SPECIAL REPORT

of the

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

concerning

REVISIONS TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
MAJOR AND MINOR IN PORTUGUESE

Presented at the
743rd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
December 11, 2014

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Neal Abraham          Linda Lewandowski
Wesley Autio          Meredith Lind
Martha Baker          Linda Lowry
Carol Barr            Pamela Marsh-Williams
Bryan Beck            Ernest May
Laura Briggs          MJ Peterson
Stephanie Chapko      Linda Shea, Chair
Laura Francis         Kelly Smiaroski
Daniel Gordon         Kregg Strehorn
Heath Hatch           Patrick Sullivan
Patrick Kelly          David Vacchi
Nancy Lamb            Ruth Verock-O’Loughlin
John Lenzi            Stephen Walt
                       Tom Weston
Background
The Spanish and Portuguese Program in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures is proposing to revise the requirements for the major and minor in Portuguese. For the major, the main revisions are the following:

- Currently, 6 credits of advanced courses in Portuguese are required as pre-major preparation. These will be replaced by 6 credits of intermediate-level language courses.
- The Major Core of 9 credits of advanced courses in Portuguese will be increased to 12 credits.
- An Integrative Experience requirement will be added.
- The Upper-Level Elective course requirement will be reduced from 18 credits to 12 credits.

The total number of credits required for the major will remain at 36.

For the minor, the main revision is to change the six credits of pre-minor preparation from advanced courses in Portuguese to intermediate-level language courses. The number of credits required for the minor will remain at 15.

The proposal notes that adding intermediate-level language requirements to both the major and minor will help to promote the programs among language students, and make the programs more accessible to Portuguese heritage speakers.

AMC Recommendation
At its meeting on November 5, 2014, the Academic Matters Council voted unanimously to recommend Faculty Senate approval of the proposed revisions to the requirements for the major and minor in Portuguese.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revisions to the Requirements for the Major and Minor in Portuguese, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-019.
I. PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Describe the Proposal.
After careful consideration of its major and minor, the Portuguese Program of the department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures proposes minor changes in both its major and minor. The changes are the following (see attached copy of current and revised major):

- The change to the minor consists of
  1. substituting the requirement of PORT 301 – PORT 311 and/or PORT 312 with PORT 230 and PORT 240
  2. accepting PORT 301 – PORT 302 – PORT 315 and PORT 316 as part of the minor core requirements

- The change to the major consists of
  1. substituting the requirement of PORT 301 and PORT 311 with PORT 230 and PORT 240
  2. increasing the number of major core credits from 9 (nine) to 12 (twelve)
  3. decreasing the number of upper level electives from 6 classes (18 credits) to 4 classes (12 credits)

B. Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the Proposal.

The proposed changes respond to two problems we have identified with our Portuguese programs:

- We currently offer several languages classes in Portuguese, and none of them count toward the major or the minor. These changes that include the intermediate level of the language as part of the major and minor requirements will promote the programs among language students.
- We have identified a huge population of Portuguese heritage speakers who are interested in regaining the language and pursuing a major. However, because the current initial level of the major is at the 300, these students are not able to finish the program in a timely manner.

We believe these changes will help the program to increase its recruitment and also have a positive impact on our class schedule.

II. PURPOSE AND GOALS

Describe the Proposal’s purpose and the particular knowledge and skills to be acquired.

n/a: No new skills or knowledge will be acquired. This is just a proposal for a minor change in Portuguese Major and Minor Requirements.

III. RESOURCES

If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

n/a: The proposal requires no additional resources. This is just a proposal for a minor change in Portuguese Major and Minor Requirements.

To: Debbie Felton, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, CHFA
From: Patricia Gubitosi, Chair of Undergraduate Studies Committee, Spanish and Portuguese (LLC)
Re: Minor change in Portuguese Major and Minor Requirements

Date: November 12, 2013

After careful consideration of its major and minor, the Portuguese Program of the department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures proposes minor changes in both its major and minor. The changes are the following (see attached copy of current and revised major):

- The change to the minor consist of
  3. substituting the requirement of PORT 301 – PORT 311 and/or PORT 312 with PORT 230 and PORT 240
  4. accepting PORT 301 – PORT 302 – PORT 315 and PORT 316 as part of the minor core requirements

- The change to the major consist of
  4. substituting the requirement of PORT 301 and PORT 311 with PORT 230 and PORT 240
  5. increasing the number of major core credits from 9 (nine) to 12 (twelve)
  6. decreasing the number of upper level electives from 6 classes (18 credits) to 4 classes (12 credits)

Justification: The proposed changes respond to three problems we have identified with our Portuguese programs:

- We currently offer several languages classes in Portuguese, and none of them count toward the major or the minor. These changes that include the intermediate level of the language as part of the major and minor requirements will promote the programs among language students.
- We have identified a huge population of Portuguese heritage speakers who are interested in regain the language and pursue a major. However, because the current initial level of the major is at the 300, these students are not able to finish the program in a timely manner.
- The program in Portuguese is currently understaffed with two professors teaching reduced course loads: one is serving as assistant dean, and the other is teaching two courses per year because of medical reasons. The proposed changes will include, as part of the major and minor programs, the intermediate language courses that are regularly taught by Portuguese TAs.

