

ASACR 4

Office of the President
December 9, 2014

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION: COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
(BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES)

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science with a major in Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures degree in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures, in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective January 1, 2015.

Background: The Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures advances the understanding and appreciation of language and cultural study domestically and abroad. The proposed major is designed to advance undergraduate student proficiency in and understanding of the linguistic structure of world languages and to introduce them to critical and theoretical approaches to an array of cultural products (e.g., art, film, folklore, literatures, music, mythology, pop culture, religion, and theatre). The major is designed to demonstrate the breadth and depth of the discipline and the connections among peoples, regardless of the language they speak or their national citizenship. The ultimate goal is to provide service to the Commonwealth by fostering language ability and increasing global cultural awareness.

The proposed, unified Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures major (with seven tracks) represents the desire to 1) improve the global literacy of students, regardless of their field of concentration; 2) capitalize on the strengths of working as a team within faculty areas of expertise, regardless of the language studied; and 3) maintain standards for student proficiency in the language and culture of their field of concentration. More practical advantages include: regularizing the number of credit hours in all the tracks; eliminating pre-major requirements; improving flexibility and cohort identity (across languages) for students pursuing this degree; and more rationalized scheduling based on demand and enrollment patterns to help avoid schedule conflicts and consequent in progress to degree.

This program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate and has completed the 45 day review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____