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 Email electronic copy (with scanned signatures) to jbharvie@alaska.edu

REQUEST FOR A NEW MINOR

SUBMITTED BY:

Department	Agriculture and Horticulture	College/School	SNRE
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See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures/> for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

TITLE OF MINOR:	Sustainable Agriculture	
	<i>*Number of credits required for completion (minimum is 15):</i>	18
<p><i>**Unless otherwise specified by the appropriate academic unit, a course may be used more than once toward fulfilling degree, certificate, major and minor requirements. Credit hours for these courses count only once toward total credits required for the degree or certificate. Certifying that [the student has] met all major and minor requirements is the responsibility of [the student's] department faculty, who notify the Registrar's Office." From the General University Requirements section of "How to Earn a Bachelor's Degree" in the UAF Catalog.</i></p>		
	<i>Do all the required courses currently exist?</i>	YES
<p><i>If not, list the corresponding New Course paperwork associated with this request:</i></p>		

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED MINOR. *Include reasons justifying its creation; objectives of the minor and relationship of the required courses to those objectives.*

Students of sustainable agriculture learn concepts and techniques that are environmentally and socially sound as well as profitable for agriculture and food production. The proposed minor is a cohesive suite of courses that provides a foundation in the emerging concepts and practices of soil, plant and animal management using a comprehensive, sustainable approach. The courses in this minor focus on agroecology and the interactions of natural and agricultural ecosystems for a comprehensive sustainable approach. Traditional and alternative production systems will be examined to support healthy environments, cultures and economies, promoting food security and community structure. The sustainable agriculture concepts and principles will also be related to current issues such as population growth, changing climate, social structures and use of resources.

B. PROPOSED MINOR REQUIREMENTS AS THEY WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG:

See samples provided on page 3 of this form.

Sustainable Agriculture
The minor in Sustainable Agriculture is based on social, economic and environmental aspects of agriculture and food production. The curriculum supports a basic understanding of sustainability science in global and U.S. agriculture and an appreciation for the integrated nature of the biological, physical and social sciences that make up sustainable agriculture.

Students must

1. Complete all of the following*
NRM F101 – Natural Resources Conservation and Policy – 3 credits
NRM F210 – Principles of Sustainable Agriculture – 3 credits
ECON F235 – Introduction to Natural Resource Economics – 3 credits
2. Complete three of the following*
NRM F211 – Introduction to Applied Plant Science – 3 credits
NRM F220 – Introduction to Animal Science – 3 credits
NRM F380W – Soils and the Environment – 3 credits**
NRM F303X – Environmental Ethics and Actions – 3 credits***
NRM F403W,O – Environmental Decision Making – 3 credits***
3. At least one course from a complimentary discipline may be used to complete category 2 above. Examples include but are not limited to: Economics, Biology, Anthropology, Sociology, and Geography. Approval by an NRM advisor is required.
4. Minimum credits required – 18 credits
Students majoring in NRM must complete at least 9 credits dedicated to the minor. If the student has taken courses to complete major requirements, the credits must be made up from additional courses that compliment and support the minor. These courses may come from other disciplines (see category 3 above) and require approval by an NRM advisor.

**Students must earn a C- grade or better in each course.*

***Prerequisites: CHEM F105X*

****Requires Junior standing*

C. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

The proposed courses already exist and currently are not running at capacity so there is no anticipated negative impact on budget, facilities/space or faculty.

D. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?

Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

Sustainable Agriculture has a broad appeal across many disciplines e.g. Geography, Philosophy and Humanities, School of Management, Anthropology, Northern Studies, Cross-cultural Studies, Biology. The minor is open to students from all other Departments and Schools.

F. PERSONNEL DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE MINOR:

List faculty currently teaching the required and elective (if any) courses, with a brief statement of duties and qualifications.

NRM F101 – Dr. Todd
 NRM F210 – Dr. Karlsson (lead)
 ECON F235 – Dr. Greenberg
 NRM F211 – Dr. Karlsson
 NRM F220 – Drs. Shipka/Rowell
 NRM F380 – Dr. Zhang
 NRM F303X – Dr. Wilner*
 NRM F403 – Drs. Joly/Valentine

*from Dept of Philosophy and Humanities

G. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROPOSED MINOR'S OBJECTIVES TO THE "PURPOSES OF THE UNIVERSITY".

Include additional justifying information to support creation of the minor such as projected and present enrollments; need or public demand for the minor; support of other programs by the minor's creation, etc.

The demand for information on sustainable agriculture practices increases every year. Offering a minor is the first step in addressing this demand and provides the foundation for future program building. The multidisciplinary nature of sustainable agriculture has broad appeal, spanning numerous departments campus wide and creation of the minor is expected to attract students from many of these different programs.

Concepts of sustainability embrace current thinking in land use management and food security throughout the world and are informing policy decisions at home and abroad. Competing Land Grant Universities throughout the nation offer degrees at multiple levels in sustainable agriculture <http://sustainableaged.org/projects/degree-programs/> and although we are only proposing a minor, it is a necessary step to remain competitive.

Providing this introduction to students gives them insight into the interrelatedness of human and environmental values and the importance of food security at multiple levels.

APPROVALS:

Michael Karlsson Date 3/22 2016
 Signature, Chair, Program/Department of: Agriculture and Horticulture

[Signature] Date 3/29/16
 Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for: SNRE

[Signature] Date 3/29/16
 Signature, Dean, College/School of: SNRE

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE

 Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee

 Date

Final approval will be at the level of the Chancellor or Chancellor's Designee, following vote of approval by the Faculty Senate.