We believe these changes will help the program to increase its recruitment and also have a positive impact on our class schedule.

New Requirements for the Portuguese Major
Sen. Doc. No. 15-019

(36 CREDITS) Students must achieve a GPA of at least 2.0 in courses used for the major.

I. Pre-Major Preparation (6 credits)
PORT 230 Intermediate Portuguese I
PORT 240 Intermediate Portuguese II

II. Major Core (12 credits)
1. Choose one of the following courses:
   a. PORT 301 Conversational Portuguese
   b. PORT 302 Conversational Portuguese II

2. Choose one of the following courses:
   a. PORT 315 Portuguese Civilization
   b. PORT 316 Brazilian Civilization (Students who take 315 to fulfill the culture requirement can take 316 as an upper-level requirement, and vice versa.)

3. Choose two of the following courses:
   a. PORT 320 Introduction to Portuguese Literature I
   b. PORT 321 Introduction to Portuguese Literature II
   c. PORT 322 Introduction to Brazilian Literature

III. Upper-Level Courses (12 credits)
To complete the Major in Portuguese, students are required to take four upper level courses, chosen with the adviser's approval. Two of these courses may be taken in areas related to the major (History, Anthropology, Art, etc.). Courses taken outside of the department must be at the 300 level or above.

IV. Junior Writing requirement (3 credits) (primary majors only)
PORT 312 Portuguese Advanced Composition

V. Integrative Experience (3 credits) (primary majors only)
a. PORT 394 (2 credits)
b. PORT 494 (1 credit)

Current Requirements for the Portuguese Major
(36 CREDITS) A grade of C or better must be earned in every course.

I. Pre-Major Preparation (6 credits)
PORT 301 Conversational Portuguese
PORT 311 Advanced Portuguese Grammar

II. Major Core (9 credits)
1. Choose one of the following courses:
   a. PORT 315 Portuguese Civilization
   b. PORT 316 Brazilian Civilization (Students who take 315 to fulfill the culture requirement can take 316 as an upper-level requirement, and vice versa.)

2. Choose two of the following courses:
   a. PORT 320 Introduction to Portuguese Literature I
   b. PORT 321 Introduction to Portuguese Literature II
   c. PORT 322 Introduction to Brazilian Literature

III. Upper-Level Courses (18 credits)
To complete the Major in Portuguese, students are required to take six upper level courses, chosen with the adviser's approval. Two of these courses may be taken in areas related to the major (History, Anthropology, Art, etc.). Courses taken outside of the department must be at the 300 level or above.

IV. Junior Writing requirement (3 credits)
New Requirements for the Portuguese Minor
(15 CREDITS) At least 6 of the 15 credits must be taken within the department. Students must achieve a GPA of at least 2.0 in courses used for the minor, with no more than one course having a grade less than 2.0.

I. Pre-Major Preparation (6 credits)
PORT 230 Intermediate Portuguese I
PORT 240 Intermediate Portuguese II
The advisor may waive the above requirements in the case of native speakers, but every student has to take 15 credits in order to receive the Minor in Portuguese.

II. Minor Core (6 credits)
Choose one of the following courses:
1. PORT 301 Conversational Portuguese
2. PORT 302 Conversational Portuguese II
3. PORT 315 Portuguese Civilization
4. PORT 316 Brazilian Civilization

III. Upper-Level Course (3 credits)
One upper level elective, above PORT 316, chosen with the adviser's approval.

Current Requirements for the Portuguese Minor
(15 CREDITS) At least 6 of the 15 credits must be taken within the department, and a grade of C or better must be earned in every course.

I. Pre-Minor Preparation (6 credits)
Choose two of the following:
PORT 301 Conversational Portuguese I
PORT 302 Conversational Portuguese II
PORT 311 Advanced Grammar
PORT 312 Advanced Composition
The advisor may waive the above requirements in the case of native speakers, but every student has to take 15 credits in order to receive the Minor in Portuguese.

II. Minor Core (6 credits)
Choose two of the following courses:
PORT 320 Introduction to Portuguese Literature I
PORT 321 Introduction to Portuguese Literature II
PORT 322 Introduction to Brazilian Literature

III. Upper-Level Course (3 credits)
One upper-level elective, above the 300 level, chosen with the adviser's approval.