

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-056-167

Discontinuation - BA in Liberal Studies – BA/Credential Subplan/Option

Academic Programs Committee

Date:

Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded

Date: 01/04/2017

Academic Senate

Date: 01/11/2017
First Reading

BACKGROUND: The Department of Liberal Studies has put forward a referral for discontinuation of their option of BA in Liberal Studies – BA/Credential Subplan/Option for semesters.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

Deans

Associate Deans

Department Chairs

All Faculty

DISCUSSION:

Before reaching the Academic Programs Committee, this program was reviewed by the CEIS College Curriculum Committee as well as the Dean of CEIS and the Office of Academic Programs. All concerns raised at those levels were addressed. The Academic Programs Committee then conducted campus-wide consultation, as well as its own review of the program. No concerns were raised.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Academic Programs Committee recommends approval of discontinuation of the option of BA in Liberal Studies – BA/Credential Subplan/Option for semesters.

Liberal Studies	
Status	active
Hierarchy Entities	Liberal Studies
Approval Process Name	K. Other - Discontinuance/Merge/Move Program/Option/Minor/Emphasis/Credential
Current Step	Office of Academic Programs
Originator	Christina Chavez-Reyes
Created	02/08/2016 08:53PM
Launched	02/08/2016 09:40PM
Form	
General Catalog Information	
Department	Liberal Studies
Program Name (e.g. Art History, B.A.; Biology, B.S. - General Biology Subplan/Option; History Minor)	Liberal Studies, B.A. - BA/Credential Subplan/Option: 202 units
Importance to the Institution	<p>This option has not been problematic for some years for several reasons. First, this option was established by SB2042 that merged the undergraduate degree with the post-baccalaureate credential program to speed the path of new teacher</p> <p>This option has been problematic for some years for several reasons. First, this option was established by SB2042 that merged the undergraduate degree with the post-baccalaureate teaching credential program to speed the path of new teachers to school districts. While initially it served that purpose, the State's changes in the post-baccalaureate program increased the number of units to completion, extending the time to graduation. This change made the program less appealing to students.</p> <p>Additionally, the postponement of the BA until completion of the teaching credential prevented some students from working as substitute teachers for work experience or at work commensurate with a college degree. Finally, new teachers' salaries require post-bac units to start at the highest pay scale. Those who completed their undergraduate degrees simultaneously with the teaching credential (those on this option) started at a lower pay scale and did not close the salary gap with their post-baccalaureate counterparts over time.</p> <p>s to districts. While initially it served that purpose, the State's changes in the post-baccalaureate program increased the number of units to complete the program, extending the time to graduation, making the program less appealing to students. Additionally, the postponement of the BA until completion of the teaching credential prevented students for working as substitute teachers for work experience or at work commensurate with a college degree. Finally, new teachers' salary require post-bac units to start at the upper scale. Those who completed their undergraduate degree simultaneously with the teaching credential (those on this option) started at a lower pay scale and do not close the salary gap with their post-baccalaureate counterparts over time.</p>
Quality of the Program	The subplan/option units (214) extends the BA (180 units) by 34 units for a total of approximately 11 post-bac units per quarter, a full year of course work. This trajectory may also be complicated by the fact that if students are not able to take their student teaching during the K-12 academic year, they will have to extend student teaching to the following year. Most students save little to no time to degree/credential completion compared to the BA Pre-Credential option followed by a post-baccalaureate teacher credential program.
Efficiency and Demand for the Program	Once students are advised of the caveats of this subplan/option, they tend to change subplan to Pre-Credential or General Studies. Thus, the demand for the program has dwindled immeasurably over the years.
Potential effect on the future employment status of faculty and staff in the program	The faculty and staff most affected are in the Department of Education in the College of Education and Integrative Studies. Three years ago, the Department of Education requested Liberal Studies migrate students to other options because they had experienced students to be insufficiently mature or professional to engage in student teaching as undergraduates. Thus, their faculty and staff have had ample time to consider the consequences of discontinuing the subplan/option and have chosen to make necessary adjustments.
Plan/Timeline to Close the Program	Any remaining students who wish to graduate on this option will have until Summer 2018. Both college academic advisers in consultation with credential analysts will work to create an IAP to complete the BA first followed by entrance into the credential program in the semester program. Admissions - end admissions into the Bilingual Authorization Pre-Credential Option, BA/Credential Option, and Bilingual Authorization BA/Credential Option in Liberal Studies B.A. effective Winter Quarter 2018 (January 2018). Graduation - end graduation in Liberal Studies, B.A. in Bilingual Authorization Pre-Credential Option, BA/Credential Option, and Bilingual Authorization BA/Credential Option effective Summer 2018.