and values.

Program Requirements:

(Show the new or revised curriculum as it should appear in the Course Catalog. If this is a revision, be sure to indicate the changes being made to the current curriculum and **include a side-by-side comparison** of the credit distribution before and after the proposed change)

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR – POLITICS, GROUPS AND IDENTITIES CONCENTRATION

A. Major Requirements all Concentrations. 12 credits

_____ POSC 150: Introduction to American Politics	3 credits
_____ POSC 240: Introduction to Global Politics	3 credits
_____ POSC 300: Research Methods for Political Science	3 credits
_____ One course from	3 credits
• POSC 220: Introduction to Public Policy	
• POSC 270: Introduction to Comparative Politics	
• POSC 285: Introduction to Political Theory	

B. Politics, Groups and Identities Concentration 18 credits

Six courses (18 credits) from the following list of courses, with at least three courses taken at the 400-level.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____ (5) _____ (6) _____
400-level 400-level 400-level

- | | |
|---|---|
| POSC 311 Politics of Developing Nations | POSC 403 Civil Liberties: Equal Protection Clause |
| POSC 312 Politics of East Asian Development | POSC 410 Islam and Global Affairs |
| POSC 317 Gender and Politics | POSC 411 Politics and Poverty |
| POSC 318 Public Opinion | POSC 416 Ethnic Conflict and Resolution |
| POSC 320 Parties and Interest Groups | POSC 421 Political Psychology |
| POSC 322 Race and Politics | POSC 430 Intermestic Relations of Islam and America |
| POSC 329 International Migration | POSC 445 Human Rights and World Politics |
| POSC 330 Political Terrorism | POSC 446 International Human Rights on Film |
| POSC 355 Urban Politics | POSC 459 Sexuality and Law |
| POSC 361 Feminist Political Theory | POSC 461 Topics in Gender & Politics* |
| POSC 377 Arab-Israeli Conflict | POSC 473 Gender, Sex and Law |
| POSC 387 American Political Thought | |

Three (3) credit hours of POSC 464 (approved Internship), 466 (Independent Study), or 468 (Undergraduate Research) may count once towards completion of the required 18 hours of upper division coursework.

POSC 464 and POSC 468 Undergraduate Research fulfill the DLE requirement.

*May be taken twice when topics differ.

Other courses may count towards the concentration, subject to approval from the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION: (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Department Chairperson Getdren Bauer Date 4/1/12
Dean of College _____ Date _____
Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee _____ Date _____
Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies _____ Date _____
Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. _____ Date _____
Secretary, Faculty Senate _____ Date _____
Date of Senate Resolution _____ Date to be Effective _____
Registrar _____ Program Code _____ Date _____
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs & International Programs _____ Date _____
Provost _____ Date _____
Board of Trustee Notification _____ Date _____