

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Board of Regents

**From:** Board Office

**Subject:** Proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree and Minor in International Studies, SUI

**Date:** October 7, 2002

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**Recommended Action:**

Approve the proposed Bachelor of Arts degree and Minor in International Studies.

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**Executive Summary:**

Restructuring of Majors	<p>The University of Iowa proposes a new interdisciplinary International Studies (IS) major to be offered in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and administered by International Programs. This proposal involves structural changes, including consolidating the following areas into the new International Studies major: Global Studies (the Global Studies major, minor and certificate), Asian Studies (including both the major and the minor); and the Russian, East European and Euroasian Studies (REEES) major; the African Studies track in the African American World Studies major, and the African Studies certificate. The proposed major also would include a European Studies emphasis, not currently offered. Students who enter the current programs before fall 2003 may choose to complete the old requirements if they graduate by August 2006.</p> <p>This proposal was reviewed by the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC) and the Board Office and is recommended for approval.</p>
Better Options for Students	<p>The creation of this major will prepare students for a changing and complex world by increasing their knowledge of international issues and developing their skills in critical thinking, logical reasoning, and communication from multiple intellectual perspectives. This major will afford students the opportunity to develop expertise on a particular theme or in a specific geographic area. Students will be prepared for careers in business, government, international development agencies, non-governmental organization, philanthropic agencies, and the arts. The proposed major will broaden the scope of the current Global Studies major by providing for more humanities options to complement the already strong social science offerings.</p>
Addresses Board of Regents Strategic Planning Goal	<p>The new IS major will help the University meet strategic planning goals for increasing internationalization and interdisciplinarity of the curriculum. Every International Studies student will be encouraged to study abroad, another major goal of the University.</p>

Cost Savings

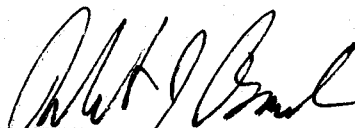
Combining several existing programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences into a single program with one administrative home in International Programs will result in cost savings. Those funds will be reallocated to support a new introductory-level course and enhanced advising services.

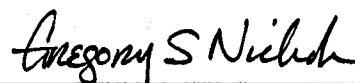
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Regent New  
Program Questions

Attached are the University's responses to the Board of Regents New Program Questions.

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Robert J. Barak

Approved:   
Gregory S. Nichols

Establish a New Interdisciplinary Major  
B. A. in International Studies

International Programs in conjunction with the  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
The University of Iowa

6.05 Academic Review and Program Approval

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Action Requested:

The proposal includes the following structural changes:

- ♦ A new interdisciplinary major in International Studies, leading to a B.A. degree
- ♦ Phase out of the current Global Studies Major
- ♦ Phase out of the current Asian Studies major
- ♦ Phase out of the current Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies major
- ♦ Phase out of the current African Studies track in the African American World Studies major.
- ♦ Phase out of the current African Studies certificate

1. Need

- a. *How will this proposed program further the educational and curriculum needs of the students in this discipline?*

In an era of increasing globalization, it is essential to utilize the strengths and methods of many disciplines to understand the growing connectedness and diversity of interactions at regional and global levels. The modified International Studies major will prepare students for a changing and complex world by increasing their knowledge of international issues and developing their skills in critical thinking, logical reasoning, and communication from multiple intellectual perspectives. In following the design of many programs of study in the humanities and the social sciences, the international studies major will provide students with a breadth of knowledge of international issues and the tools needed to interpret and analyze regional changes and global developments. The

major will also afford students the opportunity to develop expertise on a particular theme or in a specific geographic area.

International Studies is not simply the study of diplomacy and relations among states. The program of study requires all students to integrate theoretical knowledge about broad global processes and the methods used to study them with in-depth examination of a particular region of the world or a major theme in international studies. It affords students the opportunity to integrate politics, economics, culture, beliefs and social systems. The curriculum of the major is designed so that students will not only learn to appreciate foreign cultures and focus on themes of global significance, but to master the varied disciplinary approaches employed to study international issues. For students wishing to double major, the International Studies major is also an ideal complement to a wide range of academic degree programs.

