

**PROPOSAL FOR A NEW PROGRAM
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Submitted by:

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College of Arts and Sciences**

with the cooperation of:

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Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
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PROPOSAL FOR A LIBERAL ARTS MAJOR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ABSTRACT

The Department of Political Science, in cooperation with the Departments of Economics (SBA), and History, Philosophy and Modern Languages and Literatures and the Center for International Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, recommends that Oakland University grant a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree with a liberal arts major in international relations (IR).

Globalization and internationalization have become dominant features of modern life. This trend is likely to gain importance in the years ahead. Global trends affect virtually all fields and associated decision-making: economic, financial, technological, cultural, social, and political.

International relations is a multi-disciplinary field, in which students are exposed to political science-based international relations coursework, as well as to economics, history, and a foreign language of their choice.

A multi-disciplinary international relations degree – housed in the Department of Political Science – will help prepare students who wish to pursue graduate education and training in international relations and those who wish to obtain careers in international affairs (including both business and government). Within the first five years of the program's operation, we hope to include an internship option, to further enhance a student's preparation for graduate school or a career.

This degree program would require a minimum of 42 to 46 credits to include 24 or 26 credits of required coursework (including microeconomics and a capstone course), 12 credits of electives in political science, and 6 to 8 credits of electives from economics, history, or philosophy. In addition, students would be required to complete co-requisite courses (16 credits) in a modern foreign language. The total credits required for this major would be 58 to 62 credit hours [see pages 16-17].

Increasing numbers of students have become interested in international affairs, especially since September 11, 2001. Some of our pre-law students are now expressing interest in international law. Our surveys of introductory political science students have indicated enough interest that we anticipate approximately 15 majors by the program's second year of operation, building to approximately 30 majors by year five.

This proposal brings together strengths of several College of Arts and Sciences departments. Political science has an emerging core of talented faculty in international relations and comparative politics, and the Departments of Economics, History, and Philosophy have specific strengths in areas that will serve IR students. This proposal has the support from the faculties in the Departments of Political Science, Economics, History, Philosophy, and Modern Languages and Literatures.

1. Program Description

a. Program Goals

International relations is a multi-disciplinary program leading to the B.A. degree. Study in the program provides students with the tools for understanding international organizations, U.S. foreign policy, international law, and the political, structural, social, economic, and cultural factors that shape international relations.

To achieve that goal, students completing the B.A. degree will learn the basic concepts, theories, and methods of international relations, and will be trained in research, as well as analytical and communication skills. Moreover, the program will help students better understand the changing role of the United States as the world's only superpower.

The importance of international relations has become most evident to U.S. citizens in the post-September 11, 2001 era. This new degree program will attempt to meet the growing demand for coursework that helps students understand the role of the U.S. in the world, the effectiveness of international organizations, the issues surrounding U.S. foreign policy, and the social, economic, cultural, and political environments of other nations. Terrorism and the challenge of dealing with organizations that are not nation-state based also demands a degree program that can effectively educate students about the changing dynamics of world politics.

b. Unique Characteristics of Program

A major feature of the B.A. in International Relations is its multi-disciplinary approach. While the program will be housed in the Department of Political Science, students will be required to complete a microeconomics course as part of the degree's core courses, and will have a co-requisite of 16 credits of a foreign language (or competency) from the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. In addition, students will have the opportunity to enroll in elective courses offered by the Departments of History, Economics, and Philosophy.

Another unique feature of the program is that it is focused beyond just geographic or regional dynamics (African Politics, History of Mexico). This program also will provide instruction that allows students to develop an understanding of international relations from functional (e.g., international political economy; international economic development), and problem-oriented (terrorism; human rights) categories. This emphasis on IR from functional and problem-oriented categories distinguished IR from international studies (IS). In this regard, IR will focus on the social science disciplines and topics of politics, economics, governance, and legal inter-relationships among nations of the world. The IS program focuses more on the humanities disciplines and topics of culture, cultural traditions, and literature. Moreover, IS courses that deal with politics and economics typically do so within the context of a single nation or region (IS 210 Introduction to China, IS 270 Introduction to the Middle East), rather than discussing those topics in terms on a world-wide basis.

2. Rationale for Program

In addition to compelling marketing reasons for creating a new major in international relations, this degree fits well with the university's medium- and long-range plans as indicated in the university's current strategic plan – Vision 2010.

a. Oakland University's Strategic Plan – Vision 2010

For example, Oakland University's "Vision 2010" strategic planning overall vision states that "Oakland University fulfills its distinctive role among Michigan public universities by steadily enhancing an intellectual and ethical environment that prepares students to lead and serve in the local and *world communities*." The global approach of the IR major will fulfill this objective.

Vision 2010 also includes an emphasis on providing students "an enriching and diverse combination of liberal arts, professional education, and cultural and social experiences." [Strategy A.1.] The multi-disciplinary range of courses proposed in the IR major will enhance a student's exposure to diverse social experiences.

Another Vision 2010 strategy indicates that the university "environment will provide students with cultural and social experiences, community outreach activities and team learning opportunities to prepare them to be effective contributors and leaders in tomorrow's workplace and society." [Strategy C.3] The very nature of the IR program and its courses will prepare students to be leaders in a global and knowledge-based economy.

