



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 14, 2015

To: Dr. Clifford Brown, Chair, UPC College of Arts and Letters

From: Marcella Munson, Chair

Re: Changes to majors in LLCL: revised catalogue descriptions

Cc: Myriam S. Ruthenberg, Director of Undergraduate Studies

Attached to this memorandum are 1) a revised catalogue description reflecting the changes we propose to the major requirements in the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature, and 2) proposed new and simplified wording for the description of our requirements for the minors in our department.

The changes to our requirements for the majors are the result of an exhaustive study of comparable majors at our peer institutions nationwide and at other Florida State universities. As a result of our findings, we decided to lower the required number of credits from 45 to 37 in each of our majors. The following points illustrate our rationale for the change:

1. The proposed changes bring our majors in line with peer institution requirements, which range from 30 to 38 credits.
2. Taking into consideration that a student beginning the study of a language at the university must take 16 credits in prerequisites before even starting the major requirements, this change will make our degree more attainable in a four-year period. With the university's emphasis on timely graduation and student retention, this proposal becomes even more important.
3. We expect that this change will improve our graduation rate. The changes streamline the requirements, making them more flexible and increasing students' options.
4. A double major in languages or linguistics will become more feasible, especially for students whose first majors are in credit-heavy fields like International Business or the Sciences. We expect second majors in languages to be a growth area for our department.
5. These changes also allow students to finish their upper-division electives in other departments, where they might pursue minors or second majors, or minors in other programs in our own department.

The change to the catalogue description of the requirements for our minors is a mere formatting matter. We hope the alternative format and wording will facilitate advising not only at the departmental level, but also college- and university-wide.

Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature

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In short, we hope to contribute to student retention and success while making our degrees more attractive either as stand-alone degrees or in combination, either as double majors or as minors, with other disciplines.

Thank you for considering our request.

| Approved by: | Date: |
|--|----------------|
| Department Chair: <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>1/14/15</u> |
| College Curriculum Chair: <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>1/14/15</u> |
| College Dean: <u>Deborah Colman</u> | <u>1-15-15</u> |
| UUPC Chair: <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>1/23/15</u> |
| Undergraduate Studies Dean: <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>1/29/15</u> |
| UFS President: _____ | _____ |
| Provost: _____ | _____ |