

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: Political Thought Minor

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Specifics (see instructions):

Discontinue the Political Thought Minor.

Rationale (see instructions):

In response to the most recent APR, the Department over the past two years has pursued comprehensive curriculum reform. The primary goal of this reform effort was to reorganize the minors. In this regard, the overall recommendation of the external reviewers was that we "streamline minors and consider cross-cutting themes." The reviewers noted that our minor programs were too numerous and too narrowly focused around traditional sub-field concentrations.

Therefore, as part of an overall revision of our minor programs, we decided to eliminate two of our minors, one of which is the Political Thought minor.

Discontinuing this minor will have very little impact on students because when we last inquired, only one student had declared a Political Thought minor. This student can certainly complete this minor if she/he desires. In addition, this minor consists of POLI courses exclusively, so no other Department will be affected by this action. And beyond that, this minor is not included in the current Undergraduate Catalog. (This minor was inadvertently "dropped" from the UG catalog around 2014 and despite some effort to get it re-established in the catalog it remains unlisted.)