This proposed major also supports the new general education program at Oakland. The proposed major's core courses include PS 114 (global perspective/social science knowledge exploration), PS 131 (social science knowledge exploration); the co-requisite foreign language courses will likely include those that meet the foreign language and culture knowledge exploration requirement. PS 354 Global Environmental Governance has been approved as a knowledge applications course (and for general education intensive writing and intensive writing in the major). The proposed courses for the major in international relations are well represented among those that satisfy the general education requirements of the university. These courses also help meet the goals of Oakland University's Vision 2010 strategic plan [Strategy A.2]

The participation of full-time faculty across several disciplines in this proposed program is planned and is expected. Faculty members who will likely participate are among the most productive scholars in their respective disciplines (see attached vitae). Accordingly, the proposed major in international relations is consistent with two Vision 2010 goals: 1) that "...highest quality undergraduate education will be shown by the high percentage of classes taught by full-time faculty" [Strategy A.3]; and 2) "Oakland University's faculty activities in basic research and scholarship will advance the frontiers of knowledge and inspire students to similar goals." [Strategy B.3]

The faculty also hopes to expand its outreach efforts to government agencies and international businesses with the objective of developing internship opportunities for IR majors. [Strategy D2]

The proposed major in international relations will directly serve those goals and objectives.

b. Student Survey Results

In an effort to gauge student interest in an international relations major, a written survey was conducted during the fall 2005 semester [See survey instrument in Appendix]. In October 2005, students in several introductory courses in political science and international studies (PS 100, PS 114, PS 131, IS 210) were canvassed regarding their level of interest in selecting an international relations major. A total of 406 students responded to the survey. We selected these introductory courses because we felt that freshmen and sophomores – the students most likely to be enrolled in the intro-level courses – would have the best chance of majoring in a new program such as this because it would probably require about two years for the program to be approved. We felt that the mixture of two sections of PS 100 students (Introduction to American Politics), one section of PS 114 (Issues in World Politics), two sections of PS 131 (Comparative Politics), and two sections of IS 210 (Intro to China), fielded a fairly broad range of students who would most likely be interested in such a major. Prior to administration of the survey, students were told about the proposed major in international relations, and asked to complete the questions on the survey. Some students had specific questions about the program, which were addressed during administration of the survey (When would the new program be operational? What languages are available?).

We found substantial interest in a major in international relations among these students. Of the 406 students surveyed, 38% indicated they were interested in an IR major if one were available. [Q1. “Overall, what level of interest would you have in earning a BA in International Relations if such a major were available?”].

Over one third of the responding students (36%) also agreed with the statement “I would consider majoring in International Relations if such a degree were available.” Almost half of the students (45%) indicated that they would be interested in electing an International Relations minor if one were available.

In an effort to determine what general level of support there exists among students for an IR major, these respondents were asked to agree or disagree with the following statements: “Oakland University should offer a major in International Relations”; and “The study of international relations has an important role to play in preparing students for graduate school and for careers in international affairs (business, government).”

Over four-fifths of all responding students (86%) agreed or strongly agreed that OU should offer a major in International Relations. Almost the same (85%) felt that the study

of IR was important in preparing students for graduate school or for careers in international affairs.

Below are three tables that summarize the results to three of the survey questions discussed above.

[OU Students] Overall, what level of interest would you have in earning a BA in International Relations if one were available?

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Total
Interested/ Very Interested	36	53	42	25	156 38.4%
Not Sure	20	29	25	7	81 20%
Not Interested/ Not Interested at All	44	60	50	15	169 41.6%
Total	100	142	117	47	406 100%

[OU Students] I would consider majoring in International Relations if such a degree were available.

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Total
Yes	43	44	38	20	145 35.8%
No	57	98	78	27	260 64.2%
Total	100	142	116	47	405 100%

[OU Students] I would be interested in electing an International Relations minor (approximately 20 credits) if one were available.

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Total
Agree/Strongly Agree	14	26	21	14	182 44.9%
Not Sure	29	39	36	9	113 27.8%
Disagree/Strongly Disagree	23	46	31	11	111 27.4%
Total	100	142	117	47	406 100%

The results from this survey indicate strong student support for a major in international relations. In our discussions with students in the classroom and during advising, we also found that some students are considering a transfer out of Oakland University if an international relations major is not offered. Based on the survey results, we believe that a sufficient demand exists for this major. With a minimum amount of advertising, this major will conservatively enroll 20 students during its first three years of operation. We expect that at least the same number of students will elect an IR minor, if one is made available.

In addition to the survey information presented above, we have included copies of signed letters of support from political science students, who have expressed an interest in the IR major, an IR minor, or at least taking more IR courses. Copies of signed memos from over 40 Oakland students expressing interest in the IR major also are included. The originals are on file in the departmental office.

In an effort to assess “prospective” student interest, we conducted a survey of students enrolled in an Introduction to International Relations course offered at the highland Lakes campus of Oakland Community College (OCC). This survey was conducted with 32 students on March 7, 2006, and shows a great deal of interest in the IR major, and in attending Oakland University.

For example, in responding to the statement “I am considering enrolling in Oakland University within the next three years,” two thirds (66%) of the students indicated wither “Strongly Agree” or “Agree.”

In response to this survey, over two thirds of the OCC students (69%) indicated that they very “Very Interested” or “Interested” in earning a B.A. in International Relations if one were available. All responding students (100%) felt that OU should offer an IR major. Almost three-quarters (72%) would consider majoring in IR if such a degree program were available. Four-fifths (81%) indicated they would be interested in an IR minor.

[OCC Students] Overall, what level of interest would you have in earning a BA in International Relations if one were available?

	Total
Interested/ Very Interested	22 69%
Not Sure	4 13%
Not Interested/ Not Interested at All	6 19%
Total	32 100%

[OCC Students] I would consider majoring in International Relations if such a degree were available.

	Total
Yes	23 72%
No	9 28%
Total	32 100%

[OCC Students] I would be interested in electing an International Relations minor (approximately 20 credits) if one were available.

	Total
Agree/Strongly Agree	26 81%
Not Sure	4 16%
Disagree/Strongly Disagree	1 3%
Total	32 100%

The results of this survey are encouraging, both because of the overwhelmingly positive response, but also because a large percentage of the responding students (66%) indicated a preference for attending OU in the near future.

