Classical Studies

**Contact:** Stephen Scully, Associate Professor,  [sscully@bu.edu](mailto:sscully@bu.edu)

**Comments:** I write in full support of your proposed revisions for your five majors, including your Comparative Literature major which may involve students in Classical Studies. I applaud the addition of the two new courses required at the entry and exit points for all WLL majors (the Gateway course and the Capstone course). They, combined with a reduction in the number of required courses from 13 (or, in some cases, 12) to 11, will help retain rigor in all the majors while also making them both tighter and more flexible. Excellent work.

Center for the Study of Europe

**Contact:** Elizabeth Amrien, Assistant Director,  [edamrien@bu.edu](mailto:edamrien@bu.edu)
See Cognate Comment form.

Center for the Study of Asia

**Contact:** Catherine Yeh, Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature and Director of the Center for the Study of Asia,  [yeh@bu.edu](mailto:yeh@bu.edu) or Wen-Hao Tien, Assistant Director of the Center for the Study of Asia,  [whtien@bu.edu](mailto:whtien@bu.edu)

**Comments:** BU Center for the Study of Asia welcomes the revised WLL major proposals and looks forward to working with WLL to foster more double majors between Asian Studies and Chinese, Japanese, and Comparative Literature.

English

**Contact:** Maurice Lee, Professor of English,  [molee@bu.edu](mailto:molee@bu.edu)
See Cognate Comment form.
History of Art & Architecture

Contact: Alice Tseng, Associate Professor, aytseng@bu.edu
See Cognate Comment form.

International Relations

Contact: William Grimes, Professor of International Relations and Politics, wgrimes@bu.edu

Comments: These changes seem entirely reasonable to me. You’ve also done a good job tying it to the APR and strategic planning exercises - it’s nice to see that the APRs can lead to positive changes! Best of luck with the approval process.

Linguistics

Contact: Carol Neidle, Director of the Linguistics Program, carol@bu.edu
See Cognate Comment form.

Romance Studies

Contact: Odile Cazenave, Chair of Romance Studies, cazenave@bu.edu

Comments: I have looked at the proposed changes for your five majors in WLL. The rationale for each major (and as a whole) is most convincing. So are the crafting and detailing of the reduction of courses to 11 credits, especially in the light of requirements for these majors at other peer universities. The description of learning assessments and set objectives is clear. I am favorable to these changes; these, I believe, should be enticing to students as well.
January 20, 2017

To:    Susan Jackson and CAS Curriculum Committee  
CC:    Keith Vincent, Margaret Litvin, Alex Nulty  
From: Cathie Jo Martin, Director, Center for the Study of Europe  
Subj:  Cognate Approval for Changes to Majors within WLL

I write to provide cognate approval for the proposed changes to majors in Chinese, German, Japanese, Russian, and Comparative Literature. The newly designed gateway and capstone courses will encourage comparative thinking across languages, and the reduction in the total number of courses required for the major from 13 to 11 should make it easier for students to double major or minor in European Studies, while making advising less complicated.

We anticipate that the new majors in Russian, German, and Comparative Literature in particular will work well for students planning double majors or minors in European Studies, and further, that students majoring in other World Languages will be able to count courses on Europe as part of the new “breadth” requirement.

We also applaud the rationale behind the proposed changes, namely, to “develop students’ understanding of how language, culture, and thought interrelate in societies past and present—through the study of literature” through an emphasis on world literature.

Kindly let me know if I can provide further comment.

Cathie Jo Martin
Cognate Comment Request

TO: Name: Maurice Lee
Department: English

FROM: Name: Keith Vincent
Department: World Language and Literature

Telephone: 8-6669  E-mail kvincent@bu.edu

Course Number: many
Course or Program Title: WLL—Chines, German, Japanese, Russian, and Comparative Lit

Date: 1/24/17

Our Department would like to request cognate comments on this course (or program). A complete proposal is attached for your review. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindly return the signed original to me by at your earliest convenience, but preferably by no later than Oct. 5th so that I may include your comments when submitting our proposal for review and approval. Please do not send any cognate letters directly to the dean’s office. Thank you.

COMMENTS:

This is obviously a large undertaking involving lots of thought and coordination. The English department has no objections and looks forward to serving any WLL students who will take EN courses under the revised programs, whether as part of exigent requirements for WLL majors or as part of the new ONE WLL breadth elective that now includes EN courses.

Please explain fully any objections.

Signature: Maurice Lee  Date: 1/24/17
Title: Chair and Professor of English
Date: January 10, 2017

Cognate Comment Request

TO: Name: Alice Y. Tseng
Department: History of Art & Architecture

FROM: Name: Keith Vincent
Department: World Literatures & Languages
Telephone: ___________________ E-mail ___________________

Course Number: ______________

Course or Program Title: Revisions in majors: Chinese, German, Japanese, Russian, and Comparative Literature

Our Department would like to request cognate comments on this course (or program). A complete proposal is attached for your review. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindly return the signed original to me by ____________ so that I may include your comments when submitting our proposal for review and approval. Please do not send any cognate letters directly to the dean’s office. Thank you.

