UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Susan Detmer, chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: October 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Minor in International Business for the Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm) program

DECISION REQUESTED: It is recommended:
That Council approve the minor in International Business for the Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm) program to replace the Global Business Stream and Advanced Global Business Stream, effective May 2021.

PURPOSE:
University Council has the authority to approve new fields of study, including minors.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:
As part of the curricular renewal project underway within the Edwards School of Business, the college seeks to introduce a minor in International Business. This minor will replace the existing Global Business Stream and the Advanced Global Business Stream, which were costly for the college to deliver.

In reviewing the curricula of 15 Canadian business programs, 13 of those programs offer a major in International Business. The Edwards School of Business is not prepared at this point to support a major in International Business, but wants to ensure that USask students are provided with the opportunity for this area of study. The college also sees a minor as a good stepping stone towards a major and a good way to gauge interest and engagement with the area of study.

Students seeking to enroll in the minor must be enrolled in the B.Comm program and must complete the requirements to be awarded the minor. The minor will be reflected on the student transcript and parchment.

Students will be required to take COMM 340: Introduction to International Business, choose two courses from a list of COMM and non-COMM elective options, and will be required to take 9 cu while participating in an Edwards-approved International study abroad term or course. Students will be able to apply for travel bursaries and awards for the Study Aboard portion of the program.
CONSULTATION:
The Academic Programs Committee reviewed the proposal for this minor at its September 9, 2020 meeting. The committee raised concerns about how students would meet the study abroad requirements, given the current global pandemic. The proponents indicated that the minor will not be available for students to enroll in until September 2021 and that students would be able to complete the study abroad requirements at any point during their time in program. Further, the Edwards School of Business has been discussing possibilities for virtual study abroad programs. The Academic Programs Committee voted to recommend that Council approve this minor.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposal for Academic or Curricular Change – International Business Minor
Proposal for Academic or Curricular Change

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

Title of proposal: International Business Minor

Field(s) of Specialization: International Business Minor

College: Edwards School of Business

Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail):
Vicky Parohl
306-966-7362
parohl@edwards.usask.ca

Proposed date of implementation: September 2021

Proposal Document

1. Academic justification:

The new minor in International Business will replace the existing Global Business Stream and the Advanced Global Business Stream. The existing streams create an administrative and financial burden in the college as they require the facilitation and hiring of external FITT instructors. Students will get transcript and parchment recognition with the minor. Further, the new minor requires students to participate in a study abroad program.

Internationalization is central to the mission of the University of Saskatchewan. Providing programming in International Business helps to prepare Edwards students to work in the global economy. This program specifically addresses the University’s goal of internationalizing learning experiences by not only exposing students to topics related to international business, but by requiring them to participate in a study abroad program.

In a review of 15 Canadian business programs, 13 of those programs offered a major in International Business. A minor in International Business is the first step in providing a major in this area in the future.
2. Admissions
Students must be enrolled in the Bachelor of Commerce program. Students who complete
the requirements will be awarded with the minor.

3. Description of the program

The International Business minor provides business students with an opportunity to
increase their awareness of the international business environment and better prepare them
for a career in global business.

Students will be required to take COMM 340: Introduction to International Business, choose
two courses from a list of COMM and non-COMM elective options, and will be required to
take 9 cu while participating in an Edwards-approved International study abroad term or
course.

The courses a student takes at the University of Saskatchewan will provide them with an
introduction to international business, political studies, and economics issues. With a focus
on a global context, students will learn to apply their skills and understandings in non-
traditional/non-Canadian contexts. In participating in a study abroad program, students will
need to adapt to change in an international landscape – not only educationally, but socially
and culturally as well.

Program demand will be monitored on an ongoing basis. Should there be sufficient demand
and an appetite for further programming in this area, a major in International Business may
be explored in the future.

4. Consultation

The College of Arts and Science and the departments of Political Studies and
Economics were consulted. Please see attached letters of support.

5. Budget

As this program is replacing the existing Global Business Stream and Advanced
Global Business stream there are no new budgetary or teaching implications. In fact,
the School will save on the administrative burden of the program as well as the cost
of delivering FITT workshops.
Students will be able to apply for travel bursaries and awards for the Study Abroad portion of the program. (Not a new cost – these are already available to students).

There is no minimum number of students required for this program to be successful, as all these course and program options are already available to Edwards students. Maximum enrolment is dependent on the number of study abroad seats the School has available; however, we have high demand from our partner institutions and do not foresee this being an issue.