Finally, we have added a letter from a political science major, Mr. Salem Ghandour. Mr. Ghandour recently completed an internship at the U.S. Embassy in Paris, France. His experience and background is highly regarded by the department faculty. His letter of support provides further support for the IR major. This information is intended to further supplement the evidence that there is substantial student interest in this proposed program.

c. Employer Comments

The current chair of the Department of Political Science Alumni Advisory Board has written an eloquent letter of support for this proposed major. Martha Brown is employed at Volkswagen as a Customs Team Leader. In that capacity, she has seen the value of programs such as an international relations major that will prepare students for the global economy. Ms. Brown's letter also notes the full support of the department's Advisory Board, whose members endorsed this proposal at its October 2005 meeting.

A second letter of support comes from Mr. Nino DiCosmo, Chairman and CEO of AutoWeb, Inc. AutoWeb is a Rochester Hills, MI-based global provider of engineering data management services for the automotive and aerospace industries. As part of its services, the company serves over 19,000 users in 38 countries around the world.

d. Comparison with Other IR Programs

In the process of developing the current proposal for a major in international relations, existing programs at several different colleges and universities around the region and the country were examined to identify common approaches and curricula. The types of institutions surveyed spanned a range from small and selective liberal arts colleges to comprehensive state universities and research-intensive universities. These schools included the following: Alliant University, Beloit, Cleveland State University, Connecticut College, CSU-Chico, Grand Valley State University, Lehigh University, New York University, San Diego State University, Shawnee State University, University of Michigan, and Wellesley. There are many other such programs around the country, but all share certain general characteristics. We have included summaries of programs in the Appendix from Alliant, CSU-Chico, and Shawnee State University.

Few are strictly political science programs, although the major typically is housed in political science departments, and political science courses make up the bulk of the core curriculum in interdisciplinary programs. Only Lehigh University's program is housed in a separate department. Some of the programs that were examined were largely devoid of structure, allowing students to pick and choose from among a vast menu of courses offered by multiple departments. Wellesley's program is along those lines, with a very limited core but extensive elective offerings. More common, however, are programs structured along the lines of what we propose in which students move through a more comprehensive sequence of core courses and a selected set of electives intended to prepare them for either graduate study or careers in international business or public service. Alliant's program provides for an internship opportunity for their students.

All the programs surveyed offer a multi-disciplinary IR major similar to what we have proposed for Oakland University, combining study in political science, economics, history, philosophy and foreign language competency. For the programs surveyed, the norm is to include an introductory level course in economics as part of the core curriculum. We have followed this model in our proposal. For each of the programs surveyed the core and elective political science curriculum component of the major spans the fields of both international relations and comparative politics. Our proposal follows this model. In terms of electives, all of the programs surveyed include relevant courses from the fields of history, economics, political science, and philosophy. All of the programs surveyed also require students to demonstrate foreign language competency at an intermediate level. We have followed these norms in our proposal as well, after consultation with the partnering departments.

Below is a representative breakdown of common core and elective course offerings at the institutions surveyed. These are courses from the field of international relations only, as

this is the substantive area where the Department of Political Science has to make the most additions to and revision of course offerings to support the proposed new major. Additional courses will be added on the international relations side as a consequence of additional faculty lines beginning with the hiring of an international political economy specialist for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Core Political Science (International Relations) courses:

- Introduction to International Relations – (OU equivalent: PS 114 Issues in World Politics)
- International Relations Theory – (OU equivalent: PS 314 International Relations Theory and Practice)
- International Political Economy – (OU equivalent: PS 338 International Political Economy)
- Capstone Seminar in International Relations – (OU equivalent: PS 472 Seminar in International Relations)

Common International Relations Electives:

- Conflict and Conflict Resolution – (New course under development)
- International Organization – (Not currently offered at OU)
- International Law – (OU equivalent: PS 413 International Law)
- Human Rights – (OU equivalent: PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights)
- International Development – (OU equivalent: PS 330 Politics of Development)
- American Foreign Policy – (OU equivalent: PS 315 American Foreign Policy)
- International Politics of the Environment – (OU equivalent: PS 354 Global Environmental Governance)
- Special Topics in International Relations – (OU equivalent: PS 308 Special Topics in International Relations/Comparative Politics)

As you can see from the proposed curriculum included in this document, our approach to this new major is very much in step with other IR programs in the U.S.

e. Participation by Other Academic Units

In addition to credits required in political science, students enrolled in this multi-disciplinary program will be required to complete an economics course as part of the core program and will have a co-requisite of 16 credits of a foreign language (or competency) from the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. In addition, students will have the opportunity to enroll in 12 hours of political science electives, and 6-8 credits of elective courses offered by the Departments of History, Economics, and Philosophy.

Please see letters of support from the department chairs in the Departments of Economics, History, Philosophy, and Modern Languages and Literatures (Appendix F). Each of these letters expresses support for the new major and describes the abilities of their respective units to deliver the courses necessary to mount the IR program.

f. Advice and Consent

Faculty in the Department of Political Science discussed the creation of a new major in International Relations for approximately two years. Early discussions involved faculty associated with the Center for International Programs and its director, Peter Bertocci, professor, anthropology. Various models of a B.A. degree in International Relations were proposed and reviewed by relevant faculty during this time. The efforts for the Center for International Programs and Professor Bertocci were crucial to the development of this new program.

In addition, the department chairs of the Departments of History, Economics, Philosophy, and Modern Languages and Literatures were consulted. These chairs represent departments that will participate to varying degrees in the IR major. Input from these chairs has been critical, especially concerning faculty resource impacts of this proposed program and the scheduling decisions that will need to be made to serve IR students.

On January 12, 2006, in preparing for submitting this proposal, the faculty of the department of political science met to officially review and discuss the proposal for a new IR major. The department unanimously supported the proposal. Minutes from this meeting are included in Appendix F of this document.

g. Comments from Faculty at Other Institutions

Dr. John Ishiyama, Director of the McNair International Relations program at Truman State University, and currently editor in chief of the Journal of Political Science Education, has endorsed the proposed IR program [See Appendix D for his letter]. Among his comments, Dr. Ishiyama notes that the “structure of the curriculum” is “well thought out and supported by most of the literature” of international relations education.

