# Curriculum Proposal

## POL 17-18 #14

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## Course Modification

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<th><strong>Lib Ed Goal Areas 5 &amp; 9 to Lib Ed Goal Areas 6 &amp; 9</strong>: Lib Ed Goal Area change</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.4 POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics (3 credits)</td>
<td><strong>Lib Ed Goal Areas 5 &amp; 9 to Lib Ed Goal Areas 5 &amp; 7</strong>: Lib Ed Goal Area change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 POL 3200 Minnesota Politics (3 credits)</td>
<td>Prerequisite change, <strong>Add Lib Ed Goal Areas 5 &amp; 9</strong></td>
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## Course Drop

| 1.9 POL 1500 Mock Trial (1 credit) |

## Program Modification

| 1.10 Political Science, B.A. major |

| 1.13 Signatures |

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BSU Curriculum Forms
Curriculum Modification Summary

College: College of Arts and Letters
Department: Political Science
Proposer: Patrick Donnay
Proposer’s position: Department Chair

Describe the modification(s) you propose, and how it (/they) will work to students' advantage. (This description and explanation will be included in Curriculum Report packets forwarded to the Faculty Senate.):

We are dropping a one credit course, POL 1500 Mock Trial, that is no longer offered because Mock Trial has stopped operating. We are also proposing POL 3200 Minnesota Politics as a liberal education course. Additionally we are modifying the Areas of liberal education that some of our courses serve.

Finally, we are also removing one course POL 3240 Political Analysis from our core set of required classes and reclassifying it as an elective course. We are also reducing the number of credits in our core by 3 credits and increasing the number of our elective credits in the major by 3 to accommodate this change.

Modifications proposed (specify number of each):
__3__Course Modification(s) (form 2)
_____New Course(s) (form 3)
__1__Course Drop(s) (form 4)
__1__Program Modification(s) (form 5)
_____New Program(s) (form 6)
_____Program Drop(s) (form 7)

The modifications affect (check):
__X__ Liberal Education
__X__ Undergraduate Curriculum
_____Graduate Curriculum
__X__ Teacher Licensure Program(s)
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 2
Updated 9.19.15

Course Modification Form

Current Course Number(s):
  Undergraduate: POL 1100
  Graduate:
Proposed Course Number(s), if different:
  Undergraduate: 
  Graduate:

Current Course Title: Understanding Politics
Proposed Course Title, if different:

Current Course Description: An introduction to the basic ideologies, concepts, processes and institutions of modern government and politics. Liberal Education Goal Areas 5 & 9.
Proposed Course Description, if different: An introduction to the basic ideologies, concepts, processes and institutions of modern government and politics. Liberal Education Goal Areas 6 & 9.

Current Credits: 3
Proposed Credits, if different:

Current Prerequisite(s):
  Undergraduate: none
  Graduate:
Proposed Prerequisite(s), if different:
  Undergraduate: 
  Graduate:

1) Reason(s) for change(s): This proposed modification is due to a change that has taken place in the emphasis within the course. Due to comments from several external reviewers, feedback from the students, and our experience in the upper division classes, we decided to place a greater emphasis on Political Theory in this class. Philosophers such as Plato, Locke, Hobbes, Bentham, Rousseau, Burke, Marx, Lenin, et al, are examined, as well as the practical applications of their ideas. We believe that this is still consistent with the goals of Area 9, but, that the shift in material warrants a movement from Goal Area 5 to Area 6 within the Liberal Education Program. We thank you for your consideration.

2) May this modified course replace the current course for students remaining in the old curriculum? Yes ___X___ No _____ If not, please drop the current course and submit a new course form for the modification.

3) Do these modifications change any of the following? For all Yes answers, please provide updated information on the next page.
   Student Learning Outcomes Yes ___X___ No _____
   Major Content Areas Yes _____ No ___X___
Projected Maximum Class Size (Cap) Yes _X___ No _____ Changing from 50 to 100

Learning Outcomes Area II (Students Will:)
- Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.

Learning Outcomes Area VI (Students Will:)
- Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social Context.
- Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

Learning Outcomes Area IX (Students Will:)
- Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
- Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
- Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of others

4) Current Course fee(s) per student: $
for:
Proposed Course fee(s) per student, if different: $
for:

5) Service Areas:
This course is a requirement or an elective in the programs/areas listed below. To locate where this course appears please search the online catalog, as follows:
 a) go to http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/ and choose the most recent catalog(s),
 b) click on “Areas of Study, and Course Descriptions,”
 c) click on “PDF of Entire Catalog” in upper right,
 d) press Ctrl F, and enter the prefix and number of the course(s) from this form.

Non-licensure programs:

Teacher Licensure programs:

Liberal Education:

The above “service area” programs/departments were notified of this modification on _______ (date) by ___________________ (mail, email, or phone).