The major is an interdisciplinary program of study that prepares students for careers in business, government, international development agencies, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic agencies, and the arts. The major is excellent preparation for graduate training in the social sciences and the arts, and in law, business, journalism, international affairs, and area studies.

The changes proposed will help students create a truly inter/multi-disciplinary program. The greater coordination among units in the University and among faculty members who work in international studies in every area—the social and natural sciences, the humanities, and the fine arts—will further the educational goals of the College's and University's strategic plan. There will be an increased utilization of courses in the different disciplines and thus a strengthening of the educational efforts of all the participating units.

*b. How does the proposed program further the educational and curricular needs of the college or university?*

The modified International Studies major will broaden the scope of the current Global Studies major by providing for more humanities options in the current program of study to complement the already strong social science offerings. The Foundation Course Option and Core Electives will expose students early in their academic careers to a breadth of disciplinary approaches to international and global issues from multi-regional perspectives. The modified IS major will require foreign language study beyond the General Education program. The faculty of International Programs feels strongly that foreign language proficiency is vital for encountering and participating in diverse societies and cultures.

A major goal of the University is to increase the number of University of Iowa students studying abroad. The modified IS major will better integrate study abroad into a student's on-campus program of study, and the program is unusual in that it encourages every student to include a study abroad component. The program is also unusual in its flexibility, which will enable students to combine the major with other programs and complete a double major, or add a certificate or minor.

2. Duplication and Collaboration

- a. *What programs in this field of study are available in other colleges and universities in Iowa?*

Almost every institution of higher learning has programs or individual course work that can broadly be defined as international studies, so basic are such studies to current conceptions of undergraduate education.

Iowa State University offers a B.A. degree in Russian Studies and in International Studies, which may be taken as a second major in the College of Arts and Sciences. Its program of study emphasizes science, technology, food and agriculture, and international coastal and ocean studies, areas of study that are not included in the proposed B.A. at The University of Iowa.

The University of Northern Iowa offers (1) a minor in Russian and East European Studies, (2) a minor in International Affairs within the Department of Political Science, and (3) a minor in Inter-American Studies. The University of Northern Iowa does not offer a major as a program of study in International Studies and the scope of its curricular offerings are more limited.

- b. *With what representatives of these programs has there been consultation in developing this proposal? Provide a summary of the response of each institution consulted.*

As the proposed major in International Studies is simply a consolidation of long-standing programs at The University of Iowa, only brief communications were held with representatives from Iowa State University, specifically Professors Peter Rabideau and Steffen Schmidt. It was felt that the two programs are quite different and excellent complements to each other, given the varied mission of the institutions.

- c. *In what ways is this program similar to those mentioned in 2a? In what ways is it different or does it have a different emphasis?*

See 2a. The modified International Studies major at the University of Iowa is more comprehensive than the minors offered at UNI and has a different orientation and broader variety of emphases than the B. A. program at Iowa State University.

- d. *How does the proposed program supplement the current programs available?*

The proposed major would also include a European Studies emphasis area, not currently offered. As noted above, the program supplements existing study abroad opportunities, foreign language programs, and existing certificates and minors in a number of fields. The proposal will also consolidate all area-studies programs under International Programs. Currently, Global Studies, Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, and Latin American Studies are housed in International Programs. The African Studies option in African American World Studies and the Asian Studies (China, Japan, or South China) major are located outside of International Programs.

- e. *Has the possibility of some kind of interinstitutional program or other cooperative effort been explored? What are the results of this study?*

Existing cooperative study abroad programs among the Regents institutions will be strengthened and enhanced. Under the auspices of International Programs at the University of Iowa, the three Regents institutions are undertaking a cooperative program in foreign language and culture instruction. This two-year experimental program, if deemed successful, will serve as a basis for further inter-institutional cooperation.

