Office of the Provost

Proposed Change to an Existing Degree: Academic Component

Please answer all relevant questions below. Consultation with the appropriate Associate Provost on a draft of the proposal is recommended.

Using the relevant template, please submit a budget even if no additional resources are needed.

Title of Degree (e.g., Bachelor of Arts in History):

Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology (also BA/MA in Archaeology)

1. Please provide the name, title, email address, and phone number of the primary contact person for this academic program:

Prof. Ricardo Elia, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Archaeology Dept., elia@bu.edu, 617-358-1648

2. Please describe briefly the proposed change to the existing degree:

We propose to change the AR503 requirement (field school) for undergraduate majors. This change will also apply to the BA/MA in Archaeology, which requires students to fulfill all the requirements of the Archaeology BA. All other requirements for the BA will remain the same.

The current required course AR503 (Archaeological Field Methods: Survey & Excavation) ensures that Archaeology majors participate in an archaeological field school offered by the Department. Alternatively, majors may take non-BU field schools and transfer credits equivalent to AR503; in exceptional cases, substantial prior field experience may allow the student to waive the requirement. The proposed revision would expand and enhance these options by also allowing students to take AR556 (Archaeological Field Research) in lieu of AR503. AR556 is an existing course rubric, similar to an independent study, that allows students to engage in supervised archaeological research either with a BU project or an approved non-BU project. In addition, the proposed change would expand opportunities for majors by allowing them to focus on archaeological areas of interest to them beyond the traditional activities of survey and excavation that are the hallmark of AR503. For example, majors could engage in a variety of
field research, including laboratory analysis, remote sensing, geoarchaeology, underwater archaeology, and heritage management. Under the new change, the Field School Requirement would become a Field Experience Requirement.

3. Please provide a rationale for the proposed change to the existing degree:

For most of its existence the department has annually offered AR503 (Archaeology Field Methods: Survey and Excavation) through one or more faculty-directed archaeological field schools (most recently, the Menorca field school in Spain and the Guatemala field school during the spring term). Majors have also been able to take a non-BU field school to fulfill the AR503 requirement with prior approval from the department. Archaeological field schools are formal programs that teach students techniques of archaeological survey, excavation, and laboratory methods in the context of active field projects.

At the present time the department is not offering AR503 and may not be able to offer it in the next few years. The proposed change would enhance and expand field research opportunities for our majors in two ways: 1) by allowing them to fulfill the requirement by taking either AR503 or AR556 Archaeological Field Research Experience (“supervised original research in excavation, survey, or field laboratory situation, as part of a field study program”), and 2) by allowing students to focus their fieldwork on specific aspects of archaeological research that interest them (e.g., artifact analysis, geoarchaeology research, remote sensing, heritage management) instead of traditional archaeological survey and excavation, which are required in AR503. AR556 is an existing Archaeology course and can be set up with the student’s advisor or other faculty member much like a directed study. In the proposed change, majors would still be able to fulfill the requirement by transferring credits from a previously approved, non-BU field school, and, in exceptional cases, they would still be able to have the requirement waived if they show documentation of substantial prior field experience.

4. Please describe how the proposed change(s) advances the Strategic Plans of the department, of the school/college, and of the University:

Adoption of the revised field experience policy will advance the Learning Outcomes developed for the BA in Archaeology during our strategic planning process, especially items 2) “use analytical methods from archaeology to understand past human culture,” and 3) “conduct archaeological field research and scientific analyses to investigate material remains.” The proposed change would also advance several commitments identified in the CAS 2010–2020 Strategic Plan, especially 3) enhancing undergraduate education; 4) improving research opportunities for undergraduates, and increasing undergraduate participation in, research; and 6) connecting to the history, life, and culture of Boston and New England (by enhancing
archaeological research opportunities for undergraduates in the Boston area, e.g., through projects with the office of the Boston City Archaeologist). This change is also fully consistent with the University’s strategic plan (2015), which calls for enhancing the undergraduate educational environment, emphasizing interdisciplinary research, and extending the reach of BU’s educational programs.

