

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:
DIVISION OF WORLD LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to administratively reorganize the Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this request.

Reason for proposed change. During academic year 2023-24, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Executive Committee revised the definitions of academic departments and schools with criteria related to number of tenure-track faculty and academic program offerings at the undergraduate and graduate level. The college proposes to restructure the division that currently oversees and is connected to five separate departments, into a simpler structure that will be comprised solely of two departments: the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures (LLLC). This proposed restructure will:

- Close the Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Close the Department of French and Italian, Department of German, Department of Linguistics, and Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures
- Move the administrative home of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese from DWLLC to a standalone department
- Create a Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Realign faculty and staff appointments and programs as appropriate

Bringing the faculty, administrative and academic staff together into two departments will help the college reduce costs and administrative duplication, and deliver curriculum and teaching activities more efficiently. Additionally, these changes will allow for more interdisciplinary engagement and collaboration among faculty and graduate students who study languages, language learning, culture, literature, and translation across these areas.

Effect on program configuration. Faculty and staff who are appointed in the Department of French and Italian, Department of German, Department of Linguistics, Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures, and in the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures will be moved to the proposed Department of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, and Cultures (LLLC).

Correspondingly, CLAS intends to make the following graduate and undergraduate administrative and curricular home moves, but no curricular changes are proposed at this time.

Move the following degree programs from the existing Department of French and Italian into the proposed Department of LLLC:

- MA and PhD in French and Francophone World Studies
- BA in French
- BA in Italian

Move the following degree programs from the existing Department of Linguistics into the proposed Department of LLLC:

- BA in Linguistics
- MA and PhD in Linguistics

Move the following degree programs from the existing Department of German into the proposed Department of LLLC:

- BA in German

Move the following degree programs from the existing Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures into the proposed Department of LLLC:

- BA in Asian Languages and Literatures
- BA in Russian

Move the following degree programs from the existing Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures into the proposed Department of LLLC:

- BA in Translation
- BA in International Studies
- MFA in Literary Translation
- Joint program: MFA in Literary Translation and MA in French and Francophone Studies

Move the administrative home of the existing Department of Spanish and Portuguese from DWLLC to a standalone department. The following degree programs would move with the department:

- BA in Spanish
- MA in Spanish
- MFA in Spanish Creative Writing
- PhD in Spanish

A closure of the BA in Portuguese is being requested in docket item AAC IV.D.

Effect on students. Current undergraduate and graduate students in all related programs will not be impacted by the change as there are no curricular changes taking place in the departments involved in the restructuring (aside from closure of the BA in Portuguese that has no currently enrolled students — see docket item AAC IV.D).

Effect on accreditation. None of these programs have separate programmatic accreditation and there is no effect on Higher Learning Commission accreditation.

Effect on resources. There will be no additional resources needed for the proposed departmental organizational changes. CLAS expects a significant recurring cost savings due to the reduction in the number of departmental leadership stipends and associated expenses (from five to two) and a reallocation of two staff members to other areas of the college where there is need for support. Overall, the estimated cost savings of the proposed change is approximately \$250,000 per year.

Date of implementation. Upon approval by the Board of Regents.