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PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR/MINOR)

SUBMITTED BY:
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See http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty/cd for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

DEGREE PROGRAM Northern Studies
Degree Level: (i.e., Certificate, A.A., A.A.S., B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D.) B.A. - Minor

A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Brief statement of program/degree changes and objectives)

We are 1) making the minor more circumpolar in scope; 2) giving the students more options; 3) increasing the attractiveness of the minor, which we anticipate will attract more students to the major (we are under a directive to grow the NORS BA).

B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:

Minor

1. Complete the following:
   ANL F256--Introduction to Alaska Native Languages: History, Status and Maintenance (3)
   or ANL F315--Alaska Native Languages: Eskimo Aleut (3)
   or ANL F316--Alaska Native Languages: Indian Languages (3)--3 credits
   ANTH F242--Native Cultures of Alaska--3 credits
   ART F425W--Visual Images of the North (3)
   or ENGL F349--Narrative Art of Alaska Native Peoples (in English Translation) (3)
   or ENGL F350--Literature of Alaska and the Yukon Territory (3)--3 credits
   BIOL F104X--Natural History of Alaska*--4 credits
   GEOG F427--Polar Geography--3 credits
   HIST F483W--20th Century Circumpolar History--3 credits
   PS F263--Alaska Native Politics (3)
   or PS F462--Alaska Government and Politics--3 credits

2. Minimum credits required--18 credits

* Students may take this course as one of the two required lab science courses within the university's general requirements.
C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:
(Underline new wording strike-through old wording and use complete catalog format)

Minor

1. Complete the following:
   - NORS F201--The Circumpolar North: An Introductory Overview--3 credits
   - ANL F256--Introduction to Alaska Native Languages: History, Status and Maintenance (3)
     or ANL F315--Alaska Native Languages: Eskimo Aleut (3)
     or ANL F316--Alaska Native Languages: Indian Languages (3)--3 credits
   - ANTH F242--Native Cultures of Alaska (3)--3 credits
   - or SOC F301--Rural Sociology (3)--3 credits
   - ANL F315--Alaska Native Languages: French (3)
   - or ENGL F349--Narrative Art of Alaska Native Peoples (in English Translation) (3)
   - or ENGL F350--Literature of Alaska and the Yukon Territory (3)--3 credits
   - BIOL F104X--Natural History of Alaska*--4 credits
   - GEOG F427--Polar Geography (3)
   - or NORS F474--The Changing Arctic (3)--3 credits
   - HIST F483W--20th Century Circumpolar History--3 credits
   - PS F263--Alaska Native Politics (3)
     or PS F462--Alaska Government and Politics--3 credits

2. Minimum credits required--18 19 credits

* Students may take this course as one of the two required lab science courses within the university's general requirements.

D. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

Virtually none -- in the short run. We do hope to grow the minor through requiring an appealing introductory course and through providing greater flexibility. Thus eventually course enrollments likely will grow, but given the range of choices, we still anticipate minimum impact.

Re: NORS 201, the instructors' workload has been adjusted to accommodate her teaching this course.

E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPARTMENTS:

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

Virtually none; we have very few minors. This may add or subtract one or two students in any class affected.
JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised as a result.

NORS F201 is being taught for the first time this year. We’ve designed it to provide an introductory overview to the major & minor, thereby strengthening both.

We are dropping the Alaska Native Language requirement because these classes are taught as linguistics classes and our students generally have no background in linguistics. The objective of gaining an understanding of Alaska Native peoples and cultures is met through ANTH 242.