Dr. Ishiyama observes that our proposed introductory IR course, the required research methods course, and the senior capstone course are consistent with recommendations by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and the American Political Science Association’s Task Force on Political Science.

Dr. Mark A. Boyer, Co-Director, GlobalEd Project, and professor, political science, University of Connecticut, enthusiastically endorsed the proposed IR program [See Appendix D for his letter] and describes it as exceptionally strong. He notes that the proposed program “allows students to focus on the theory and substance of international relations, while still providing them with enough disciplinary grounding [in political science] for further study”. He also praised the interdisciplinary aspects of the proposed major, and noted that it was still well grounded in a single academic department.

3. Self-Study

a. Political Science Department Resources

A departmental self-study was conducted prior to our most recent decennial external review. A copy of the self-study report (completed in September 2003), the external report, and the department's response to the reports (submitted April 2005) are on file in the departmental office. As part of the review and our response, we speak about the prospect and our intentions regarding a new International Relations degree ("Departmental Response to 'External Review of the Political Science Department Oakland University, January 10, 2005" p. 3, April 21, 2005).

Political science is the department whose resources will most directly be affected by the addition of this new major. At this point, the department is relatively well prepared to house the major, and to staff the courses that will be offered. We currently have one full-time faculty member (Peter Trumbore, assistant professor) whose primary interest is international relations. The department has been authorized to hire another faculty member to begin in the Fall 2006 semester. A third faculty member – Special Instructor Dr. Alan Epstein – has teaching interests in both comparative politics and international relations. The departmental also has three other faculty members (Vincent Khapoya, professor, Paul Kubicek, associate professor, and Emmett Lombard, associate professor) who offer courses in comparative politics and whose courses will serve as electives for the IR major.

The political science department has moved to a decentralized advising system, and the addition of the IR majors will be easily absorbed by the faculty who will most likely advise them. Some administrative responsibilities in the department chair's office will likely increase, as this major will require coordination of course offerings among several different departments. As numbers grow the need for additional administrative resources will grow as well.

b. How the IR Program Serves Departmental Goals

As stated in the undergraduate catalog, the department's "general educational aim is to increase students' awareness and understanding of the broad realm of politics and government." To that end, the current undergraduate degree programs (B.A. in political science; B.S. in public administration and public policy) serve students who are interested primarily in U.S. politics at all levels of government and policy-making.

The undergraduate B.A. degree in political science has traditionally included a component of comparative politics in order to help create informed citizens who will better understand the governments and politics of other nations, and also better understand the role of the U.S. in the world.

The proposed B.A. in international relations degree is a natural continuation of the department's current goals and curricular offerings. Recent faculty hires in the department have strengthened both the comparative and international relations components of the curriculum. As the department has created new courses in international relations over the past few years (PS 114, PS 314, PS 315, PS 317), those

sections that have been offered to students have fully enrolled (and in several cases, over-enrolled because of student demand).

The events of September 11, 2001 and the political, economic, and inter-governmental responses to these events have greatly increased student interest in (and appreciation of) international relations. As students become more aware of the complexities revealed by the attacks on September 11 (and those that have followed world-wide), they also have become more aware that a full understanding of international relations should include not only a study of political science, but also of history, economics, philosophy, and other languages. This is why the proposed major offers a wide range of courses from these different disciplines.

c. Staffing Needs

We propose an additional new position in international relations for year two of program implementation. With this hire (in international political theory, methods, and/or organizations), the core IR curriculum will be fully served, and important elective options will become available to students. Other than funding for part-time instructors in the other participating departments (to teach IR courses, or to teach other courses so current faculty can teach IR courses), we anticipate no other immediate needs for faculty.

The budget proposal included in this document estimates that the major would require approximately \$10,000 per year in each of the first five years to hire part-time instructors in history, economics, philosophy, and modern languages and literatures, in order to cover the extra demand that the new program will place on these departments.

New Faculty Positions

Year 1: None

Year 2: Full-time (tenure-track) position in International Political Theory, Methods, and/or International Organizations - \$50,000

Year 3: None

Year 4: None

Year 5: None

d. Faculty qualifications

See the vitae of the full-time faculty likely to be associated with the major in international relations (Appendix B). As you will see, the faculty members who will be participating are prolific and accomplished researchers. These accomplishments will serve the program's national and international profile and its students very well.

e. Library Holdings

An analysis of the library holdings related to international relations (and comparative politics) was conducted by Mildred Merz, Coordinator for Collection Development at Kresge Library (see Appendix C). This thorough analysis identifies books, journals and other resources needed to support the new IR major. With the library's recommendations in mind, we would likely decline (at least for the present) the opportunity to purchase the Public Affairs Information Service Bulletin (PAIS), as the level of use would not justify the cost, and the Bulletin is more broad-based than the program requires. Based on the library's analysis, we estimate we would need approximately \$6,000 in library support for the first year, with incremental inflation increases each year through year five .

f. Classroom, Laboratory, and Space Needs

Office space is at a premium in Varner Hall and we are working with the Office of the Dean in anticipation of the need for more space. We do not anticipate any special classroom needs, although the new major will likely add 2-3 class sections in the fall and winter semesters during the program's first year, and about 6-7 sections in year two and this will affect the use of general classroom space. o hire the new faculty position

We would not require any special laboratory space, although the increasing enrollment in political science majors has created a substantial demand on our required PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics course. This course has gone from three sections per year to four sections per year over the past five years, and we are seriously considering offering a fifth section in the spring term to accommodate student demand. These sections currently enroll 45 students each and use the college computer laboratory in Varner Hall, but for pedagogical reasons should be enrolling 25- 30 students each. We expect the use of college computer laboratory to grow extensively, which will put pressure on that facility.

g. Equipment Needs

We do not anticipate any major equipment needs associated with this proposal. Support for faculty that is normally provided would be expected (including computer work station and start-up costs associated with new faculty, and classroom support).

g. Use of Existing Resources (shift in emphasis)

One of the features of this proposed program is that many of the courses currently offered by all departments will serve the new major. Very few new courses will be required (other than those that will be created after the new faculty are hired in 2006 – and hopefully -- in 2008). The use of departmental supplies and services funds will need to be shifted incrementally. There will be increased need for coordination among the department chairs who schedule courses for their respective units.

