



Request for Substantial Changes to an Existing Program

- I. Program Details
 - a) Name (and Degree Type) of Academic Program: Political Science, BA
 - i) Emphases (if applicable): Foreign Affairs
 - b) Academic Unit(s)/College(s): School of Government and Public Policy, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
- II. Primary Contact and Email: Kirssa Cline Ryckman, klcline@arizona.edu
- III. Planned start term for changes: Fall 2024
- IV. Describe the proposed changes to the program as well as the rationale for making the specific changes and include any relevant supporting data.
 - The changes will include removing two requirements: the six-semester language proficiency course and the international experience.
 - The primary reason for the change is to simplify the concentrations within the political science major. Currently, there are three concentrations that have to do with global politics (International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Foreign Affairs), which segments our classes and creates confusion among our students. Instead, we aim to offer one concentration that covers all courses that address international political science themes. To achieve this, we are (separately) proposing to disestablish the International Relations and Comparative Politics concentrations, while also keeping the general framework of the Foreign Affairs concentration but removing additional requirements that make this less appealing to many of our students. The reasons behind this include:
 - Comparative Politics and International Relations are two of the traditional subfields within political science, and the separate concentrations capture this historical disciplinary divide in political science. However, the boundaries between comparative and IR have been narrowing. The difference between them is less clear in the discipline overall, and within SGPP's faculty, who specialize in cross-cutting areas. It is increasingly difficult to separate classes into an IR or Comparative concentration as the two subfields converge over time.
 - The Foreign Affairs concentration was added more recently, and it combines all IR and Comparative courses into a single concentration. However, it also adds additional requirements, including six semesters of language proficiency and international experience. While students often want the variety of classes in the FA concentration, they often choose IR because of the extra requirements.
 - The current set up affects our Comparative concentration the most, as it is the smallest of the three by a wide margin. It doesn't have name recognition among students, and students who would choose FA turn to IR instead. This leaves the comparative courses available to a much smaller group of students.

- Finally, we recognize that some students will want to complete the additional requirements contained in the FA concentration, and we are working on micro credentials and different badges that can be earned towards that end.

V. Comparison Chart – complete the appropriate chart below (delete the unnecessary one) to compare your current requirements with the proposed modifications. Only list modifications to requirements, if there is no change, leave blank.

Tools for course lookup: UA Course Catalog or UAnalytics (Catalog and Schedule Dashboard)

UNDERGRADUATE Only list modifications to requirements, if there is no change, leave blank.	Existing Major Requirements	Requirements For Modified Major
Name of major, emphasis (if applicable) and degree*	BA Political Science, Foreign Affairs Emphasis	BA Political Science, Foreign Affairs Emphasis
Major requirements. List all major requirements including core and electives. If applicable, list the emphasis requirements. Courses listed count towards major units and major GPA. Courses listed must include prefix, number, units, and title. Mark new coursework (New). Include any limits/restrictions in place/needed (house number limit, etc.). Provide email(s)/letter(s) of support from home department head(s) for courses being added and are not owned by your department. Recommend ordering requirements in the same order as your advisement report.	1. Economics ECON 200 (3) 2. Core Course I SBS 200 (3) 3. Core Course II POL 201 (3) 4. Core Course III Choose 2: POL 202 (3), POL203 (3), POL/LAS 204 (3), PA/POL 206 (3), POL 209 (3) Emphasis in Foreign Affairs Requirements: 1. Sixth Semester Language Proficiency 2. International Experience 3. Foreign Affairs Concentration Courses (Complete 15 units) 4. Foreign Affairs Additional Electives (Complete 9 units)	1. Economics ECON 200 (3) 2. Core Course I SBS 200 (3) 3. Core Course II POL 201 (3) 4. Core Course III Choose 2: POL 202 (3), POL203 (3), PA/POL 206 (3), POL 209 (3) Emphasis in Foreign Affairs Requirements: 1. Foreign Affairs Concentration Courses (Complete 15 units) *Course List will remain the same* 2. Foreign Affairs Additional Electives (Complete 9 units) *Course List will remain the same*

* These changes require Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) approval.

