

MEMORANDUM

To: UAF Faculty Senate

Date: October 4, 2012

From: Mary F. Ehrlander, Director
Northern Studies Program

Re: Deletion of the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement

A. Person preparing the request: Mary F. Ehrlander, Director of Northern Studies

B. Reasons for deleting the request:

- a) lack of student demand;
- b) lack of program / faculty resources

C. Relation of program to other programs / summary of effects:

The program was built on introductory and capstone courses within Northern Studies and electives taught by the Political Science and History departments and Rural Development Program. Subsequently the Minor was required for the Bachelors in Emergency Management, but the School of Management no longer requires the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement.

We have had so few students taking the minor (with none in the past few years) that deleting the program will not affect History, Political Science or Rural Development. It will take a program off the books that has not been in demand for several years.

D. Summary of effects on personnel directly involved with the program:

The last time I taught the introductory course, I was not paid for teaching it. I taught the capstone course five times as an individual study. Thus much of my efforts with regard to the minor were uncompensated. Deleting the minor will recognize the reality that there is no demand for this program and CLA and Northern Studies do not have the capital or human resources to devote to this program.

E. Summary of the effects of deletion of the program on the department budget

None.

F. Information on current enrollment:

None.

II. Background Information on Deletion of Program Request for the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement

The original instructional program request is not available.

1. Identification of Program

The Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement was conceived as a program that would prepare students to be leaders in the north. The electives allowed students to prepare for leadership roles in local / state, national or international arenas.

2. Enrollment Information

Dr. Kleinfeld and I team-taught NORS 205: Leadership, Citizenship and Choice twice with enrollments of 15 (2003) and 13 (2005).

I taught the course alone twice with enrollments of 10 (2006) and 5 (2008).

I taught 5 students in NORS 486: Senior Seminar in Leadership and Civic Engagement, and these 5 graduated with minors in Leadership and Civic Engagement: Sara Speziale, Carolyn Curley, Tessa Korzeniewski, Robin Keesler, Meredith Cameron. I also taught one student who earned the Bachelors in Emergency Management: Dane Waisanen. These were all individual studies.

3. Dr. Kleinfeld and I were paid twice for 1/2 course overload to teach NORS 205. (2003 and 2005). I was paid once as an overload, and once I taught it without compensation. I never received compensation for teaching the capstone as an individual study. The Northern Studies Program never received resources for providing the Minor.

Note: We envisioned that as the program grew we would receive additional funding and I would teach the Leadership course rather than one of my other courses. However this vision never materialized.

III. Approval Signature Blocks

Mary F. Ehlers / Northern Studies Program 10-3-12
Department Head Date

[Signature] 12-7-12
Chair, Curriculum Council Date

[Signature] 12/07/12
Dean - CLA Date

President, UAF Faculty Senate Date

Chancellor Date

President Date

Board of Regents Date

IV. Executive Summary

The Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement was developed in the context of consideration of a Ph.D. Program in Leadership at UAF. Dr. Joseph Kan, Dean of the Graduate School encouraged those discussions. However, faculty concluded that without a single recognized expert in the field of Leadership Studies at UAF, we did not have the expertise amongst our faculty to support such a program.

Some faculty engaged in these discussions, along with Dr. Kan, came to the conclusion that a Minor in Leadership Development would prepare students for leadership roles in the north, and the Northern Studies Program was designated as an appropriate home for the program. Dr. Judith Kleinfeld and I shared a \$5,000 stipend for developing the program. We developed the proposal for the Minor, which drew upon courses in Political Science, History and Rural Development for its electives. We designed the introductory course: NORS 205: Leadership, Citizenship and Choice and the capstone course: NORS 486: Senior Seminar in Leadership and Civic Engagement. The capstone course placed students in internships and required readings that connected their internship experiences with theories in leadership.

Dr. Kleinfeld and I team taught Leadership, Citizenship and Choice twice with 15 and 13 students. I later taught the course with 10 and 5 students, the second time without compensation. I taught the capstone to 6 students as individual studies. All of them graduated with the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement.

There has been low demand for the Minor and low demand for the courses. Moreover, we noted that many of the students who were attracted to NORS 205: Leadership, Citizenship and Choice were more interested in the social aspects of leadership than in serious academic analysis of leadership theory.

We determined after a few years that there was neither a demand for the Minor nor the resources available within the Northern Studies Program or the College of Liberal Arts to continue offering the program. The School of Management no longer requires the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement for its Bachelor of Emergency Management degree program.