4. Program Plan

a. Degree Requirements

This document proposes that IR majors complete 42-46 total credits (plus competency in modern language). The range in total credits is due to two factors: 1) whether students opt for ECN 201 (4 credits) or ECN 210 (6 credits), and 2) whether students enroll in electives in economics or whether they choose electives from other departments.

Advanced undergraduate courses in economics are 3 credits and those in the other departments are 4 credits. As noted below, students also will be required to demonstrate a 2-year competency in a foreign language. Any courses a student would take to meet this requirement would be in addition to the 42-46 total.

A total of 24 or 26 credits would be required for the IR core. In addition, students would be able to select electives in a variety of topics and disciplines, to better customize the program to individual student interests and needs.

Core Curriculum (24 or 26 credits):

PS 114 Issues in World Politics (4 credits)

PS 131 Comparative Politics (4 credits)

PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (4 credits)

PS 314 International Politics Theory and Practice (4 credits)

ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (4 credits) or ECN 210 Principles of Economics (6 credits)

PS 472 Seminar in International Relations (capstone) (4 credits)

24 or 26 credits

Electives in Political Science (12 credits) – Chosen from among the following:

PS 308 Special Topics in International Relations/Comparative Politics (4 credits)

PS 315 United States Foreign Policy (4 credits)

PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights (4 credits)

PS 329 European Political Systems (4 credits)

PS 330 Politics of Development (4 credits)

PS 332 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa (4 credits)

PS 333 African Politics (4 credits)

PS 335 Politics of Latin America (4 credits)

PS 337 Russian Political System (4 credits)

PS 338 International Political Economy (4 credits)

PS 354 Global Environmental Governance (4 credits)

12 credits

Electives in Economics, History or Philosophy (6, 7, or 8 credits) – Chosen from among the following:

ECN 200 Principles of Macroeconomics (4 credits)

ECN 326 International Economic Development (3 credits)
ECN 373 International Trade (3 credits)
ECN 374 Economics of International Finance (3 credits)
HST 262 Introduction to Latin American History II (4 credits)
HST 320 Cold War America (4 credits)
HST 321 History of American Foreign Relations in the 20th Century (4 credits)
HST 356 Modern Middle East (4 credits)
HST 357 Arab-Israeli Conflict (4 credits)
HST 363 History of Southern South America (4 credits)
HST 367 History of Mexico (4 credits)
HST 376 Contemporary China (4 credits)
HST 386 African History Since 1900 (4 credits)
PHL 311 Philosophy of International Relations: Law, War and Peace (4 credits)

6-8 credits

Co-requisite Language Requirement:

All students must complete the equivalent of two years of a single modern foreign language or demonstrate equivalent competency, in addition to other major requirements. Available languages include: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

16 credits or equivalent competency

42-46 credits (plus 16 credits of language); Total ranges from 58– 62 credits

b. Program and course catalog descriptions

The following is proposed program catalog language for the international relations major.

Requirements for the major in international relations B.A. program

To be admitted to major standing, students must complete the following core courses:

PS 114, PS 131, ECN 201 or 210, and PS 303. Prior to graduation, students also must complete the advanced core courses of PS 314 and PS 472 (capstone). Credit toward the major will be allowed only for courses completed with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

The major requires a minimum of 42 credits, to be distributed as follows:

1. Core curriculum (24 or 26 credits):

PS 114 Issues in World Politics
PS 131 Comparative Politics
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (4 cr) or ECN 210 Principles of Economics (6 cr)
PS 314 International Politics Theory and Practice
PS 472 Seminar in International Relations (capstone)

2. Electives in political science (12 credits): chosen from the following courses: PS 308, PS 315, PS 317, PS 329, PS 330, PS 332, PS 335, PS 337, PS 338, PS 354.

3. Electives in economics, history, or philosophy (6, 7, or 8 credits): chosen from the following courses: ECN 200, ECN 326, ECN 373, ECN, 374, HST 262, HST 320, HST 321, HST 356, HST 357, HST 363, HST 367, HST 376, HST 386, PHL 311.

4. Foreign language co-requisite (16 credits or equivalent competency): all students must complete two years of a modern foreign language, or demonstrate equivalent competency in addition to other major requirements. Available modern foreign languages include: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

c. Admissions Criteria

Any student admitted to Oakland University would be eligible to major in international relations.

A pre-international relations major would be any student interested in completing the major, but who hasn't yet completed some portion of the core curriculum. It would be impractical to include the entire proposed core for this major, because PS 314 and PS 472 Seminar in International Relations, the proposed capstone course for this major, will be taken near the end of the student's coursework.

d. Administrative personnel/procedures needed to support program

Cooperation and coordination of schedules will be central to our ability to mount a multi-disciplinary program. Students majoring in IR will want to be able to select courses (both core and elective) when it is convenient and most appropriate given their own schedules and interests. As you can see from our sample curriculum we are prepared to offer the, courses that are part of the core and elective curricula across each academic year, so that students are able to graduate within a reasonable amount of time.

e. Sample curriculum

See Section 4a (Program Plan) for a listing of core and elective courses, and Section 6d (four-year implementation) for a projected summary of course offerings.

f. New course syllabi

We expect to add new courses in international organizations and international law, as we add new faculty Course syllabi for courses identified as part of this proposed program are contained in Appendix A.

g. Consent from other academic units

The Departments of Economics, History, Modern Languages and Literatures, and Philosophy will participate in this new major. The listing of core and elective courses summarizes the extent of each department's participation. The proposed new major also has the support of the Center for International Programs (CIP). Letters of support from the chairs of each department (and from CIP) are located in Appendix F. They speak to the programmatic support for the new major, as well as their estimated abilities to participate through course offerings and in the governance of the new major.

h. Student recruiting, retention, monitoring and advising

As part of the budget proposed for this program, we are requesting funds to advertise the program to prospective students. More money is requested for the first years, in order to promote the program as widely as possible. In the last three years of the five-year plan, we are requesting \$1,500 in order to continue advertising, especially once targeted areas have been identified, and the success of the first two years has been evaluated. Because the IR major is more demanding (for example, requires more credits, includes a foreign language requirement, includes economics), we expect that highly motivated and high-achieving students will be drawn to this major.

