

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE BACHELOR OF ARTS PROGRAM IN SOCIOLOGY - TEACHING
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to terminate the Bachelor of Arts Program in Sociology - Teaching.

Executive Summary: The request to terminate the Program is based on the fact that, in recent years, there has been limited interest in the Program. Currently, there are three students enrolled in the Program. The courses needed by these students to complete the Program will continue to be offered. This request was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. The current students will not be affected by the proposed program termination. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan strategy (4.1.1) to “pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services.”

Background:

- ◇ Description of program. A bachelor's degree in sociology provides grounding in the comprehension and design of social research at the undergraduate level. The Bachelor of Arts Program in Sociology – Teaching requires 34 hours of major course work, 21 hours of electives, 32 hours of Professional Education courses, 47 hours of Liberal Arts Core, and a teaching minor for a total of 131 hours.
- ◇ Reallocation of resources. All program resources will be re-allocated to other offerings in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
- ◇ Reason for proposed termination. There has been very limited demand for the Program. This is a very narrow major which does not give students an advantage for a teaching job. School districts prefer the flexibility of graduates with a major in social studies rather than one specific field.
- ◇ Alternative programming. Students interested in taking a major or minor in teaching sociology will be encouraged to major or minor in the more general field of social sciences which offers more options and a more marketable degree.
- ◇ Suspension of admissions. If the proposed program termination is approved by the Board, suspension of admissions to the Program will become effective immediately. However, the proposed program termination will not become effective until the currently enrolled students complete the Program. All course offerings needed by the students will be continued.