

Program Elimination Proposal for the Bachelor of Arts in Latin (follows up on Program Suspension Proposal of January 28, 2011).

The University of Maine undertook a review of its degree programs in the 2009-2010 academic year. President Kennedy charged the Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG) with evaluating and prioritizing all academic programs at the University of Maine. In its final report, APPWG recommended suspension of the Latin major and exploration of alternative models of focused instruction in this area. President Kennedy accepted this recommendation. The Bachelor of Arts in Latin was suspended in January 2011. In accordance with the protocol for Academic Program Elimination established by the University of Maine Faculty Senate’s Program Creation and Reorganization Review Committee (PCRRC), this is a proposal for program elimination of the Bachelor of Arts in Latin.

Five-Year Summary Data.

A summary of the number of majors, number of degrees conferred, course enrollment levels at the 100, 200, 300, and 400 levels, and faculty FTE associated with the program is included in the following table. The number of majors is based upon fall head counts.

Five-Year Summary: Latin

(Data from Office of Institutional Studies)

	# of majors	# of degrees conferred	Course enrollments: 100 level	Course enrollments: 200 level	Course enrollments: 300 level	Course enrollments: 400 level	Faculty FTE associated with program
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2007-2008	3	0	73	18	0	11	1
2008-2009	5	0	82	16	0	9	1
2009-2010	6	1	92	26	0	12	1
2010-2011	2	2	60	5*	0	10	1
2011-2012	1	1	61	0	0	5**	1

*Fall 2010 enrollment for 200 level courses is 0.

**Spring 2012 enrollment for 400 level courses is 0.

The BA program in Latin is housed in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics. There is one full-time regular faculty member in Latin. This faculty member has taught upper level Latin courses. Typically, these courses have very low enrollment. She has frequently taught sections with enrollments of one or two students as uncompensated overloads. Lower level Latin courses have been taught by adjunct faculty.

Rationale.

The primary rationale for the elimination of the BA in Latin is low enrollment. Four degrees were conferred from AY 2007-2008 to 2011-2012. The full-time faculty member who teaches the upper level Latin courses has multiple demands on her expertise: she currently serves as Interim Director of the Peace and Reconciliation Studies program, teaches courses in this program and occasionally in Women's Studies, the Honors College. This faculty member is also responsible for the Classical Studies minor. This faculty member's valuable expertise can be utilized more effectively if her workload does not include the Latin courses required for the very few students who pursue the Latin major. She will continue to serve as mentor and supervisor to the adjunct faculty teaching the lower level Latin courses.

Elimination of the Latin major will not end instruction in Latin at the University of Maine. It is anticipated that the university will continue to offer lower level courses in Latin. Adjunct faculty will be used for these courses.

Elimination of the Latin major is unlikely to affect enrollment at the university. The five-year data presented above shows that very few students come to the University of Maine to study Latin.

The Department of Modern Languages and Classics underwent a program review in the 2010-2011 academic year. The external reviewers offered several recommendations to the department, among them the elimination of the Latin major. The department is currently engaged in reconfiguring its degree programs and continues to explore how language instruction can be modified to better utilize technologies and innovative pedagogies. Given the low level of student interest in Latin and the small size of the Latin faculty, the question for MLC will be how to best use its limited resources to offer Latin instruction.

Relationship of Program Elimination to campus mission and other programs on campus.

The CLAS strategic plan seeks to grow enrollment, support research/scholarship, engage students and build relationships with community partners. These goals will be pursued in the context of a fiscally constrained environment. The difficult decision to eliminate the Latin major is consistent with the college's goals in that it frees up resources needed to preserve a poorly enrolled degree program so that these resources can be used to support higher-demand programs.

Elimination of the Bachelor of Arts program in Latin has little likelihood of exerting an impact on other programs. While students in the International Affairs major can choose Latin as a concentration, the fact is no student has ever exercised this option.

Faculty Retrenchment/Reassignment.

The responsibilities of the one regular full-time faculty member teaching in Latin will change minimally as a result of the program elimination. The expectation that she will provide upper level Latin courses for Latin majors will be eliminated. Her time has already been reassigned so that she is engaged in administrative and teaching duties that better serve the institution.

Impact of Program Elimination on Current Students.

As of the fall 2012 semester, there is one student remaining who has declared the Latin major. The CLAS dean has tasked MLC to devise a plan to allow the one remaining current major to complete his degree. Should this student continue in the major, the one faculty member in Latin will provide the needed advance instruction though an individualized program.

Timetable for program elimination.

Program elimination becomes effective August 31, 2013.

Input obtained from discussion with the Associated Faculties of the University of Maine System.

There is one AFUM represented faculty member in Latin. Her work responsibilities will not be impacted by the elimination of the BA degree program in Latin. For the past few years, and currently, she is reassigned to areas outside of the Latin program.

This proposal was shared with AFUM representative, James McClymer, and he was invited to comment. Professor McClymer responded that he did not have any comments to make or concerns to raise.

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