- f. *Please list the Iowa institutions in which articulation agreements are being developed for the proposed program (NOTE: This applies only to community college degree programs, which may transfer students to this program).*

N/A

- g. *Please provide the Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code for the proposed program.*

CIP code: 30.2001

3. Please estimate the enrollment in this program for the next five years as follows:

- a. Undergraduate  
Majors

<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>
100	125	150	175	175

- b. Graduate N/A.

- c. On what basis were these estimates made?

Currently, there are approximately 100 undergraduates in the various programs that are to be consolidated into the modified International Studies major. Enrollment estimates for the next five years were based upon enrollments in peer institutions with a comparable program, after controlling for size.

- d. What are the estimated sources of these students?

Students currently enrolled in the programs to be consolidated are likely to opt for the modified major. Growth is anticipated from students currently majoring in the social sciences or the humanities. The 175 students currently undertaking the international business certificate will also find this major an attractive program of study, either as a first major or as a second major. Finally, the major is expected to attract students not currently attending the University.

4. *Please provide any available data or information on employment opportunities available to graduates of this program in Iowa and nationally.*

The major in International Studies, as with many other liberal arts majors, is not intended as training for a specific career. However, the major will prepare students for a number of different career paths, including employment in business, politics, and NGOs, all of which areas are increasingly seeking students who have an understanding of international issues and the critical thinking and high-level communication skills that this major will develop. Students will also be well prepared for advanced study in a number of fields.

5. *Are there accreditation standards for this program?*

There are no accreditation standards for this program.

6. *Does the proposed program meet minimal national standards for the program, e.g., Council of Graduate Schools or other such bodies?*

There are no minimal national standards for the program.

7. *Please report any reactions of the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post-High School Education. List date that the program information was submitted to the Council.*

None, as of September 19, 2002

#### Additional Resource Needs

1. Will the program require new resources?

No

2. Will the program require reallocated resources?

The consolidation of several existing programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in International Programs into a single program with one administrative home in International Programs will result in cost-savings. These savings will be reallocated to support the teaching of one new introductory-level course and to provide enhanced advising services for students in the major.

The University of Iowa's current Strategic Plan calls for doubling the number of students who study abroad by 2005. On average, students studying abroad incur \$2,500 per year in additional costs (tuition, fees, room, board and travel). To provide each major in International Studies with a \$1,000 study abroad scholarship, in addition to existing need-based financial aid for eligible students, UI International Programs will reallocate funds it currently receives from the Office of Student Financial Aid and from its endowment income to support the study abroad scholarships.

3. At what level of enrollment will additional resources be required for the program?

Current resources will allow the major to serve 600 students before any additional funds would be required.

4. Estimate the total costs (or *incremental increases in expenditures*) that may be necessary as a result of the new program for the next three years.

All costs will be covered through reallocations, as detailed above.

5. For programs planning to use external grants, what would be the effect of the grant termination?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE NEEDS			
	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR
a. Faculty	None	None	None
b. Graduate Assistants	None	None	None
c. General Expense	None	None	None
d. Equipment	None	None	None
e. Library Resources	None	None	None
f. New space needs [estimated amount and costs of new and/or remodeled space]	None	None	None
g. Computer use	None	None	None
h. Other resources	None	None	None
TOTAL(S)	0	0	0

6. *How does this program relate to the college's/university's strategic plan?*

The Strategic Plan of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, 1998-2003 (revised as of December 13-14, 2002) Action Step 1.1.1.8 states that each Regent's institution should undertake "efforts to ensure that curricula reflect internationalization and enhance global awareness." The Strategic Plan of the University of Iowa for 2000-2005 states in its very first strategic goal that the University should "provide cognitive and experiential learning opportunities for students...to become aware of the global interdependence of peoples of different societies and cultures and their environment." The interdisciplinary dimension of the revised program of study greatly enhances strategic goal four, which seeks to facilitate "interdisciplinary interaction in teaching."

Finally, consolidation of two currently offered B.A. degrees and the two tracks within currently offered B.A. degrees into a single B.A. degree programs will address strategic goal five which seeks "to develop a highly productive organization ... and to modernize administrative processes. "