5. Please list all the program requirements for the current and revised programs so that review committees can easily see the changes: (expand the table as needed and denote new courses in bold print)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current program</th>
<th>Revised program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AR101 Introduction to Archaeology</td>
<td>AR101 Introduction to Archaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR307 Archaeological Science</td>
<td>AR307 Archaeological Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR450 Method and Theory in Archaeology</td>
<td>AR450 Method and Theory in Archaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR503 Archaeological Field Methods: Survey &amp; Excavation or approved non-BU field school</td>
<td>Field Research: AR503, AR556 (Arch. Field Research Experience), or approved non-BU field school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One AR area course</td>
<td>One AR area course</td>
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<tr>
<td>One AR topical course</td>
<td>One AR topical course</td>
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<tr>
<td>One AR technical course</td>
<td>One AR technical course</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 additional AR courses</td>
<td>2 additional AR courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA115 or MA213 Statistics</td>
<td>MA115 or MA213 Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN101 Introduction to Anthropology</td>
<td>AN101 Introduction to Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 other AN course</td>
<td>1 other AN course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Is this change a result of program learning outcomes assessment and/or academic program review? If yes, please describe:

In part, yes. During our APR, the external review identified that many undergraduates expressed an interest in fulfilling their field school requirement through outside programs where the research or skill set was more closely aligned to their own interests than the two BU field schools that were being offered at the time (“Academic Review,” Nov. 28, 2013, p. 6). Other reasons for this proposal include our desire to improve and enhance opportunities for our majors and the need to provide an alternative to department-sponsored field schools, since we are not offering any this year and for the short-term future.
7. Please list learning outcomes for the revised program:

Learning outcomes for the BA in Archaeology will remain the same but will be strengthened by the proposed revision. The field school revision will particularly affect nos. 2 and 3, below.

Students graduating with a major in Archaeology are able to:
1 Demonstrate knowledge of archaeological theory and of the archaeological record of multiple world regions
2 Use analytical methods from archaeology to understand past human cultures
3 Conduct archaeological field research and scientific analyses to investigate material remains
4 Discuss contemporary debates concerning the study and understanding of the past, including ethical issues relevant to preservation

8. How does the change place your program in the context of programs at peer institutions?

Since its founding in 1982, the Archaeology Department has always believed that participation in archaeological field research is an essential element of undergraduate education in archaeology and has required its majors to take a field school. The Archaeology faculty unanimously reaffirmed this belief in its faculty meeting of March 28, 2016. Although many undergraduate programs in archaeology (typically a concentration within an Anthropology department) doubtless encourage their students to take field schools, we know of none that require it. A survey of our closest peer institutions (Brown, UCLA, Arizona, Penn) confirms this impression. Brown University’s Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World offers an undergraduate concentration in Archaeology and the Ancient World. This program allows students to apply for transfer credit for study abroad fieldwork programs but does not require a field school. At the UCLA Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, there is an MA/PhD program in archaeology but no BA concentration; undergraduates may take archaeology through the Anthropology Department but there is no field school requirement. The University of Pennsylvania offers a BA in Archaeological Anthropology through the Anthropology Department but there is no stated fieldwork requirement. Likewise, the University of Arizona offers archaeology courses through its Anthropology Department but no fieldwork requirement is stated.

9. How does the change affect other academic units and existing programs at the University?

The proposed change would substitute the new field school requirement for the existing one in the new BA/MA program in Archaeology. We believe this would be an improvement and offer more options for our BA/MA students. In addition, the change would affect the requirements of the existing Archaeology concentration or track of the MA in Preservation Studies. Currently AR503 is required for that concentration; the revised requirement would enhance and expand opportunities for MA students in that concentration to participate in field research.
letter of support for the proposed change from Professor Daniel Bluestone, director of the Preservation Studies Program.

10. How will you notify current students of the proposed changes and implement the requirements? How will you assure that current students are able to complete their programs under the requirements that were in place at the time of their matriculation?

