REQUEST TO COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE FOR CURRICULAR IMPROVEMENTS

DEPARTMENT: ECON PROPOSED EFFECTIVE SEMESTER: Fall 2019 COLLEGE: A & S REC 4/27/18 @3PM

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Academic Program

☐ New degree*
☐ New major*
☐ New curriculum*
☐ New concentration*
☐ New certificate
☐ New minor
☐ Revised major
☐ Revised minor
☐ Admission requirements
☐ Graduation requirements
☐ Deletion Transfer
☐ Other (explain**)

Substantive Course Changes

☐ New course
☐ Pre or Co-requisites
☐ Deletion (required by others)
☐ Course #, different level
☐ Credit hours
☐ Enrollment restriction
☐ Course-level restriction
☐ Prefix ☐ Title and description
☐ General education (select one)
☐ Not Applicable

Misc. Course Changes

☐ Title
☐ Description (attach current & proposed)
☐ Deletion (not required by others)
☐ Course #, same level
☐ Variable credit
☐ Credit/no credit
☐ Cross-listing
☐ COGE reapproval
☐ Other (explain**)

** Other: Addition of "Honors in Economics" designation to the course catalog

Title of degree, curriculum, major, minor, concentration, or certificate:

Existing course prefix and #: Proposed course prefix and #: Credit hours:

Existing course title:

Proposed course title:

Proposed course title:

Existing course prerequisite & co-requisite(s):

Proposed course prerequisite(s)

If there are multiple prerequisites, connect with "and" or "or". To remove prerequisites, enter "none."

Proposed course co-requisite(s)

If there are multiple corequisites, they are always joined by "and."

Proposed course prerequisite(s) that can also be taken concurrently:

Is there a minimum grade for the prerequisites or corequisites?

The default grades are D for undergraduates and C for graduates.

Major/minor or classification restrictions:

List the Banner 4 character codes and whether they should be included or excluded.

For 5000 level prerequisites & corequisites: Do these apply to: (circle one) undergraduates graduates both

Specifications for University Schedule of Classes:

a. Course title (maximum of 30 spaces):

b. Multi-topic course: ☐ No ☐ Yes

c. Repeatable for credit: ☐ No ☐ Yes

d. Mandatory credit/no credit: ☐ No ☐ Yes

e. Type of class and contact hours per week (check type and indicate hours as appropriate)

1. ☐ Lecture

2. ☐ Lab or discussion

3. ☐ Lecture/lab/discussion

4. ☐ Seminar or ☐ studio

5. ☐ Independent study

6. ☐ Supervision or practicum

CIP Code (Registrar's use only):

Chair/Director Date 1-27-2018

Chair, College Curriculum Committee Date

Dean Date: Graduate Dean: Date

Curriculum Manager: Return to dean ☐ Date Forward to: Date

Chair, COGE/ PEB / FS President Date

FOR PROPOSALS REQUIRING GSC/USC REVIEW:

☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove Chair, GSC/USC Date

☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove Provost Date

Revised May 2007. All previous forms are obsolete and should not be used.

CAS17-326ECON
1. Explain briefly and clearly the proposed improvement.

The department wishes to add an “Honors in Economics” designation that is available to students in each of its majors (BA, BS, BBA)

**Honors in Economics**

Economics majors may apply for and receive the Honors in Economics designation on their official transcript. At the time of application, economics majors must have completed 24 credit hours in economics. Applicants must also have completed at least 90 credit hours overall. At least 15 of the credit hours used for the Honors designation must be completed at Western Michigan University. A minimum overall Western Michigan University GPA of 3.5 and a GPA of 3.75 in Economics is required for the Honors designation. Students must also submit a substantial writing sample that shows a capacity for original thought in the interpretation, analysis, and effective communication of economic information. Application forms may be obtained in the Department of Economics Advising Office, 5451 Friedmann Hall. Information is also available at the Department of Economics website: www.wmich.edu/economics/scholarships.

2. Rationale. Give your reason(s) for the proposed improvement. (If your proposal includes prerequisites, justify those, too.)

