

# 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.

<b>COLLEGE (check one):</b>	Arts and Sciences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposal Submitted By: M. Ray			Date Prepared: 4/4/2019			
Department Program:	Economics					

- 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. If the proposal involves changes in course credit hours as a part of the program change, "Change\_Course\_Credits" proposal forms for each course with revised credit hours must also be submitted.

<b>PROPOSAL TO CHANGE EXISTING PROGRAM</b> check no than one of the following	
Revise requirements for existing major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for a concentration within an existing major	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for an existing degree program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for existing certificate program	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revise requirements for existing minor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation Date: FALL semester ear:	2020
<b>PROPOSAL TO CREATE NEW PROGRAM NOT REQUIRING STATE ACTION</b> check no more that one of the following	
New concentration within existing major	Name:
New minor	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	
Implementation Date semester and year :	Fall 2020

## REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL PROPOSALS FOR PROGRAM CHANGE OR FOR NEW PROGRAMS NOT REQUIRING STATE APPROVAL:

- Rationale statement (Why is this additional program needed? What purposes will it serve?)
- 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.) If the proposal involves changes in course credit hours as a part of the program change, "Change\_Course\_Credits" proposal forms for each course with revised credit hours must also be submitted.
- Catalog Copy (Provide the complete Catalog Description for the proposed new program)
- 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\*: Margaret Ray

Date: 8/8/2019

CCC Chair Approval: [Signature]

Date: 10/7/19

Dean Approval: [Signature]

Date: 10/17/19

\*COB and COE proposals approved by the Associate Dean.

**BEFORE** consideration by the UCC, the proposal must be approved the three levels noted above. Approval by the UCC, UFC, and Provost\*\* are noted on the proposal "status history" at the UCC web site.

**\*\*Provost approval is required in cases of proposals for new concentrations, new minors, new majors that do not involve a new degree, or program changes involving changes to credit hours of courses in the program's requirements.**

Changes to the requirements for the economics major:

- 1) "either ECON 374 or 375" changed to ECON 375

Currently economics majors must choose to complete either the History of Economic Thought course OR the American Economic History course. This proposal is to change the major to require students complete the American Economic History course.

Rationale: The content and approach of these two courses are very different. The change to require only one of the two courses makes students' core course experience more consistent and creates a base of common knowledge for students in the capstone course and for the major.

A survey of universities in Virginia found that economic history is listed as a course in most economics departments, while only one university offers history of economic thought. The evolution of the discipline has led to a decreased emphasis on the history of thought. We would like our major to reflect this trend while maintaining the requirement of the interdisciplinary, liberal arts approach used in our American Economic History course.

Finally, given the decreased emphasis on the history of economic thought in the discipline, staffing ECON 374 has become increasingly difficult and focusing on American Economic History as the required course allows us to ensure the ability to staff our core courses with full time faculty into the future.

- 2) Add 3 credits in ECON 490 (Experiential Learning) as a major requirement.

Given the emphasis on experiential learning in the economics discipline and at UMW, we would like to add an explicit requirement that students complete ECON 490. We plan to add options for 490 courses to include workforce readiness and mentored internship options in addition to our existing experiential learning options. All of the ECON 490 options will be tailored specifically for economics students and help prepare them to use their knowledge and skills outside the classroom and after graduation. ECON 490 courses do not need approval outside the department.

- 3) Reduce the number of required "additional credits in upper division economics" from 15 to 12 to keep the required number of credits the same after adding the requirement for ECON 490.
- 4) Delete "No more than six credits in any one experiential learning course may count toward the major." With the requirement for 490 and a nine hour limit on experiential learning courses, the limit for 499 and 491 is already 6 hours. That is, every student will have three hours of 490, so they

only have 6 hours left for other experiential learning credits since there is a total limit of 9 hours of experiential learning courses.

These changes create no impact outside the economics department. There are minimal impacts within the department. Given the difficulty staffing Econ 374 we have already shifted to providing the required seats for majors to fulfill the current requirement with Econ 375. Most (or all) of our majors currently fulfill their experiential learning requirement within the department. The change in the requirement will allow for more varied options for experiential learning in the department. Our 490 courses are already offered as scheduled courses that are part of faculty members' regular teaching load.

\*Note: a course change request has been submitted for Econ 490 to change the course from variable credit to 3 hours.

## **Requirements for the Major in Economics**

Thirty-nine (39) credits, to include

ECON 201 – Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON 202 – Principles of Microeconomics

ECON 300 – Introduction to Economic Analysis

ECON 303 – Microeconomics

ECON 304 – Macroeconomics

ECON 361 – Introductory Econometrics

ECON 462 – Advanced Economic Analysis

Either ECON 374 – History of Economic Thought or ECON 375 – American Economic History

fifteen (15) additional credits in upper-level economics courses. No more than nine (9) hours in experiential learning courses (ECON 490, ECON 491, and ECON 499) may count toward the major. No more than six (6) credits in any one experiential learning course may count toward the major.

ECON 300, 361, and 462 are part of a three course sequence and must be taken in order.

## **Proposed Requirements for the Major in Economics**

Thirty-nine (39) credits, to include

ECON 201**B** – Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON 202**B** – Principles of Microeconomics

ECON 300 – Introduction to Economic Analysis

ECON 303 – Microeconomics

ECON 304 – Macroeconomics

ECON 361**A** – Introductory Econometrics

~~Either ECON 374 – History of Economic Thought or~~ ECON 375 – American Economic History

ECON 462 – Advanced Economic Analysis

**ECON 490 - Experiential Learning**

~~fifteen (15)~~ twelve (12) additional credits in upper-level economics courses. No more than nine (9) hours in experiential learning courses (ECON 490, 491, and 499) may count toward the major. ~~No more than six (6) credits in any one experiential learning course may count toward the major.~~

ECON 300, 361, and 462 are part of a three course sequence and must be taken in order.