Offering Academic Minors - Change to Presidential Policy Memorandum 11c

Policy Memorandum No. 203

Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies & Policies: April 24, 2000
Approved by University Council: October 2, 2000
Approved by the President: October 2, 2000
Effective: Fall Semester 2000

The University Council, on recommendation of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, unanimously approved a resolution concerning academic minors.

Following is the text of the resolution as adopted by University Council.

WHEREAS, current university policy does not allow a minor in a department that does not offer a major, and

WHEREAS, a department that does not offer a major can currently offer a concentration, and

WHEREAS, the term minor has a level of understanding and prestige that the term concentration does not, and

WHEREAS, many of the university’s current concentrations are equally as rigorous as current minors,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that minors no longer be restricted to academic departments that offer a major. Minors may be offered by an academic department, school, or college, or the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. Advising will be the responsibility of the academic unit that proposes to administer the minor. The revised definitions of a minor and a concentration will be as follows:

Minor a course of study offered by an academic department, school, or college, or the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies for not less than 18 hours, with no less than 6 hours at the 3000- or 4000-level. Minors are designated as requiring approval through the curricular governance system. Minors are to be completed at the same time as the student’s primary major.

Concentration a course of study offered by an academic department, school, or college, or the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies for not less than 15 hours. Concentrations are designated as requiring approval through the curricular governance system. Concentrations are to be completed at the same time as the student’s primary major.

CWS:jcd

President's Policy Memorandum

URL: http://purl.vt.edu/vtdocs/policies/ppm203