

PROPOSAL TO OFFER A MINOR

Proposed Name of Minor: Political Science

Faculty Proposing Minor: Scott Frisch

1. Catalog Description

Political Science is the study of government, public policies and political behavior. Political Science uses both humanistic and scientific perspectives and skills to examine all countries and regions of the world. The minor in Political Science exposes students in other majors to the major subfields of Political Science - International Relations, Political Theory, Comparative Politics and American Politics.

CAREERS: The Political Science minor prepares students for careers in federal state and local governments, law, business, international organizations, nonprofit associations and organizations, campaign management and polling, journalism, education, electoral politics, research and advocacy. In addition, the minor in Political Science prepares students for graduate and professional study in the field of Political Science as well as International Relations and Public Administration.

2. Justification of Proposed Minor (>100 words)

Political Science is a field of study that is a popular major throughout the CSU system; it is offered by all campuses except CSUCI, CSUMB and CMA¹. In academic year 2000, 926 Political Science degrees were awarded throughout the system. If programs that are frequently included in a department of political science (such as public administration, and international relations) are included in the political science total, the number of majors jumps to 1044. CSUN graduated 78 political science majors in 2000.

CSUCI currently offers only two courses in political science. Anecdotal evidence suggests considerable demand among our current students for additional course offerings in Political Science as well as a minor. Resource constraints make the establishment of a major in Political Science impossible for the next academic year. However, by deploying the current resources of the university in a different fashion, CSUCI can offer a minor in Political Science beginning next year at no additional cost. Dean of Faculty Steve Lefevre has offered to teach courses in political science on a regular basis, and that combined with the teaching of the one current full time faculty member (Frisch) provides sufficient resources to teach the Title V mandated POLS 150 each semester as well as additional course offerings needed for the minor.

¹ One Campus, Sacramento State, calls their degree Government rather than political science. The degree requirements at Sac State are similar to all of the other political science degrees.

3. Total Number of Units in the Minor

Eighteen (18) units

4. Lower Division Requirements

Nine (9) Units Total

POLS 150 American Political Institutions (3)

POLS 102 Comparative Government (3)

POLS 103 Introduction to International Politics (3)

5. Upper-Division Requirements

Nine (9) Units From the Following (at least 3 units must have a POLS prefix)

POLS 325 American Public Policy (3)

POLS 301 Political Theory (3)

POLS 315 Congress and the Presidency (3)

POLS 320 Public Administration (3)

POLS 494 Independent Research Course (3)

ECON 370 The World Economy (3)

ESRM 329 Environmental Law and Policy (3)

ESRM 328 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3)

FIN 421 Public Financial Management (3)

HIST 412 Law and Society

6. Additional Facilities Needed to Offer the Minor:

None