This designation is one of several changes the department is undertaking to increase WMU student awareness of our department’s course offerings and programs. We also wish to reward outstanding performance by students in our major, a major that recent WMU data highlights as being the third most difficult on campus (as evaluated by student “Average Grade” — see “Withdrawal Rates.pdf” made available from April Provost’s Council meeting). Having this designation placed on the student’s official transcript serves as an indication to the student’s future employer(s) the quality of their work and the significance of this honor. This will assist in our graduates being more marketable in their post-WMU careers. We anticipate a small number of students will receive this honor.

3. Effect on other colleges, departments or programs. If consultation with others is required, attach evidence of consultation and support. If objections have been raised, document the resolution. Demonstrate that the program you propose is not a duplication of an existing one.

There is no anticipated effect on other colleges. This program is only available to graduating economics majors. This does not affect the number of courses students take, which courses students take, or the order in which they are taken.

4. Effect on your department’s programs. Show how the proposed change fits with other departmental offerings.

There is no negative effect on department programming and no effect on course offerings. Rather, this designation is one of several changes the department is undertaking to increase WMU student awareness of our department’s course offerings and programs. We also wish to reward outstanding performance by students in our major, a major that recent WMU data highlights as being the third most difficult on campus (as evaluated by student “Average Grade” — see “Withdrawal Rates.pdf” made available from April Provost’s Council meeting).

5. Effects on enrolled students: Are program conflicts avoided? Will your proposal make it easier or harder for students to meet graduation requirements? Can students complete the program in a reasonable time? Show that you have considered scheduling needs and demands on students’ time. If a required course will be offered during summer only, provide a rationale.

The department views only positive outcomes from this change. There are no program conflicts from this change, nor will it affect a student’s ability to graduate on time. There are no effects on scheduling.

6. Student or external market demand. What is your anticipated student audience? What evidence of student or market demand or need exists? What is the estimated enrollment? What other factors make your proposal beneficial to students?
Our anticipated student audience is economics majors and minors considering the major. Numerous other departments in the college (e.g., History, Mathematics) and across campus (e.g., Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences) have similar designations.

7. Effects on resources. Explain how your proposal would affect department and University resources, including faculty, equipment, space, technology, and library holdings. Tell how you will staff additions to the program. If more advising will be needed, how will you provide for it? How often will course(s) be offered? What will be the initial one-time costs and the ongoing base-funding costs for the proposed program? (Attach additional pages, as necessary.)

There is no effect on department resources, as this change does not affect course offerings. The department’s Director of Undergraduate Studies, along with the department’s undergraduate studies committee, will review student applications for this honor as a matter of its general duties.

8. General education criteria. For a general education course, indicate how this course will meet the criteria for the area or proficiency. (See the General Education Policy for descriptions of each area and proficiency and the criteria. Attach additional pages as necessary. Attach a syllabus if (a) proposing a new course, (b) requesting certification for baccalaureate-level writing, or (c) requesting reapproval of an existing course.)

This honor has no effect on general education criteria.

9. List the learning outcomes for the proposed course or the revised or proposed major, minor, or concentration. These are the outcomes that the department will use for future assessments of the course or program.

There are no learning outcomes associated with this honor.

10. Describe how this curriculum change is a response to assessment outcomes that are part of a departmental or college assessment plan or informal assessment activities.

We wish to increase the visibility of our major programs and courses. Having an Honors designation will reward students who perform at an exceedingly high level throughout their course of study. It will also serve to motivate students with academic performance near the program cutoff to strive to achieve this honor.

11. (Undergraduate proposals only) Describe, in detail, how this curriculum change affects transfer articulation for Michigan community colleges. For course changes, include detail on necessary changes to transfer articulation from Michigan community college courses. For new majors or minors, describe transfer guidelines to be developed with Michigan community colleges. For revisions to majors or minors, describe necessary revisions to Michigan community college guidelines. Department chairs should seek assistance from college advising directors or from the admissions office in completing this section.

There is no effect on transfer articulation agreements. Students who transfer in to WMU are eligible to earn this designation.