Retention of students is an important component to this new program. Program faculty will serve as mentors and, at least within the political science department, advisers. In 2006 the department began a new decentralized faculty advising system. This will allow those students who are majoring in international relations (or intend to), to seek advising from faculty who are teaching in the program. This closer connection between faculty and students will increase retention.

The new advising arrangement also will allow faculty to more closely monitor the progress of students. Any problems or potential problems can more easily be identified, and will more likely be identified earlier. This will improve both the recruitment and retention of students.

Finally, the department currently offers two annual student scholarships. As it relates to student recruitment, the department hopes to add a third student scholarship – perhaps one dedicated to students who are IR majors.

j. Accreditation requirements

This is not a professional or graduate degree program; there are no program-specific accreditation requirements.

k. Procedures and standards for program review

This new program is subject to the same decennial external program review practices as the other undergraduate programs. As a new program, we would expect that a comprehensive external program review will take place at the end of the first five years of program implementation. The Department of Political Science underwent its

decennial program review in 2004 so it is likely that a separate review of the new IR major would occur prior to 2014. A report from this review is on file in the department office.

5. Revenue/Costs

a. SBRC Budget format

Proforma Income Statement

Program Title

Program Type: (New, INC,CRCE,
MUC)

New

Revenue Variables:		YR 1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5
Headcount						
Lower Level UG Students		0	0	0	0	0
Upper Level UG Students		10	15	20	25	30
Graduate Students		0	0	0	0	0
Doctoral Students		0	0	0	0	0
Expected number of program credits taken per student per fiscal year						
Undergraduate Credits		20	20	20	20	20
Graduate Credits		0	0	0	0	0
Doctoral Credits		0	0	0	0	0
Total Credit Hours		0	0	0	0	0
Undergraduate Lower Level		0	0	0	0	0
Undergraduate Upper Level		200	300	400	500	600
Graduate		0	0	0	0	0
Doctoral		0	0	0	0	0
FYES						
UG FYES		6.45	9.68	12.90	16.13	19.35
Graduate FYES		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Doctoral FYES		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total FYES		6.45	9.68	12.90	16.13	19.35
Tuition Rate Per Credit Hour		0	0	0	0	0
Undergraduate Lower Level		\$ 204.75	\$ 204.75	\$ 204.75	\$ 204.75	\$ 204.75
Undergraduate Upper Level		\$ 224.75	\$ 224.75	\$ 224.75	\$ 224.75	\$ 224.75
Graduate		\$ 383.00	\$ 383.00	\$ 383.00	\$ 383.00	\$ 383.00
Revenue						
Tuition		\$ 44,950.00	\$ 67,425.00	\$ 89,900.00	\$ 112,375.00	\$ 134,850.00
Total Revenue		\$ 44,950.00	\$ 67,425.00	\$ 89,900.00	\$ 112,375.00	\$ 134,850.00

Expenses		YR 1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5
<i>Salaries/Wages</i>						
Faculty Salaries	6101	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Visiting Faculty	6101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Part-time Faculty	6301	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Faculty Overload	6301	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Faculty Inload (Replacement Costs)	6301	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Administrative Salaries	6201	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Clerical Salaries	6211	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IC Administrative Salaries	6221	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Graduate Assistant	6311	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Wages	6401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Out of Classification	6401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Overtime	6401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Student	6501	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Total Salary Expenses		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 62,000.00	\$ 62,000.00	\$ 62,000.00	\$ 62,000.00
Fringe Benefits	6701	\$ 865.00	\$ 21,495.00	\$ 21,495.00	\$ 21,495.00	\$ 21,495.00
Total Salary and Fringe Benefits		\$ 12,865.00	\$ 83,495.00	\$ 83,495.00	\$ 83,495.00	\$ 83,495.00
Operating Expenses						
Supplies and Services(1)	7101	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Graduate Assistant Tuition	7101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Facility Charges	7101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	7201	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Telephone	7301	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment (2)	7501	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Library	7401	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 6,990.00	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 7,840.00
Total Operating Expenses		\$ 10,500.00	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 8,490.00	\$ 8,950.00	\$ 9,340.00
Total Expenses		\$ 23,365.00	\$ 96,395.00	\$ 91,985.00	\$ 92,445.00	\$ 92,835.00
Surplus/Deficits		\$ 21,585.00	\$ (28,970.00)	\$ (2,085.00)	\$ 19,930.00	\$ 42,015.00
Percentage of Expenses to Tuition		0.52	1.43	1.02	0.82	0.69

1) Includes Faculty Search Costs in Year 1, remaining amounts to cover student recruiting and other supplies and services costs.

2.) Start-up package for new faculty member.

6. Implementation: Five-year timetable

a. New Faculty positions

Year 2: Full-time Faculty position in International Organizations - \$50,000

b. Increases in Library holdings

Based on the analysis from the library, the budget for library purchases (including academic journals) related to this major is as follows:

Year 1: \$6,000 Year 2: \$6,400 Year 3: \$6,990 Year 4: \$7,450 Year 5: \$7,840

c. Purchase schedule for new equipment

The department does not anticipate any major equipment needs associated with this proposal. Support for faculty that is normally provided would be expected (computer work station and start-up costs associated with new faculty, and classroom support).

d. Course offerings each semester

Each participating department currently offers most of the courses that are proposed as part of the new IR curriculum. Extra sections will need to be offered as enrollment growth continues. The proposed core courses are indicated in bold and italics. The following is a summary of courses proposed for the new major over the next 4 years (8 semesters).