**College Statement**

The motion to introduce the proposed Minor in International Business to replace the existing Global Business and Advanced Global Business Streams was approved by Faculty Council on Monday, June 15, 2020.

**Consultation Forms** At the online portal, attach the following forms, as required

**Required for all submissions:**
- Consultation with the Registrar form

**CATALOGUE ENTRY**

The International Business minor provides business students with an opportunity to increase their awareness of the international business environment and better prepare them for a career in international business. Students who, in conjunction with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in a different subject, take 18 credit units or more of the course requirements below, will receive a minor in International Business.

The minor average in International Business will be calculated using the grades earned in all courses eligible to be included in the minor program requirements. Students must complete 9 credit units using courses offered by the University of Saskatchewan to meet the Residency requirement. Students will be required to complete 9 credit units with an international partner institution while on a study abroad term or partaking in a summer program.

Students interested in pursuing the International Business minor should meet with an advisor in the Edwards School of Business to discuss program requirements and funding opportunities for study abroad.

**Requirement**
- **COMM 340.3** Introduction to International Business
University of Saskatchewan Electives – Choose 6 credit units from the following

- COMM 456.3 International Marketing
- COMM 466.3 International Business Finance
- COMM 485.3
- COMM 495.3 Supply Chain Management
- COMM 498.3 Special Topics (Global Strategy & Organizational Design)
- ECON 254.3 International Trading System *
- ECON 256.3 International Monetary System *
- ECON 270.3 Development in Non Industrialized Countries *
- ECON 354.3 International Trade and Commercial Policy *
- ECON 356.3 International Monetary Economics *
- ECON 376.3 Energy Economics *
- IS 110.3 Global Issues
- IS 201.3 Global Citizenship Cultures and Coexistence
- IS 401.3 International Cooperation and Conflict *
- IS 402.3 International Development *
- One of IS 200.3 *, IS 211.3 Introduction to International Studies Development *, or IS 212.3 International Studies and Conflict
- POLS 245.3 Politics of Africa *
- POLS 341.3 Asian Government and Politics *
- POLS 349.3 Politics of Canadian Diversity *
- POLS 362.3 Global Political Economy *
- POLS 375.3 Canadian Foreign Policy in the Global Era *
- POLS 446.3 Development Challenges and Prospects *
- POLS 471.3 Globalization and Challenges

* Prerequisites Apply

International Requirement – 9 Credit Units

- COMM 498.3 – Edwards International Study Tour
- Course(s) taken while studying internationally through an approved Edwards summer program
- Course(s) taken while partaking in a U of S study abroad team with an approved Edwards partner institution

GLOBAL BUSINESS/ADVANCED GLOBAL BUSINESS STREAMS

Add the following note to the top of the GBS/AGBS page:

As of September 2021, no new students will be admitted to the Global Business Stream or Advanced Global Business Stream. Students interested in pursuing courses in international business should refer to the Edwards School of Business’ Global Business Minor
Program(s) to be deleted: Global Business and Advanced Global Business Streams

Effective date of termination: No longer admitting new students as of September 1, 2021

1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.
   - The Global and Advanced Global Business Streams are being replaced by a new International Business Minor

2. Technical information.
   2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.
      - COMM 456.3 International Marketing
      - COMM 466.3 International Business Finance
      - COMM 485.3
      - COMM 495.3 Supply Chain Management
      - COMM 498.3 Special Topics (Global Strategy & Organizational Design)
      - ECON 254.3 International Trading System *
      - ECON 256.3 International Monetary System *
      - ECON 270.3 Development in Non Industrialized Countries *
      - ECON 354.3 International Trade and Commercial Policy *
      - ECON 356.3 International Monetary Economics *
      - ECON 376.3 Energy Economics *
      - IS 110.3 Global Issues
      - IS 201.3 Global Citizenship Cultures and Coexistence
      - IS 401.3 International Cooperation and Conflict *
      - IS 402.3 International Development *
      - One of IS 200.3 *, IS 211.3 Introduction to International Studies Development *, or IS 212.3 International Studies and Conflict
      - POLS 245.3 Politics of Africa *
      - POLS 341.3 Asian Government and Politics *
      - POLS 349.3 Politics of Canadian Diversity *
      - POLS 362.3 Global Political Economy *
      - POLS 375.3 Canadian Foreign Policy in the Global Era *
      - POLS 446.3 Development Challenges and Prospects *
      - POLS 471.3 Globalization and Challenges

   2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc) used for this program.
      - FITT workshop facilitators