Notification to students via the 2017–2018 bulletin, the Archaeology Department website, and AR faculty advising; emails to all current Archaeology majors and to the Archaeology Society (undergraduate club); also notification to CAS Advising and the Preservation Program.

11. Please document any implications that the change has on professional accreditation or licensure at the program or school/college level:

N/A.

12. If the change includes a new course or courses, please indicate who will teach the course and how the rest of that faculty member’s course load will be affected (courses(s) redistributed to other faculty, taught less frequently, no longer taught, etc.). Please be specific about affected courses. This information should be reflected in the budget form that accompanies the proposal, e.g. the cost for a new faculty member to teach the new course or a redistributed course:

Faculty will continue to offer opportunities as part of normal teaching and research projects. No new courses are needed.

13. Please list other resources needed including new staff, IT, technology enhanced classrooms, office space, and other facilities. This information should be reflected in the budget:

No new resources are needed.

14. Please describe the budgetary impact that the proposed change will have:

None.
15. Please provide the bulletin copy (exactly as it should appear) related to the proposed change, including all text connected to the program (requirements, description, learning outcomes) [NOTE: this bulletin copy is in a final form and cannot be changed]:

For the sake of comparison we provide the current bulletin copy followed by the proposed bulletin copy:

*Current Archaeology BA Field School Policy (Bulletin Copy)*

Every major in archaeology must complete CAS AR 503, a course in archaeological field methods, for 4 credits. It is expected that the requirement for AR 503 will be satisfied by participation in one of Boston University’s field schools. Credits may be transferred in exceptional cases from a field school in another institution. Prior approval from the student’s advisor is required for transfers, and the field school must carry the equivalent of 4 Boston University academic credits. Transfer credits from field schools at other institutions will be approved only if the field school satisfies the requirements for AR 503, which are listed on the Department of Archaeology website. In certain exceptional circumstances, extensive or unusual fieldwork that does not carry academic credit may be used to satisfy the requirement for AR 503, but prior approval from the student’s advisor, the director of undergraduate studies, and the chair of the Department of Archaeology is required.

*Proposed Archaeology Field Experience Policy (Bulletin Copy)*

Every major in Archaeology must participate in an approved archaeological field experience, which may include survey, excavation, laboratory analysis, heritage management, remote sensing, or other research relating to an archaeological project. The field experience requirement may be satisfied by successfully completing AR503, AR556, or another supervised field program. Prior approval from the student’s academic advisor is required. If a non-BU field program carries academic credit, prior approval for transfer of at least 4 academic credits at BU should be obtained. In certain exceptional circumstances, extensive or unusual fieldwork that does not carry academic credit may be used to satisfy the requirement for AR 503, but prior approval from the student’s advisor, the director of undergraduate studies, and the chair of the Department of Archaeology is required. For details about this policy, majors should consult with their advisor.

The following questions relate to a change in the delivery format of an existing degree.

16. For proposed changes to delivery format of existing programs, please provide an indication of non-standard scheduling for the proposed format:
17. Please provide information on a marketing plan and partner for the proposed changed delivery format:

18. If applicable, please provide a request for non-standard tuition rates for the proposed changed delivery format:

19. What charges (tuition, fees, etc.) are to be applied to this program? How will the charges be structured?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition/Fee Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fulltime Tuition</td>
<td>$21,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Services Fee</td>
<td>$145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Wellness Fee</td>
<td>$160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee (bundled charge)</td>
<td>$27,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition component</td>
<td>$21,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees component</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Examples:*
Dear Curtis,

I have reviewed the Archaeology Department’s proposed revision of its AR503/field school policy.

The new policy promises to offer our students increased opportunities for gaining field experience in archaeological research, and I am happy to support it on behalf of the Preservation Studies Program. This change is compatible with the Specialized Curricular Track in Archaeology used by students in the Preservation Studies.

Best wishes,

Daniel Bluestone

Director, Preservation Studies Program
Professor, American and New England Studies
Professor, History of Art and Architecture
Boston University
226 Bay State Road, Room 104
Boston, MA 02215