- VI. Faculty impact – will new faculty hires be required to deliver the new, proposed curriculum?
 a) **No new faculty hires will be required to deliver the new proposed curriculum.**
- VII. Budgetary impact – indicate new resources needed and source of funding to implement proposed changes. If reallocating resources, indicate where resources will be taken from and the impact this will have on students/faculty/program/unit.
 a) **No new sources of income will be needed and no source of fundings will be needed to implement the proposed changes.**
- VIII. Transfer Student Consideration – Please explain how you have planned and evaluated the changes you requested in the context of:
- Mitigating the complexity of the transfer pathway/curriculum
 - **We are proposing the removal of 2 emphasis requirements, the sixth semester language proficiency requirement and the international experience requirement; these changes will provide a simpler transfer pathway for transfer students.**
 - Supporting transfer student success
 - **By removing the sixth semester language proficiency requirement and the international experience requirement we are decreasing the number of additional units that transfer students may need to complete for their degree.**
 - Ensuring transferability of course work from Arizona community colleges
 - **There will be no change in the number of transferable units allowed for the major**

IX. Required signatures.
 Program Director/Main Proposer (print name and title):
 Kirssa Cline Ryckman

Program Director/Main Proposer signature:
 Date:

Kirssa Cline Ryckman Digitally signed by Kirssa Cline Ryckman
 Date: 2023.11.08 11:03:23 -07'00'

Department Head (print name and title):
 Edella Schlager
 Department Head's
 signature: Date: 11/16/2023



Associate/Assistant Dean (print name): Amy Kimme Hea

Associate/Assistant Dean's
 Date: 11/22/2023



Dean (print name): **Lori Poloni-Staudinger**

Dean's signature:
 Date: 11/27/2023



Graduate: For use by Curricular Affairs (for majors):

Committee	Approval date
GPERC	
Graduate Council	
College Academic Administrators Council	
Arizona Board of Regents (if applicable)	

For minors and certificates:

Committee	Approval date
GPERC	

UG: For use by Curricular Affairs (for majors):

Committee	Approval date
APC	
Undergraduate Council	
U-CAAC	

For minors and certificates:

Committee	Approval date
APS	
Undergraduate Council	

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Kirssa Cline Ryckman

Program Director/Main Proposer signature:

Date:

**Kirssa Cline
Ryckman** Digitally signed by
Kirssa Cline Ryckman
Date: 2023.11.08
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Department Head (print name and title):

Edella Schlager

Department Head's

signature: Date: 11/16/2023



Associate/Assistant Dean (print name): Amy Kimme Hea

Associate/Assistant Dean's

Date: 11/22/2023



Dean (print name): Lori Poloni-Staudinger

Dean's signature:



Date: 11/27/2023

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U-CAAC	

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Committee	Approval date
APS	
Undergraduate Council	







Substantial Change Request - POLBA.FORAF

Final Audit Report

2023-11-16

Created:	2023-11-16
By:	Sabryna Jade Jaimez (salers@arizona.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAYXopQYDZwa0MP8VdXGH5qOjzCMBcEpm

"Substantial Change Request - POLBA.FORAF" History

-  Document digitally presigned by Kirssa Cline Ryckman (klcline@arizona.edu)
2023-11-08 - 6:03:23 PM GMT
-  Document created by Sabryna Jade Jaimez (salers@arizona.edu)
2023-11-16 - 4:54:11 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Edella Schlager (schlager@arizona.edu) for signature
2023-11-16 - 4:54:42 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Edella Schlager (schlager@arizona.edu)
2023-11-16 - 5:54:25 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Edella Schlager (schlager@arizona.edu)
Signature Date: 2023-11-16 - 5:56:05 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2023-11-16 - 5:56:05 PM GMT