Semester 1: ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
(Fall) ***PS 131 Comparative Politics (4 sections)***
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights
PS 337 Russian Political System
PS 338 International Political Economy
PS 354 Global Environmental Governance
HST 320 Cold War America
HST 356 Modern Middle East
HST 376 Contemporary China
ECN 373 International Trade

Semester 2: ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
(Winter) ***PS 131 Comparative Politics (3 sections)***
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 314 International Politics: Theory and Practice
PS 315 US Foreign Policy
PS 329 European Political Systems
PS 330 Politics of Development
PS 333 African Politics
PS 335 Politics of Latin America
HST 321 History of American Foreign Relations in the 20th Century
HST 363 History of Southern South America

HST 367 History of Mexico
ECN 326 International Economic Development

Semester 3:
(F) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (4 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights
PS 337 Russian Political System
PS 338 International Political Economy
HST 320 Cold War America
HST 376 Contemporary China
HST 386 African History since 1900
PHL 311 Philosophy of International Relations
ECN 373 International Trade

Semester 4:
(W) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (3 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 314 International Politics: Theory and Practice
PS 315 U.S. Foreign Policy
PS 329 European Political Systems
PS 332 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
PS 472 Seminar in International Relations
HST 367 History of Mexico
ECN 374 Economics of International Finance

Semester 5:
(F) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (4 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights
PS 337 Russian Political System
PS 338 International Political Economy
PS 354 Global Environmental Governance
HST 262 Introduction to Latin American History II
HST 320 Cold War America
HST 376 Contemporary China
ECN 373 International Trade

Semester 6:
(W) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (3 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 314 International Politics: Theory and Practice

PS 315 U.S. Foreign Policy
PS 329 European Political Systems
PS 330 Politics of Development
PS 333 African Politics
PS 335 Politics of Latin America
PS 472 Seminar in International Relations
HST 321 History of American Foreign Relations in the 20th Century
HST 357 Arab-Israeli Conflict
HST 363 History of Southern South America
ECN 326 International Economic Development

Semester 7:
(F) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (4 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 317 International Politics of Human Rights
PS 337 The Russian Political System
PS 338 International Political Economy
HST 262 Introduction to Latin American History II
HST 320 Cold War America
HST 386 African History since 1900
PHL 311 Philosophy of International Relations
ECN 373 International Trade

Semester 8:
(W) ***PS 114 Issues in World Politics (2 sections)***
PS 131 Comparative Politics (3 sections)
ECN 201 Principles of Microeconomics (multiple sections)
PS 303 Research Methods and Statistics (2 sections)
PS 314 International Politics: Theory and Practice
PS 315 U.S. Foreign Policy
PS 329 European Political Systems
PS 332 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
PS 472 Seminar in International Relations
HST 320 Cold War America
HST 367 History of Mexico
ECN 374 Economics of International Finance

e. Implementation of new internal procedures

Increased coordination among the department chairs in each participating department will be critical for this new major to be successfully implemented. The most important and immediate challenge for mounting this new major will center on scheduling among several different departments. The summary of course offerings above generally describes the courses that are most likely to be available to IR majors.

An IR faculty governing body will be created to help monitor implementation of the new major and to make program policy decisions. This governing body will be comprised of faculty who will teach in the IR program (or at least one representative from each department, along with each department chair serving ex-officio). The chair of the Department of Political Science will be primarily responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the program, with substantial input from the chairs of the other participating departments.

Should the number of IR majors increase well beyond our stated expectations, faculty service activities such as advising will be affected, and it is possible that a program director (with a course reduction) might be assigned to administer the day-to-day operations of the program. However, we do not expect this to occur within the first five years of the program's operation.

Beginning in the Winter 2006 semester, advising will be decentralized among all political science faculty. This decentralized system will be in place for the new IR majors once the program begins implementation. Those faculty teaching IR courses will be assigned students majoring in IR or those who have expressed a desire to major in international relations.

Once the IR major is established, the department chairs will review the budgets in their respective departments to ensure that a fair and equitable distribution of resources is available for all students and programs. This includes supplies and services, gift fund disbursements, student scholarship funds, and those funds requested from the Dean or Provost. Because of the interest of the current Department of Political Science's Alumni Advisory Board in this major, it is possible that the major will encourage departmental alumni to make earmarked contributions toward the success of the program and its students (through internships, scholarships, research support).

f. Predicted enrollment levels for each year

A conservative estimate of enrollment growth suggests a steady increase over the first five years of program implementation. At least ten new majors will enroll in the first year, with an additional five new majors in each year. At year five, enrollments are expected to be at least 30 students.

As many of the IR courses also serve B.A. in political science majors, we expect that each section offered will continue to have maximum enrollments. Students who are traditional B.A. in political science majors will continue to seek out these courses and those who might choose to minor in international relations also will likely enroll in these courses.

Even without the IR major, the courses currently offered that will become part of the IR curriculum have experienced solid student demand. Courses such as PS 114, PS 315, and PS 317 have been offered over the past two years, and each have seen maximum enrollments every time they have been offered. Student demand is high for these courses,

and will likely remain high, especially if students have the option of majoring in international relations.

g. “Steady state” operation of program

We anticipate that by the end of the fifth year, we will have achieved a “steady state” of operations for this new major. At that point, virtually all courses will be in place, as the new hire in year two will have a hand in creating new courses and we will have begun offering our capstone courses by then as well. We expect enrollment growth beyond year five.