COMMENTS:
I am happy to support the proposed revisions to the majors in Chinese, German, Japanese, Russian, and Comparative Literature. WLL majors have been welcome presences in HAA courses, notably for bringing their specialized interest in the languages and literatures of specific world regions to the study of the visual arts. The new emphasis on WLL majors developing intercultural literacy and global perspectives will allow further engagement of WLL and HAA students in courses that cross world regions and cultures. The reduction of required courses from 13 to 11 should also serve as incentive for students to pursue WLL and HAA coursework in conjunction through double majoring.

One regret on the HAA end is the currently unfilled position of History of Chinese Art and Architecture to contribute to the dynamic revision of the WLL majors, especially the BA in Chinese Language & Literature. Courses in Chinese art and architecture are crucial to the understanding of Chinese history, culture, and visual arts, and we hope that the search for a new faculty member in History of Chinese Art and Architecture will be approved for AY 2017-18 in order for WLL and HAA majors to enroll in Chinese art and architecture courses beginning in fall 2018.

Signature: ___________________ Date: January 10, 2017
Title: Chair ad Interim, History of Art & Architecture
CAROL:

Overall, this seems like a good proposal.

But I do have a question about the breadth requirement:

Is there a reason why only LX 250 is allowed to count from among the linguistics offerings? It would seem reasonable to allow students to potentially take LX 250 and an additional (higher level) linguistics course as the 2 courses allowed for “breadth.” In the other categories, i.e., courses in WLL, RS, English, and Classics, there is no limit to a single course per category, I assume. The wording is a little bit unclear in that regard.

Perhaps:

1. Addition of a “breadth” requirement allowing students in language majors to count one or two courses outside their language of specialization.

Courses fulfilling the “breadth” requirement include: all courses in WLL, CAS LX 250 Introduction to Linguistics and higher level linguistics courses, and literature courses in Romance Studies, English, or Classical Studies.

What do you think?

Thanks so much.

best wishes,
Carol

KEITH:

Looking at this more closely, we really don’t mean to exclude the possibility of students doing more than one course in Linguistics for “breadth.” It is just that we wanted to mention LX 250 specifically. I think this should be clear in the language we are using for the bulletin in each case. Note that it also says “a literature course in Romance… etc” assuming only one breadth course. But then notes that student may add “an additional WLL elective” which could be any of the previous.

In any case, I can assure you that we mean to be flexible with this.

Does that make sense?
Keith

Japanese:

1 WLL elective, chosen in consultation with the advisor from all courses in WLL excluding those with focus on Japan. May also be satisfied by taking both CAS CC 101 and CAS CC 102, by LX250 Introduction to Linguistics, or by a literature course in Romance Studies, English, or Classics. Students wishing to do more comparative work may count an additional WLL elective in place of one of the four courses in Japanese language, literature and/or culture.

Chinese:

1 WLL elective, chosen in consultation with the advisor from all courses in WLL. May also be satisfied by LX250 Introduction to Linguistics or a literature course in Romance Studies, English, or Classics. Students wishing to do more comparative work may count an additional WLL elective in place of one of the four courses in Chinese language, literature and/or culture.

German:

1 WLL elective, chosen with approval of the advisor from all courses in WLL. May also be satisfied by taking both CAS CC 101 and CAS CC 102, by LX250 Introduction to Linguistics, or by a literature course in Romance Studies, English, or Classics. Students wishing to do more comparative work may count an additional WLL elective in place of one of the four courses in German literature, film, linguistics, culture or advanced language.

Russian:

1 WLL elective, chosen with approval of the advisor from all courses in WLL. May also be satisfied by taking both CAS CC 101 and CAS CC 102, by LX 250 Introduction to Linguistics, or a literature course in Romance Studies, English, or Classics. Students wishing to do more comparative work may count an additional WLL elective in place of one of the four courses in Russian language, literature and/or culture.

CAROL:

Hi Keith,

Excellent!

Glad to hear that :-}
I agree that it is useful to mention LX 250 explicitly, but I think it would be important to revise the language so that it is clear that the second breadth course could be a higher level linguistics course (the current phrasing excludes that possibility — your good intentions notwithstanding).

If you want to keep it in the singular, it could be:

May also be satisfied by taking both CAS CC 101 and CAS CC 102, by LX250 Introduction to Linguistics

or a higher level Linguistics course

, or by a literature course in Romance Studies, English, or Classics. Students wishing to do more comparative work may count an additional WLL elective in place of one of the four courses in Japanese language, literature and/or culture.

Could the wording be modified throughout — in whatever way you think best — to make it clear that LX 250 is not the only Linguistics course that can be used for the breadth requirement?

Many thanks, once again!

all best,
Carol

KEITH:

Thanks Carol. Yes, I think we can do that!