THE FACULTY SENATE

July 15, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: President Robert M. Gates

SUBJECT: Approval of University Curriculum Committee Item (FS.23.13)

At its regular meeting on July 11, 2005, the Faculty Senate approved the following curriculum item from the University Curriculum Committee and submits it for your approval. Attached is a copy of the material sent to our Senators.

College of Liberal Arts
Department of Political Science
Certificate in International Relations
Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics
Certificate in Law, Politics and Society

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please inform me of your action on this matter.

John L. Fike
2005-2006 Speaker

Attachment

cc: Dr. David Prior
    Dr. Karan Watson
    Dr. Paul Meyer
    Ms. Linda Lacey
    Dr. Charles Johnson

Approved:

Robert M. Gates, President

4-12-06

Date
MEMO

To: Undergraduate Instruction Committee  
   College of Liberal Arts

From: Patricia A. Hurley, Professor and Head  
   Department of Political Science

Date: March 11, 2005

Re: Proposals for three new certificate programs in Political Science

A few years ago, the Department of Political Science developed and began to offer a certificate program in European Union politics. Since then, the program has become quite popular and several students have already received certificates upon graduation. Owing in part to the success of that program, both students and faculty have expressed interest in development of additional certificate programs to give guidance and recognition to in-depth study in other areas of political science.

Attached are proposals for three new certificate programs, covering the topics of International Relations; Comparative Study of National Politics; and Law, Politics, and Society. With the European Union program as a template, the new programs in International Relations and Comparative Study both require course work in addition to an experiential learning component. Each of the three programs requires a capstone course involving a relevant research experience.

These three programs have been endorsed by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, the Head’s Advisory Committee, and the faculty of the Department. In addition, we have received approval for including optional outside courses from the department heads of Economics, History, and Sociology (as attached).

On behalf of the department, I am pleased to submit these programs for your consideration.
Certificate in International Relations

This certificate is a means of enhancing undergraduate education through a focused combination of courses, an internship, and language development. Administered by the Political Science Department, the program is open to all Texas A&M University undergraduates majoring in Political Science.

If you are interested in gaining background for a career in the U.S. Foreign Service, international intelligence or law enforcement, or as a military officer, for postgraduate studies in international relations, or for job recruitment in areas such as international law or banking, this certificate program may be for you.

The program requires 18 hours of course work, including a capstone course involving international relations research. It also requires participation in an internship program. Interested students are encouraged to enroll in the program as freshmen to avoid having to add extra hours to the degree program.

Successful completion of the program will be indicated on the student’s transcript. Each student will also receive a program certificate upon graduation from Texas A&M.

Requirements for the Certificate

- 18 credits -- 5 upper division courses from the lists below (note that no more than 2 courses can be taken outside of Political Science) plus a capstone course
- an internship with a relevant U.S. government agency or international organization
- foreign language training

Students are required to complete 5 upper division courses from the following list (at least 3 of which must be from Political Science), plus a capstone course for which they will conduct a research project in the field of international relations.

POLS 311 – China, Japan, and the U.S.
POLS 324 – Politics of Global Inequality
POLS 328 – Globalization and Democracy
POLS 331 – Introduction to World Politics
POLS 413 – American Foreign Policy
POLS 415 – Contemporary Issues in American Foreign Policy
POLS 423 – U.S.-Latin American Relations
POLS 429 – Issues in World Politics
POLS 432 – The Politics of the European Union
POLS 447 – National Security Policy
HIST 305 – Mexican-American History
HIST 319 – U.S. Immigration and Ethnicity
HIST 343 – Inter-American Relations
HIST 464 – International Development Since 1918
ECON 312 – Poverty, Inequality, and Social Policy
ECON 320 – Economic Development of Europe
ECON 324 – Comparative Economic Systems
ECON 452 – International Trade Theory and Policy
HIST 348 -- Modern Middle East
HIST 444 -- American Military History Since 1901
HIST 463 -- American Foreign Relations (since 1913)
SOCI 313 -- Military, War and Society
SOCI 325 -- International Business Behavior
SOCI 423 -- Globalization and Social Change

In addition, variable topics courses, such as POLS306, POLS485, POLS489 and POLS497 may qualify, when focused specifically on international relations. Students who plan to apply such a course toward the above requirements should first determine, by consulting with an Undergraduate Advisor in the Political Science Department, that the course would be accepted toward the Certificate.

The capstone course is POLS481 – Senior Research Seminar, with a topic for the research paper in international relations. This course will give the student an opportunity to conduct original research providing a bona fide science experience within international relations. Since POLS481 is a variable content course, students are encouraged to consult with an Undergraduate Advisor in Political Science to determine that a particular section would be accepted toward the Certificate. It is possible to substitute a senior honors thesis with a research topic in international relations.

**Internship Experience**

In addition to the required course work on campus, the student is required to successfully complete an internship with a relevant U.S. government agency (e.g., U.S. State Department, CIA) or an international organization (e.g., UN, OAS, US Council on Foreign Relations). This may be done either in the summer or as a fall/spring semester internship. Students should consult with the TAMU Public Policy Internship Program as one possible route for organizing this internship. Up to three hours of independent study credit obtained in association with the internship may, if directly germane to the certificate program and approved by an Undergraduate Advisor in Political Science, count toward the required 15 hours of upper division course work (see Requirements above). Before committing to an internship the student should determine – by consulting with an Undergraduate Advisor in the Political Science Department – that the particular program would fulfill this requirement of the Certificate and that any independent study credit hours associated with the internship would count toward the Certificate’s course requirements.

