

AACR 4

Office of the President
June 8, 2010

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts (CIP Code 16.0302, PROG: AS BA JLAL)/Bachelor of Science with a major in Japanese Language and Literature (CIP Code 16.0302, PROG: AS BS JLAL) in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2010 Semester.

Background: Interest in Japan throughout the state and among University of Kentucky students has been very strong for some time. The massive economic and cultural impact of the Japanese corporate presence in Kentucky over the last twenty or so years is one major source for this interest. Further, manifold economic interaction and cultural exchanges between Japan and Kentucky have paralleled national and international activities. Given these developments, it is imperative that UK assume a leadership position in providing students with advanced language training and knowledge of the cultural traditions of Japan while developing a greater awareness of the similarities and differences of Japanese culture. The proposed program in Japanese will help satisfy UK's imperative to prepare citizens of the Commonwealth to function successfully in life and work in this age of globalization.

The proposed program will prepare students for a variety of post baccalaureate options, serving as preparation both for graduate training in fields requiring advanced Japanese language competence and for Japan-related career choices. There is a need for Japanese teachers in the state that we have been unable to respond to; the major will allow UK to fulfill its leadership role in this regard. We anticipate that many graduates will adapt to a variety of career possibilities and procure employment with Japanese firms in the United States and American firms doing business in Japan. Should they pursue graduate degrees at UK or other institutions, they will be able to build on the broad-based knowledge of Japanese language and culture and the creativity that this major will foster.

This program has the approval of the appropriate councils and University Senate and has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____