7. Program Evaluation

a. Program Evaluation and Assessment

Students majoring in international relations will be assessed through the PS 472 Seminar in International Relations capstone course. This course will attempt to fulfill the objectives of capstone courses in general. The course will require that students successfully demonstrate that they were able to integrate the concepts, theories and methods considered by the faculty to be important to the study of international relations.

The participating faculty members also will meet to discuss and evaluate the assessment process and the results of our assessment activities. In the past, departmental faculty have used information derived from our assessment activities to change our curriculum, adjust the content of specific lectures, add more lecture material on some topics, and adjust our assessment activities. As part of that process, PS 472 will be central to our discussions.

8. Appendices

- A. Detailed course descriptions (syllabi)
- B. Vitae of participating faculty
- C. Library Report, Mildred Merz
- D. Letters from Academics at Other Institutions; Copy of Student Surveys; Student letters of support
- E. Employer letters; Summaries of other IR programs
- F. Letters of support from participating departments; minutes of January 12, 2006 Department of Political Science meeting

March 2006

**International Relations Major Proposal
OCC Student Questionnaire**

Oakland University is considering a new major in International Relations. This multi-disciplinary B.A. degree program would include required courses in political science and micro-economics, and offer electives in History, Economics, and Philosophy. It would also require competency in a foreign language. This survey seeks to identify student interest in this proposed program from students who are currently attending Oakland Community College.

1. Overall, what level of interest would you have in earning a B.A. in International Relations if such a major were available?

- Very Interested
- Interested
- Not Sure
- Not Interested
- Not Interested at all

2. The study of international relations has an important role to play in preparing students for graduate school and for careers in international affairs (business, government).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Not sure
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

3. Oakland University should offer a Major in International Relations.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Not sure
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

4. During the 2005-06 academic year, I have taken (or intend to take) at least one International Relations or Comparative Politics.

- Yes
- No

5. I would consider majoring in International Relations if such a degree were available.

_____ Yes

_____ No

6. I would be interested in electing an International Relations minor (approximately 20 credits) if one were available.

_____ Strongly Agree

_____ Agree

_____ Not sure

_____ Disagree

_____ Strongly Disagree

7. I am considering enrolling at Oakland University within the next three years.

_____ Strongly Agree

_____ Agree

_____ Not sure

_____ Disagree

_____ Strongly Disagree



University of Connecticut
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Department of
Political Science

Prof. Peter Trumbore
Department of Political Science
418 Varner Hall
Oakland University
Rochester, MI 49309-4488

Dear Prof. Trumbore,

3/3/06

I want to thank you for asking me to evaluate the proposal for the creation of a new International Relations major at Oakland University. I have now had time to do so and am pleased to say that I was much impressed with the curriculum and structure that you and your colleagues have developed for the major. If it were proposed at my institution, I would wholeheartedly support it. Even before 9/11 and the subsequent rising demand for internationally focused courses and programs at universities around the country, I argued for a major of this sort for many years at my university. Without such a program we do a disservice to our students in an increasingly global political economy and society. You and your colleagues should be applauded for your efforts in this area.

Let me start by saying that I examined the proposal primarily from the role of being a faculty member at a Research 1 university to whom you might be sending students for graduate training. Secondly, I examined it with an eye toward what I would like to include in such a major as a faculty member who specializes in this substantive area. From both perspectives, it is exceptionally strong.

I have served on our graduate admissions committee for over a decade and have chaired the committee several times. As such, I feel confident that I have a good idea of what we at UConn look for in admitting students to our MA/PhD program. In particular, aside from high achievement in undergraduate work, we consistently look for strong social science background and significant work that demonstrates promise in research. In examining Oakland's proposal, I was very pleased to see that you require courses in IR theory, research methods (a recurrent shortfall for undergraduates by my experience) and microeconomics. This core (along with its other pieces) will clearly provide Oakland students with a strong base on which to pursue graduate training, if that is their goal.

In addition, I believe that the fact that you have structured your program to center on political science is also a good idea for both pedagogical and practical concerns.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

341 Mansfield Road Unit 1024
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-1024

Telephone: (860) 486-2440

Facsimile: (860) 486-3347

Pedagogically, I think it is important that undergraduates emerge from their studies with significant grounding in single field. Moreover, from a graduate admissions perspective, I am recurrently surprised at how many of my colleagues discount applicants who did not focus on political science as undergraduates. I think this is unfortunate, as we sometimes ignore interesting applicants merely because they have not punched enough political science buttons. But your program allows students to focus on the theory and substance of international relations, while still providing them with enough disciplinary grounding for further study. The combination of the core courses and the 12 additional required credits in political science should eliminate any concerns from the folks on our admissions committee.

With this said, I also believe that any good international relations major must be interdisciplinary. In fact, I go back and forth in my own thinking about whether or not the title for such a major should be "International Relations" or "International Studies." I think that "Studies" is the better choice in terms of labeling the curriculum, but "Relations" is more closely associated with political science and thus helps alleviate the graduate admissions issues mentioned above. As a result, I think that your proposal does a very good job of balancing disciplinary grounding with the need to address international issues across fields in our diverse and globalizing world.

I was also happy to see the breadth of choice in courses offered to students. Beyond the core courses, students have an interesting menu of courses available, keeping the curriculum focused still on political science, but allowing enough complementary material to provide the students with additional perspectives on the issues at hand. The only course(s) that I find missing from the list would be in geography, though I did notice on your web-site that Oakland does not have a geography department.

A last point I want to address has to deal with the supervisory structure that has been proposed. From my experience at UConn as well as experiences of other colleagues in the field who teach in interdisciplinary programs, I think it almost always best to place such programs within academic departments. This makes the lines of authority, responsibility and faculty "credit" much clearer. It should also help in making decisions about resources and faculty recruitment for the future.

In sum, I firmly believe that this proposed IR major has been well-crafted and will provide an excellent opportunity for Oakland students in coming years. I would be pleased to offer a similar program to our students at UConn.

If you have any questions or wish more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cordially,



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