**Foreign Language Requirement**

The foreign language requirement for the Certificate is essentially the same as the foreign language requirement for a Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Liberal Arts (6 hours, through course work or examination, at the intermediate level or equivalent). Students who do not have any previous training in the chosen language should plan to complete two 100-level courses prior to the two required 200-level courses in the same language. For more information about the Liberal Arts B.A. language requirement (including additional options), see the current Undergraduate Catalog and consult with an Undergraduate Advisor in Political Science.
Admission Requirements
Admission requirements are identical to those listed under the Bachelor's degree in the Texas A&M University undergraduate catalog.

Students interested in the Certificate in International Relations should make an appointment with an academic advisor in the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) in the Department of Political Science, Allen Building, Room 2024.

Steps to Receive the Certificate in International Relations
1. Apply for the program as early as your freshman year. See an undergraduate advisor in the Department of Political Science
2. Plan ahead to schedule appropriate classes. You are responsible for acquiring the specific course work and the internship experience. UPO advisors are available to assist you in planning a program for completing Certificate requirements.
3. File for the Certificate during your semester of graduation. Download the document to file from _______ or obtain a copy from the UPO, 2024 Allen Building. Submit the completed form to the UPO. You will receive the Certificate in six to eight weeks after graduation.

Political Science Department Advisor:
Dr. Michael Balog, Allen Bldg, Rm 2023, 862-1890
MEMO

TO: Walter Buenger, Head, History

FROM: Patricia A. Hurley, Head

RE: History Courses for Certificate Programs in Political Science

DATE: March 3, 2005

The Department of Political Science is in the process of designing several new certificate programs for undergraduate students. Three of these certificates allow students to choose courses from a menu that includes courses in history. I am requesting your approval to include these courses on the lists.

For the Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics students must choose one course from a list of 23 options outside of Political Science. Seventeen of these courses are offered by the History Department (complete list attached). Because of the wide choice offered students this should add no more than one or two students to any one of these courses in any given semester.

For the Certificate in International Relations students must choose two courses from a list of 16 courses outside of Political Science. Four history courses appear on this list: HIST 305 (Mexican-American History), HIST 319 (US Immigration and Ethnicity), HIST 343 (Inter-American Relations, and HIST 464 (International Development Since 1918). Again, because of the wide choice allowed students this should result in a very small number of students in these courses in any given semester.

For the Certificate in Law, Politics, and Society, students must choose one course from a menu of one history course: HIST 477 (Constitutional History of the United States to 1901) and two sociology courses: SOCI 304 (Criminology) or SOC 455 (Sociology of Law. Although the course choices are not as wide for this certificate this should not add more than five or six students per course.

Copies of the full set of requirements for these certificate programs are attached. For your convenience I include three approval lines on the next page, one for each certificate. If you approve, I would appreciate you signing on each line and returning this to me at your earliest convenience. I hope to have these approvals prior to the College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Instruction Committee meeting on March 21, 2005. If you approve one but not the other of these requests, please leave the signature line blank for the one that you do not approve.

Please call me at 845-8833 if you have any questions. Thank you.
History courses approved for certificates to be offered by the Department of Political Science

The Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics:  
Walter Buenger, Head, HIST

The Certificate in International Relations:  
Walter Buenger, Head, HIST

The Certificate in Law, Politics, and Society:  
Walter Buenger, Head, HIST
MEMO

TO: Rogelio Saenz, Head, Sociology

FROM: Patricia A. Hurley, Head

RE: Sociology Courses for Certificate Programs in Political Science

DATE: March 3, 2005

The Department of Political Science is in the process of designing several new certificate programs for undergraduate students. Three of these certificates allow students to choose courses from a menu that includes several courses in sociology. I am requesting your approval to include these courses on the lists.

For the Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics students must choose one course from a list of 23 options outside of Political Science. Two sociology courses are included: SOCI 340 (Post Soviet Societies) and SOCI 413 (Social Movements). Because of the wide choice offered students this should add no more than one or two students to these courses in any given semester.

For the Certificate in International Relations students must choose two courses from a list of 16 courses outside of Political Science. Three sociology courses appear on this list: SOCI 313 (Military, War, and Society), SOCI 325 (International Business Behavior), SOCI 423 (Globalization and Social Change). Again, because of the wide choice allowed students this should result in a very small number of students in these courses in any given semester.

For the Certificate in Law, Politics, and Society, students must choose one course from a menu of one History course and two sociology courses: SOCI 304 (Criminology) or SOC 455 (Sociology of Law. Although the course choices are not as wide for this certificate this should not add more than five or six students per course.

Copies of the full set of requirements for these certificate programs are attached. For your convenience I include three approval lines on the next page, one for each certificate. If you approve, I would appreciate you signing on each line and returning this to me at your earliest convenience. I hope to have these approvals prior to the College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Instruction Committee meeting on March 21, 2005. If you approve some but not all of these requests, please leave the signature line blank for any that you do not approve.

Please call me at 845-8833 if you have any questions. Thank you.
Sociology courses approved for certificates to be offered by the Department of Political Science:

The Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics: Rogelio Sánchez, Head SOCI

The Certificate in International Relations: Rogelio Sánchez, Head SOCI

The Certificate in Law, Politics, and Society: Rogelio Sánchez, Head SOCI
Economics courses approved for certificates to be offered by the Department of Political Science

The Certificate in Comparative Study of National Politics: ____________________________
Leonardo Auernheimer, Head, ECON

The Certificate in International Relations: ____________________________
Leonardo Auernheimer, Head, ECON