

## UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON – PROGRAM CHANGE PROPOSAL

Electronically submit this completed form with attachments in one file to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

COLLEGE (check one):	Arts and Sciences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposal Submitted By:	Jason Matzke			Date Prepared: 11/29/2016		
Department /Program:	<b>Practical Ethics Minor</b>					

*Note: for any program change entailing the addition any new courses, or revisions to existing courses, separate proposal for those course actions must also be submitted.*

<b>PROPOSAL TO CHANGE EXISTING PROGRAM</b> (check <b>no than one</b> of the following)	
Revise requirements for existing <b>major</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for a concentration within an existing <b>major</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for an existing <b>degree program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for existing <b>certificate program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for existing <b>minor</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X
<b>Implementation Date:</b> FALL semester, year:	2017

### **REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR CHANGES TO EXISTING PROGRAMS:**

1. **Rationale statement** (Why is this program change needed? What purposes will it serve?)
2. **Impact Statement** (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, technology, and impacts created by this program change. Supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. evaluating the resource impact and feasibility of the program change are required.)
3. **Catalog Copy** (Provide the *existing* Catalog Description **and** the complete statement of the *proposed* new Catalog description that reflects the program changes)

<b>PROPOSAL TO CREATE NEW PROGRAM NOT REQUIRING STATE ACTION</b> (check no more than <b>one</b> of the following)	
<b>New concentration</b> within existing major	Name:
<b>New minor</b>	Name:
New Major but NOT a new degree*	Name:
*Use ONLY for interdisciplinary majors that will be grouped as part of the "Special Majors/General Liberal Arts and Sciences" degree (CIP Code 24.0101) or reported as a BLS degree (CIP Code 24.0199)	
<b>Implementation Date (semester and year):</b>	

### **REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR NEW PROGRAMS NOT REQUIRING STATE APPROVAL:**

1. **Rationale statement** (Why is this additional program needed? What purposes will it serve?)
2. **Impact Statement** (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, technology, staffing and curricular impacts created by this program change. Supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. evaluating the resource impact and feasibility of adding the new program are required.)
3. **Catalog Copy** (Provide the complete Catalog Description for the proposed new program)
4. **Any change that impacts another Department must have a written statement (such as a copy of an email) from the Chair(s) agreeing to the change.**

Department Chair Approval: Craig Vasey      Date: 11/29/2016

CCC Chair Approval: Susan Pyle      Date: 1/11/17

Dean Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

UCC Chair Approval: Patricia Reynolds      Date: 2/13/2017

\*Provost Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Required only in cases of proposals for new concentrations, new minors, or new majors that do not involve a new degree

This is a proposal to modify the Practical Ethics Minor by clarifying that the director of the minor can, on a case-by-case basis, approve courses to count towards the minor that are not on the pre-approved list.

Existing language already states that “Students enrolled in the minor who do research or other work for credit in ethics in any major or field of study – e.g., through URES, independent study, or internship – may use those credits for the minor with approval by the director of the Practical Ethics Minor.”

This will be changed to read: “Students who do coursework, research, or other work for credit in ethics in any major or field of study may use those credits for the minor with approval by the director of the Practical Ethics Minor. Examples might include courses not on the pre-approved list, URES, independent study, a senior thesis, or an internship.”

**Rationale statement** (Why is this program change needed? What purposes will it serve?)

A minor in practical ethics should complement a student’s major area of study. If a student can make a good argument for why this or that course, which we have not chosen to make available for all students to use towards the minor, would be a good fit for their program of study, we should be able to accommodate them. (If the same course keeps coming up as a good option multiple times, we will consider adding it to the pre-approved list.) The Registrar’s Office has expressed worry that the existing language is unclear in terms of what it allows the director to approve. The proposed language seeks to fix this problem.

**Impact Statement** (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, technology, and impacts created by this program change. Supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. evaluating the resource impact and feasibility of the program change are required.)

This is a very minor tweaking of the Practical Ethics Minor; it is not one that will require any additional library, space, budgetary, etc., resources. The most significant change is that the director of the minor will need to review student requests and related course syllabi, but this is not likely to take more than an extra two or three hours per semester.

**Catalog Copy** (Provide the *existing* Catalog Description **and** the complete statement of the *proposed* new Catalog description that reflects the program changes)

EXISTING:

Practical Ethics Minor  
Department of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion  
Jason Matzke, Program Director

Ethical questions arise in every area of human activity and in every academic major and field. Understanding and using ethical theory and concepts to inform practical issues (and vice versa) is valuable for professional and personal development in a complex and diverse world. The Practical Ethics Minor is designed to give students an understanding of the fundamental theories, concepts, and methodologies of ethics; to provide practice in identifying and analyzing contemporary moral issues; and to help students better comprehend how theory and practice inform one another. Students can study a number of ethical issues across many areas including the environment, medicine, law, business, technologies, and everyday life. Topics include reproductive technologies, euthanasia, the treatment of animals, informed consent, hate speech, pornography, the relation between ethics and law, the value of species and ecosystems, and sustainability. Students who do research or internships in ethics for course credit in any major or field of study can apply for this credit to be used also toward the Practical Ethics Minor. Students are encouraged to seek service learning and guided research opportunities, both for credit or non-credit. The Practical Ethics Minor will be of particular value to students going on to graduate and professional studies in law, business, medicine, and the environment, and to those pursuing careers in government or other forms of service in the community.

Requirements for the Practical Ethics Minor

Eighteen (18) credit hours to include a minimum of three courses from the philosophical ethics offerings (Group I), and three additional courses from the remainder of Group I and/or from Group II. At least three of the total courses must be at the 300-400 level.

Students who do research or other work for credit in ethics in any major or field of study – e.g., through URES, independent study, or internship – may use those credits for the minor with approval by the director of the Practical Ethics Minor.

Students are strongly encouraged to seek service learning and guided research opportunities, both for credit and non-credit, through the Center for Honor, Leadership, and Service.

Group I: PHIL 160, 225, 226, 330, 335, and 430.

Three additional courses taken either from Group I above or from Group II below.

Group II: ANTH 365; BUAD 464; CPSC 302; EDUC 303, 387, and 420; EESC 230; GEOG 331, 332, 337, 338, and 339; HISP 208; PHIL 100, 210, 220, and 320; RELG 231; SOCG 315, 334, 335, and 354.

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