UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON – PROGRAM CHANGE PROPOSAL
Electronically submit this completed form with attachments to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

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<th>COLLEGE (check one):</th>
<th>Arts and Sciences</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Education</th>
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Proposal Submitted By: | Schleef | Date Prepared: | Sep. 18, 2012 |
Department /Program: | Sociology and Anthropology: Anthropology |

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.

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE EXISTING PROGRAM** (check one of the following)
- Revise requirements for existing major
- Revise requirements for a concentration within an existing major
- Revise requirements for an existing degree program
- Revise requirements for existing certificate program
- Revise requirements for existing minor

Implementation Date: FALL semester, year: Fall 2013

**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)

**PROPOSAL TO CREATE PROGRAM NOT REQUIRING STATE ACTION** (check one of the following)
- New concentration within existing major
- New minor
- New Major but NOT a new degree*

*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)

Implementation Date (semester and year): 

**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, and 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)

**Department Chair Approval:** Debra Schleef | Date: Oct. 15, 2012

**CCC Chair Approval:** Bradley Hansen | Date: Oct. 20, 2012

**Dean Approval:** Richard Finkelstein | Date: Oct. 22, 2012

**UCC Chair Approval:** | Date: 

**Provost Approval:** | Date: 

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

Rationale Statement:
We propose to do away with the field research requirement (FR) in the anthropology major because staffing changes and changes in the ways the courses are taught make the requirement arbitrary and cumbersome.

**Rationale:** A chief goal of the anthropology major is to immerse students in the practice of anthropological research. To that end our capstone course, senior research and senior thesis (ANTH 480, 481), and our entry course sequence (for majors), Ethnography (ANTH 298) and Arguments (ANTH 299) have over the years become much more explicitly and fundamentally research intensive. Meanwhile upper level courses in general all require some sort of thesis paper that engages the student in synthesizing material from a variety of sources. In effect there is little difference between FR courses officially on the books and other upper level courses not designated as FR. In addition staffing changes (the retirement of Margaret Huber and the hiring of Laura Mentore) has meant that FR courses on the books are no longer consistently taught. Also, some are taught by adjuncts. Three of the six FR courses were taught by Huber (ANTH 317: Gifts and Commodities; ANTH 322: Symbolic Anthropology ; ANTH 371H: Anthropology of Food). Another of the six is no longer taught as the faculty member’s research interests have changed (ANTH 401: The Anthropology of Globalization). Only two courses continue to be taught as part of an ongoing scholarly agenda of a faculty member (ANTH 341: Practices of Memory; ANTH344: Urban Theory and Ethnography). Finally, as members of the department take sabbaticals, courses they teach which are FR are not taught, leaving students to scramble for those left over.

For these reasons, the current consensus among the faculty in anthropology is that our goal of making the experience of research central to the major has been more than met and no longer requires flagged requirements to continue to meet that goal. The benefit of doing away with the requirement would be two-fold: for students, the major would no longer seem to make arbitrary distinctions between courses; for staff, it would allow us more flexibility as to what we offer as we respond to disciplinary shifts in focus and topic and to shifts in our own professional and scholarly interests.

**Impact Statement:**

No relevant impacts on library, budget, or technology.

**Catalog Copy:**

Current:

Thirty (30) credits, including 101, 200 and 203 (co-requisite courses), and 480, 481; 15 elective credits in anthropology, which may include Anthropology 491, 492: Independent Study but not Anthropology 499: Internship. At least one of these electives must be a course designated FR, meaning that the course has a significant assignment that requires the student to conduct ethnographic field research for its completion. These courses include Anthropology 317, 321, 322, 344, 401, and 491, 492 (with approval of the instructor); and Sociology 365. Up to six credits of upper-level sociology courses, excluding 491, 492, and 499, may be substituted for upper-level anthropology courses. HISP 207 and HISP 467 may be taken as electives in the major.

New:

Thirty (30) credits, including 101, 200 and 203 (co-requisite courses), and 480, 481; 15 elective credits in anthropology, which may include Anthropology 491, 492: Independent Study but not Anthropology 499: Internship. Up to six credits of upper-level sociology courses, excluding 491, 492, and 499, may be substituted for upper-level anthropology courses. HISP 207 and HISP 467 may be taken as electives in the major.