Please check one of the items below:

______ No comments were received from other programs or departments within one week of the notification.

______ Comments were received within one week of the notification, and are attached.
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 2
Updated 9.19.15

Course Modification Form

Current Course Number(s):
   Undergraduate: POL 1200
   Graduate:
Proposed Course Number(s), if different:
   Undergraduate:
   Graduate:

Current Course Title: Introduction to American Politics
Proposed Course Title, if different:

Current Course Description: An introductory survey to the institutions and actors, such as the media, interest groups, political parties, congress, and presidency of contemporary American government and politics. Liberal Education Goal Area 5 & 9.
Proposed Course Description, if different: An introductory survey to the institutions and actors, such as the media, interest groups, political parties, congress, and presidency of contemporary American government and politics. Liberal Education Goal Area 5 & 7.

Current Credits: 3
Proposed Credits, if different:

Current Prerequisite(s):
   Undergraduate: none
   Graduate:
Proposed Prerequisite(s), if different:
   Undergraduate:
   Graduate:

1) Reason(s) for change(s): This modification comes after considerable discussion within the program. Clearly this course fits well in Area 9 with its goals of Ethical and Civic Responsibility. It has been in that area for at least 25 years. And it would continue to belong in that area, however, as we witness increased levels of political polarization around issues of identity politics related to race, gender, citizenship and even region we have come to the conclusion that we can better serve students by offering this course in the context of Area 7, Diversity in the United States. As a program we are maintaining our presence in Area 9 through other courses, so it is not as though we are abandoning our role in enriching the campus mission related to student political engagement and ethical responsibility but rather are adding our discipline’s perspective to the growing challenge of societal fragmentation and its political repercussions.
2) May this modified course replace the current course for students remaining in the old curriculum? Yes __X__ No _____ If not, please drop the current course and submit a new course form for the modification.

3) Do these modifications change any of the following? **For all Yes answers, please provide updated information on the next page.**
   - Student Learning Outcomes: Yes __X__ No _____
   - Major Content Areas: Yes _____ No __X____
   - Projected Maximum Class Size (Cap): Yes ____ No __X____

**Students will be able to:**
- Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.
- Understand the development of group identities in the United States, history and culture.
- Understand the changing meanings of group identities in the United States, history and culture
- Demonstrate an awareness of the individual dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
- Students will be able to discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
- Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.
- Examine social institutions across a range of historical periods and cultures.
- Examine social processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
- Employ the methods that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
- Employ the data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
- Use alternative explanatory systems or theories.
- Critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.

4) Current Course fee(s) per student: $
for:
Proposed Course fee(s) per student, if different: $
for:

5) Service Areas:
This course is a requirement or an elective in the programs/areas listed below. To locate where this course appears please search the online catalog, as follows:
   a) go to [http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/) and choose the most recent catalog(s),
   b) click on “Areas of Study, and Course Descriptions,”
   c) click on “PDF of Entire Catalog” in upper right.
   d) press Ctrl F, and enter the prefix and number of the course(s) from this form.

Non-licensure programs:
Teacher Licensure programs:

Liberal Education:

The above “service area” programs/departments were notified of this modification on ______ (date) by ______________________ (mail, email, or phone).

Please check one of the items below:

______ No comments were received from other programs or departments within one week of the notification.

______ Comments were received within one week of the notification, and are attached.
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 2
Updated 9.19.15

Course Modification Form

Current Course Number(s):
  Undergraduate: POL 3200
  Graduate:
Proposed Course Number(s), if different:
  Undergraduate:
  Graduate:

Current Course Title: Minnesota Politics
Proposed Course Title, if different:

Current Course Description: Using Minnesota politics as a central focus, the role of and function of state and local governments in the context of American federalism is examined. Prerequisite: POL 1200. (Might not be offered every year.)

Proposed Course Description, if different: Using Minnesota politics as a central focus, the role of and function of state and local governments in the context of American federalism is examined. (Might not be offered every year.) Liberal Education Goal Areas 5 & 9

Current Credits: 3
Proposed Credits, if different:

Current Prerequisite(s):
  Undergraduate: POL 1200
  Graduate:
Proposed Prerequisite(s), if different:
  Undergraduate: none
  Graduate:

1) Reason(s) for change(s): We have often considered this course for the liberal education curriculum because it so readily meets the learning objectives, but have never taken the time to follow through on the paperwork. It meets the Social Sciences Goals in the way it is ready made for comparative analysis of state differences in public policy. From there we can analyze what the potential explanations for those policy differences might be. Of course they can range from demographic and political culture considerations to aspects of the political processes in respective states. The course also provides a great prism through which to evaluate the avenues and impact of citizen engagement. For example, why do state turnout rates vary so dramatically? What differences, if any, does that make in state level policy?