   2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.
      - NONE
2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.
   • 97 students are currently enrolled in various stages of the program

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.
   • In 2017/18 we had 9 students complete the AGBS and 6 complete the GBS
   • In 2018/19 we had 13 students complete the AGBS and 12 complete the GBS

3. Impact of the termination.
   Internal

3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their programs?
   • Students currently enrolled in the program will have the opportunity to finish the requirements of the GBS/AGBS or transfer to the new International Business Minor. As soon as the minor is approved Edwards advisors will reach out to students to either encourage them to finish FITT requirements in 20/21 or switch to the minor in 21. Edwards will continue to provide opportunities to participate in FITT workshops during the 20/21 year. After this time, students not interested in switching to the minor can still complete FITT workshops, they would just need to pay out of pocket. Funding may be available for students through co-curricular funding or the Hanlon fund.

3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?
   • N/A

3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?
   • While the streams do include several courses from other colleges, we anticipate that demand will remain the same (or increase) with the introduction of the International Business Minor (which includes the same courses). Colleges and departments have been consulted as a part of the proposal for a new minor in International Business.

3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?
   • N/A

3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?
   • Edwards has proposed an International Business Minor to replace this program

3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?
   • N/A
3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.
   - N/A

3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?
   - N/A

3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.
   - The School will save on the cost of facilitating the FITT workshops

External

3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).
   - We will no longer be hiring FITT to facilitate workshops in the School.

3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?
   - N/A

Other

3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?
   - N/A

3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.
   - Please see documentation for addition of new minor in International Business

(Optional)

4. Additional information. Programs which have not undergone recent formal reviews should provide additional relevant information about quality, demand, efficiency, unique features, and relevance to the province.
August 7, 2020

From: Dr. Gordon DesBrisay, Vice-Dean Academic, College of Arts and Science

Attn: College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies; University Council

Re: Letter of Support for the proposed International Business Minor in the Edwards School of Business

Dear Colleagues,

I write on behalf of the College of Arts and Science to express our full support for the new International Business Minor proposed by the Edwards School of Business.

A majority of the elective courses comprising the Minor – International Studies, Political Studies, and Economics courses – are offered by our college. As the correspondence included in this package shows, the two departments concerned, Economics and Political Studies, are entirely supportive of the initiative. Our college offers a Global Studies Certificate that involves many of the same classes, and we are pleased to see that the Edwards initiative will not impinge upon students’ ability to pursue that certificate, as well.

The proposed International Business Minor is an exciting collaborative and interdisciplinary venture that promises to serve students well, and we wish the Edwards School of Business every success with it.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Memorandum

To: Noreen Mahoney, Associate Dean Student & Degree Programs, Edwards School of Business
From: Joel Bruneau, Department Head, Department of Economics, College of Arts and Science
Date: June 23, 2020
Re: Support for the proposed minor in International Business by Edwards School of Business

The Department of Economics wholly endorses the proposed Minor in International Business put forward by the Edwards School of Business. The minor lists the following classes from Economics:

- ECON 254.3 International Trading System
- ECON 256.3 International Monetary System
- ECON 270.3 Development in Non Industrialized Countries
- ECON 354.3 International Trade and Commercial Policy
- ECON 356.3 International Monetary Economics
- ECON 376.3 Energy Economics

The courses listed all have significant focus on international markets, trade, finance, and/or development and are well suited to a Minor in International Business.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joel Bruneau | Associate Professor and Head
Department of Economics, University of Saskatchewan
9 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 5A5, Canada
Office: Arts 820 | Tel: 306.966.5198
Email: joel.bruneau@usask.ca

Cc: Dr. Mobinul Huq, Undergraduate Chair, Department of Economics, College of Arts and Science
June 26, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to indicate the Department of Political Studies’ support for the inclusion of the requested classes in the proposed minor in International Business to be offered by the Edwards School of Business.

The requested courses are POLS 245.3, 341.3, 349.3, 362.3, 375.3, 446.3 and 471.3. In addition, courses from the International Studies program (an interdisciplinary degree that is housed in Political Studies) are requested for inclusion, which we also support (IS 110.3, 201.3, 401.3, 402.3 and one of IS 200.3, 211.3 or 212.3).

Each of these courses, in their own way, touch on the intersections of government, civil society and the economy in comparative and international perspective.

Edwards students pursuing the minor in International Business would be well-served in having their elective options include the requested POLS and IS classes.

Please let me know of any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Neil Hibbert, PhD
Acting Department Head
Department of Political Studies
University of Saskatchewan