

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE MASTER OF ARTS IN SPANISH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN IOWA**

Action Requested: Approve the request by the University of Northern Iowa to terminate the Master of Arts in Spanish in the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office staff reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Background:

Description of program. The Master of Arts (MA) in Spanish (with optional Spanish Teaching Emphasis) provided multidisciplinary training in the fields of Literature, Culture, and Linguistics. The Spanish Teaching Emphasis within this MA major provided additional training in educational research and educational psychology. Spanish also previously housed the MA Spanish program called UNISSIST, a program that was primarily conducted abroad. Although UNISSIST last accepted new applicants in 2010, the Spanish program continued to support students through the completion of course credits and requirements for graduation. The program was suspended in August of 2018 due to a shortness of faculty resources, and a decreasing number and quality of applicants.

Reason for proposed termination. After the closing of the Study Abroad option in 2010, this program had very few applications. This resulted in endemically under-enrolled courses. The program has been suspended since 2018 and students who were in the program have all matriculated, so it is now the appropriate time to terminate the MA and focus efforts in the undergraduate program.

Effect on current students. There are currently no students left in the program.

Application, Enrollment and Completion Trends:

	Applications	Enrollment	Completions
2020	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0
2018	0	1	1
2017	0	4	1
2016	6	8	6

Impact on resources. The Spanish faculty continues to provide undergraduate courses, as well as graduate courses for the MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)/Modern Languages: Spanish Emphasis. Since there are no students or applicants, there are no remaining savings as a result of this change.

Impact on workforce. This termination should have no impact on the workforce needs of the state.

Alternative programs. There are MA and Ph.D. programs in Spanish at the University of Iowa. The University of Iowa offers a Master of Arts in Teaching program in Foreign Language Education. Iowa State University has a graduate level minor in Spanish. Thus, a student could get an MA in TESOL with a minor in Spanish, but ISU does not offer a full MA program in Spanish.

Effective date of termination. Upon approval by the Board of Regents.