2) May this modified course replace the current course for students remaining in the old curriculum? Yes ___X__ No _____ If not, please drop the current course and submit a new course form for the modification.
3) Do these modifications change any of the following? **For all Yes answers, please provide updated information on the next page.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes X No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Content Areas</td>
<td>No X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Maximum Class Size (Cap)</td>
<td>X No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Max class size changing from 40 to 25

Upon completing this course a student will be able to:

- Explain the responsibilities of state and local governments in the United States.
- Understand the role of federalism in the United States.
- Describe state finances and tax policies.
- Summarize political attitudes and participation as they relate to state politics.
- Explain the role of political parties and interest groups.
- Understand leadership at the state and local levels.
- Describe state-level legislative processes.
- Summarize the state role in education.
- Summarize the state role in healthcare.
- Summarize the state role in environmental protection.
- Understand how Minnesota politics are unique from those in other states.
- Understand how Minnesota politics fit a larger pattern of developments in state and local politics.

4) Current Course fee(s) per student: $

for:

Proposed Course fee(s) per student, if different: $

for:

5) Service Areas:

This course is a requirement or an elective in the programs/areas listed below. To locate where this course appears please search the online catalog, as follows:

a) go to [http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/) and choose the most recent catalog(s),

b) click on “Areas of Study, and Course Descriptions,”

c) click on “PDF of Entire Catalog” in upper right,

d) press Ctrl F, and enter the prefix and number of the course(s) from this form.

Non-licensure programs:
Teacher Licensure programs:
Liberal Education:

The above “service area” programs/departments were notified of this modification on _______ (date)
by ____________________ (mail, email, or phone).

Please check one of the items below:

- No comments were received from other programs or departments within one week of the notification.
- Comments were received within one week of the notification, and are attached.
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 4

Course Drop Form
(Use this form to drop a course from the university curriculum file. To drop a course from a program only, use Form 5 Program Modification Form)

Course Number: POL 1500
   Undergraduate: X
   Graduate:

Course Title: Mock Trial

New or current courses that will universally replace this dropped course for students remaining in the old curriculum:

This dropped course is a requirement or an elective in the programs/areas listed below. To locate where this course appears please search the online catalog, as follows:
   1) go to http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/ and choose the most recent catalog(s),
   2) click on “Areas of Study, and Course Descriptions,”
   3) click on “PDF of Entire Catalog” in upper right,
   4) press Ctrl F, and enter the prefix and number of the course(s) from this form.

This course appears nowhere else but among our course listings in the catalogue.

The above “service area” programs/departments were notified of this modification on _______ (date) by __________________ (mail, email, or phone).

Please check one of the items below: NOT APPLICABLE

_____ No comments were received from other programs or departments within one week of the notification.

_____ Comments were received within one week of the notification, and are attached.

Reason(s) for dropping this course:
We had a solid Mock Trial program going for about 5 years. This prompted us to develop this course as a way for students who participated in the program to get some academic credit for their involvement. Mock Trial ceased operating about 3 years ago and there isn’t much likelihood of it returning in the foreseeable future. This is really a housecleaning task on our part.
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 5

Program Modification Form

Program to be modified: Political Science, B.A. major

List all proposed change(s):
The only change we are proposing is to remove POL 3240 Political Analysis from the Required Core set of classes while keeping it as an elective. Also increasing the number of guided electives in both emphasis from 18 to 21. This change does not increase the size of the major which remains at 42 credits.

Reason(s) for the change(s):
Primarily, we have come to the conclusion that having a 3 course capstone experience may be more than is appropriate given program and student constraints. Our self-study and program assessments certainly confirm that we are very strong in methodology, but we are finding that this result may be coming at the cost of understandings and applications of more general politics. We are looking to achieve a better overall balance of program outcomes.

Additionally this change stems from the recently mandated release time for department chairs to now include small departments. (The chair of political science is now contractually mandated to receive 3 credits of release time. This is a new development.) With that change we now have less flexibility in our course offerings and find that our upper divisions are too limited by the inclusion of POL 3240 as a core course. If we have flexibility in our rotation of courses for this classes, (perhaps every other year instead of every year), we can include another upper division course offering.

Note: In order to avoid hidden prerequisites, if a course is being dropped from this program (but not from the entire curriculum), please check for which remaining courses may include this dropped course as a prerequisite. Course prerequisites may be found in the online catalog (http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog/). Not applicable

Note: If a course from another department/program was either added to or dropped from this program, please notify the chair/coordinator of that course's department/program and indicate the following: Not applicable The course’s home department/program was notified of the addition or dropping of their course(s) on ______ (date) by __________________ (mail, email, or phone).

