

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: Asian Studies

Date Submitted: 5/30

Proposed Effective Date: asap

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|------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|------|
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Specifics (see instructions):

Change the foreign language portion of the major requirements for Asian Studies. The major as it currently stands consists of 37 credits, divided in three parts: 1. Core Courses (6 credits), 2. Language (16 credits), 3. Electives (15 credits). This request is to change the number of credits attached to Part 2. “Language: four semesters, regardless of level at which the student begins (12-16 credits).”

The total number of credits for the major will remain 37.

Rationale (see instructions):

When the breakdown in credits for the major was being devised, I had in mind students who would begin their language study at the 101 level. Hence, to fulfill the major language requirement for Asian Studies they would have to complete four semesters of language, 101-202, each course earning 4 credits, for a total of 16. However, I failed to take into account the fact that some heritage students as well as students taking AP exams would place higher. Since language courses at the 300 level earn only 3 credits, this will cause a variation in the number of credits earned. For example, a student who places at the 201 level would have to take 201 (4), 202 (4), 301 (3), 302 (3), for a total of 14 credits. A student who places at the 301 level would have to take 301 (3), 302 (3), 309 (3), 310 (3), for a total of 12 credits.

The total number of credits for the major will remain 37. Students placing at a higher level in one of the Asian languages can take additional elective credits to reach that number.