

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATION OF CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Preparation Date _____ Curriculum Bulletin _____
Effective Date **Fall 2020** Approved by EPC _____

Department **Geography**
College **AS - Arts and Sciences**
Degree **BA - Bachelor of Arts MS - Master of Science**
Program Name **Geography** Program Banner Code **GEOG**
Concentration(s) _____ Concentration(s) Banner Code(s) _____
Proposal **Establish program**

Description of proposal:

This is a proposal to establish a new BA to MS degree option. It involves sharing 9 credits between the undergraduate major and the graduate Masters degree. Students can apply for the program up through the Fall semester of their Senior year. After graduation with a BA degree, they will be able to enroll full time as a Masters student.

Does proposed revision change program's total credit hours? Yes No
Current total credit hours: **150** Proposed total credit hours **141**

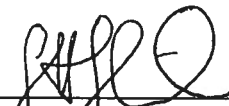
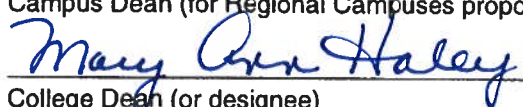
Describe impact on other programs, policies or procedures (e.g., duplication issues; enrollment and staffing considerations; need; audience; prerequisites; teacher education licensure):

We do not expect any impact on programs, policies or procedures

Units consulted (other departments, programs or campuses affected by this proposal):

No need to consult since this is all done within the Dept. of Geography

REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS

 Department Chair / School Director	<u>10/15/19</u>
_____ Campus Dean (for Regional Campuses proposals)	<u> / / </u>
 College Dean (or designee)	<u>10/25/19</u>
_____ Dean of Graduate Studies (for graduate proposals)	<u> / / </u>
_____ Provost (or designee)	<u> / / </u>

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**Department of
Higher Education**

**Mike DeWine, Governor
Randy Gardner, Chancellor**

Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Request Form

Date of submission: [DATE]

Name of institution: Kent State University

Primary institutional contact for the request

Name: Therese E. Tillett
Title: Associate Vice President, Curriculum Planning and Administration
Office of the Provost
Phone: 330-672-8558
E-mail: ttillet1@kent.edu

Name of bachelor's degree program: B.A. in Geography

Name of master's degree program: M.S. in Geography

Proposed implementation date: Fall 2020

1. Identify the total number of credit hours in the undergraduate and master's programs combined.

141

2. Describe how the university will ensure that students meet the expected baccalaureate program outcomes before the bachelor's degree is awarded.

The university has a GPS (graduation planning system) in place that keeps students regularly informed on their progress towards their bachelor's degree in their declared major. Students will be informed that completing their bachelor's degree is their primary concern when in the dual program. Further, when students wish to apply for graduate assistantships, they will be told they are only eligible once the bachelor's degree is completed, hence the need to make sure that all criteria are met. Within the Department of Geography, the undergraduate coordinator and graduate coordinator both regularly meet with students and will work with them to plan their schedule.

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3. Describe how students are informed of this combined degree program. Include in the answer how students are advised regarding opportunities and challenges associated with the option.

Within Geography, there is a regular communication called "This Week in Geography" which goes out to all declared majors housed within the unit. This program will be mentioned there multiple times. Faculty will also be aware of the program and be asked to regularly inform the graduate coordinator and undergraduate coordinator of any promising students, and we also regularly run analyses of our majors' GPAs to identify the best performing students, so that these students can be approached personally.

4. Describe the options available for students who wish to leave the program with a bachelor's degree before finishing the graduate-level work.

Those students who decide to leave the program without finishing the requisite graduate-level work will obtain a B.A. in Geography.

5. Describe how the institution ensures that students will pay undergraduate tuition throughout the completion of the undergraduate degree.

Per [Kent State policy](#), students in a combined bachelor's/master's degree program are classified as undergraduate until the bachelor's degree is awarded. Kent State's tuition rate is assigned to the student's level, and not at the course level. Therefore, undergraduate students taking graduate courses will be charged the undergraduate tuition rate.

Attach to this document a listing of the graduate courses in the master's degree program that will apply toward the bachelor's degree program and explain the requirements they will satisfy in the bachelor's degree.

Kent State University agrees to monitor the success of the program and will submit an annual report to Ohio Department of Higher Education on the scope of the program and student success.

Kent State University verifies that the information in this request is truthful and accurate.

Respectfully,

Signed after the request goes to EPC

Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost (Interim)

Kent State University

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In the BA program in Geography, all students must take one of three tracks, which determine the numbers of courses they must take from each of the following subsets. All of the courses below are eligible to be taken at the graduate level and count for the Bachelor's degree as well, within the 9-hour limit. (Note: some courses are listed as an elective under more than one concentration)

Required for all tracks

49070 59070 Geographic Information Science

Environmental Concentration electives

41065 51065 Applied Climatology
41066 51066 Global Climate Change
41073 51073 Conservation of Natural Resources
41074 51074 Resource Geography
41077 51077 Water and Society
41082 51082 Geography of Soils
41195 51195 ST: Environmental Geography
46080 56080 Urban Sustainability
49078 59078 GIS Environmental Hazards

Geographic Information Concentration electives

49072 59072 GIS and Health
49075 59075 GIS | Social Problems
49076 59076 Spatial Programming
49078 59078 GIS Environmental Hazards
49080 59080 Adv Geographic Information Science
49162 59162 Cartography / Geovisualization
49195 59195 ST: GIS
49230 59230 Remote Sensing

Social Geography Concentration electives

41051 51051 Natural Disasters and Society
41066 51066 Global Climate Change
41073 51073 Conservation of Natural Resources
41077 51077 Water and Society
42052 52052 Medical Geography
42053 52053 Geographies of Memory/Heritage
42064 52064 Settling the North American Environment
42070 52070 Ethnic, Lifestyle, National Communities
42195 52195 ST: Social Geography
44010 54010 Geography of Global Economy
45085 55085 Urban Transportation
46070 56070 Urban and Regional Planning

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46080	56080	Urban Sustainability
46081	56081	Seminar in Urban Geography
49072	59072	GIS and Health
49075	59075	GIS Social Problems

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