Please check one of the items below:
____ No comments were received from other programs or departments within one week of the notification.
____ Comments were received within one week of the notification, and are attached.
CURRENT PROGRAM

Political Science, B.A. major

Required Credits: 42
Required GPA: 2.25

I REQUIRED CORE COURSES
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- PHIL 3380 Political Philosophy (3 credits)
  or POL 1100 Understanding Politics (3 credits)
- POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics (3 credits)
- POL 1300 Introduction to International Relations (3 credits)
- POL 1400 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credits)
- POL 3240 Political Analysis (3 credits)
- POL 3400 Political Theory (3 credits)
- POL 4100 Political Inquiry (3 credits)
- POL 4500 Thesis and Career Preparation (3 credits)

A. GENERAL
SELECT 12-15 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR. MAY INCLUDE INTERNSHIP UP TO 4 CREDITS:

SELECT 6 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM APPROPRIATE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR. MAY INCLUDE INTERNSHIP UP TO 4 SEMESTER CREDITS.

Note: A total of up to 8 credits of internship may be taken.

B. PRE-LAW EMPHASIS
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- POL 4200 Constitutional Law (3 credits)

SELECT 15-18 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM APPROPRIATE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR.
Clean Copy

Political Science, B.A. major

Required Credits: 42
Required GPA: 2.25

I REQUIRED CORE COURSES
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:
- PHIL 3380 Political Philosophy (3 credits)
  or POL 1100 Understanding Politics (3 credits)
- POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics (3 credits)
- POL 1300 Introduction to International Relations (3 credits)
- POL 1400 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credits)
- POL 3400 Political Theory (3 credits)
- POL 4100 Political Inquiry (3 credits)
- POL 4500 Thesis and Career Preparation (3 credits)

A. GENERAL
SELECT 15 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR. MAY INCLUDE INTERNSHIP UP TO 4 CREDITS:

SELECT 6 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM APPROPRIATE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR. MAY INCLUDE INTERNSHIP UP TO 4 SEMESTER CREDITS.

Note: A total of up to 8 credits of internship may be taken.

B. PRE-LAW EMPHASIS
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSE:
- POL 4200 Constitutional Law (3 credits)

SELECT 18 SEMESTER CREDITS OF GUIDED ELECTIVES FROM APPROPRIATE COURSES NUMBERED ABOVE 3000 WITH CONSENT OF ADVISOR.
BSU Curriculum Forms

Form 8
Updated: 09.18.15

Signatures

Patrick Donnay / Political Science Department Chair / 11.13.17
Proposer / Title / Date

Patrick Donnay / Political Science Department Chair / 11.13.17
Chair or Director / Department or Program / Date
Note: "All departmental recommendations [on curriculum] must be reviewed and approved by the department's faculty."--IFO/MnSCU Master Agreement 2009-2011, 20.A.3 (p. 80).

At this point, packet goes to Records Office/Curriculum Coordinator to be logged in to the Curriculum Proposal Progress Grid.

Colleen Greer / Dean of The College of Arts and Sciences / 12.01.2017
Dean / College / Date

Note: If proposal is sent back to the Proposer, please notify the Curriculum Coordinator. If approved, packet goes to Academic Affairs Office.
From: Patrick Donnay  
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 6:07 PM  
To: Michael Murray; John Ellis; Bridget Tews  
Subject: Minnesota Politics added to Lib Ed

Drs. Murray and Ellis,

Hope you are doing well. Political science is making a few minor curriculum changes that require we notify each you to be aware of them. All we are doing is adjusting our offerings in liberal education. The courses that are including in your programs are:

POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics will be now be offered in goal areas 5 and 7 instead of goal areas 5 and 9  
POL 3200 Minnesota Politics will now be offered in goal areas 5 and 9

John, I am aware of the content requirements in POL 1200 required for Board of Teaching licensure approval. That content remains in POL 1200.

Moving to different lib ed areas is the extent of the change. If I don’t hear from you by Monday the 29th, I am going to assume you are okay with the change.

Thanks,  
Pat

Dr. Patrick Donnay  
Bemidji State University  
Professor of Political Science

From: Timothy Goodwin  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 10:04 AM  
To: Patrick Donnay <PDonnay@bemidjistate.edu>; Sue Rickers <SRickers@bemidjistate.edu>; Bridget Tews <BTews@bemidjistate.edu>  
Subject: RE: political science lib ed change

Should be no problem and not require us to do anything with the board of teaching since it appears the content and syllabus would not change.  
Would there be a change in availability as to how often it is offered?
Thank you, Pat.

This updated information will help me to advise the Social Studies Education student. I will keep this information filed.

Dr. John Ellis  
Department of Humanities  
Bemidji State University

Hi Pat,

This sounds fine. I'll let faculty know for advising purposes.

Thanks

Sue