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PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSAL

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Name of Institution: Coastal Carolina University (CCU)

Nature of the Proposed Modification: The proposed modification is for a curriculum change.

Current Name of Program: Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (B.A.I.S.)

Proposed Name of Program: Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (B.A.I.S.)

Program Designation:

☐ Associate's Degree	☐ Master's Degree
☒ Bachelor's Degree: 4 Year	☐ Specialist
☐ Bachelor's Degree: 5 Year	☐ Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA)
☐ Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.)	

Does the program currently qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

☐ Yes
☒ No

If No, should the program be considered for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

☐ Yes
☒ No

Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall 2019

CIP Code: 24.0101

Current delivery site(s) and modes: CCU Main Campus, Traditional/Face-to-face and distance
Proposed delivery site(s) and modes: CCU Main Campus, Traditional/Face-to-face and distance

Program Contact Information:

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Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval:

Department of Interdisciplinary Studies	December 22, 2017
College Curriculum Committee	December 22, 2017
Dean	December 22, 2017
University Academic Affairs	January 19, 2018
University Faculty Senate	February 26, 2018
Provost	February 26, 2018
President	February 26, 2018

Background Information

Specific Changes to the B.A.I.S. Major:

1) Electives in the introductory sequence are more targeted, focused on skill-building and experiential learning.
2) More structure created within the program of study requiring students to choose courses in both a primary and secondary discipline.

These proposed modifications to the B.A.I.S. are designed to ensure that a rigorous and intentional degree is being offered. Because every student tailors their coursework to their individual goals and interest, the department wanted to make certain that students were exposed to interdisciplinary breadth and disciplinary depth. The changes that are being proposed scaffold the degree better and require students (with the help of a skilled advisor/mentor) to purposefully plan their coursework with a primary and secondary discipline when they declare this major. This degree is targeted to motivated and intellectually curious students who want to explore issues through a multiple disciplinary lens. This degree is also a valuable alternative for students who have earned a significant number of college credits or have earned an Associate's Degree (A.D.) and are needing a flexible pathway to compete their undergraduate degree. The department believes this degree is central to CCU's mission and directly addresses the strategic plan by allowing students to build degrees that are specifically aligned with their interests and to the current job market.

With the help of a designated advisor and/or faculty, students will build a unique academic program drawing upon upper-level courses from multiple disciplines across the university. Because every student will have different interests and professional goals, these degrees vary in areas of specialization. These modifications will directly appeal to students because they will have tremendous flexibility (in academic content and delivery method), they will have more designated time to work with an academic advisor/faculty to thoughtfully plan their degree program, and importantly, there will be more specific requirements that ensure there is integrity in this degree offering.

Assessment of Need

This degree provides a pathway for students to complete a four-year baccalaureate degree. Many students change majors, interests, or have life events that get in the way of their graduation. By offering this degree and allowing a variety of upper-level classes (across disciplines) to come together in a meaningful way, as well as provide maximum flexibility with distance learning courses within this major, the department believes that students will be more successful in completing their undergraduate degree and increase both graduation and persistence rates.

These curriculum modifications help address state and local needs because the workplace is becoming increasingly more interdisciplinary in nature. Graduates from our program will be able to demonstrate an understanding of complex problems from many different perspectives. This should give our graduates a competitive advantage on the job market as they will be able to demonstrate that they planned their degree to be knowledgeable and best prepared to address specific needs/areas within a given field. Ensuring that students of Coastal Carolina University are provided with academic opportunities to explore a variety of interests is fundamentally important to our mission. Sometimes these opportunities are within a traditional degree offering, and sometimes students have a need to explore the integration of content and theory across disciplines. The restructuring of this degree better ensures that we are providing a quality academic program that is adaptable to a wide-range of student interests, ultimately preparing competitive graduates for evolving state and local jobs.

Transfer and Articulation

Not applicable for this program.

Description of the Program

Program Description

Admission procedures and guidelines for the B.A.I.S. may be obtained from the HTC Honors College and Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. All applications for admission will be reviewed and approved by the chair of the interdisciplinary studies department. Consideration is given to previous coursework and suitability of the proposed curriculum. The student must demonstrate that an individualized course of study will be an educationally sound alternative to traditional degree programs currently being offered at CCU.

Students applying to the B.A.I.S., under the guidance of interdisciplinary studies advisors and faculty members, develop a program of study listing the courses proposed to complete an interdisciplinary program. Admission is not complete until the program of study has been approved by the chair of the department. All students must complete their approved program of study to be eligible for graduation. Any subsequent change of major requirements in the program of study will require the prior written approval of the student's adviser and the chair of the department.

Students must receive a grade of 'C' or better in all major requirements. Students double majoring, earning a second degree, earning minor(s) or certificates may share up to nine credit hours from the interdisciplinary studies major requirements per program. The B.A.I.S. requires its graduates to earn 120 credit hours with a minimum 2.0 GPA. At least 12 credit hours in major requirements and 30 total credit hours must be completed at CCU.

Projected Enrollment						
Year	Fall Headcount		Spring Headcount		Summer Headcount	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
2018-2019	16	126	4	155	0	0
2019-2020	19	126	4	155	0	0
2020-2021	22	127	4	156	0	0
2021-2022	25	127	5	156	0	0
2022-2023	29	128	5	157	0	0

These modifications are not expected to alter the projected enrollment. The proposed changes are designed to better ensure a quality, well-planned degree within the B.A.I.S. curriculum

Undergraduate enrollment at the University has experienced a five-year growth of 12%. The first row of the table above, that is 2018-2019, is based on actual student enrollment at CCU in the B.A.I.S. program. The remaining years (2019-2020 to 2022-2023) were estimated using a linear growth model of 12% from 2018-2019 to 2022-2023.

Curriculum

Refer to Attachment A - Curriculum.

Curriculum Changes

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program	Core Courses Modified
	IDS 311 (Interdisciplinary Program Planning Workshop; 1 credit) is a co-requisite with **IDS 310**.	Interdisciplinary Introductory Sequence (**IDS 310 & IDS 311**; 4 credits)

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program	Core Courses Modified
		IDS 310 (Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies) (3 credits) is now to be taken first in the required sequence.
Students were able to choose three credits from the following: **IDS 333**: Interdisciplinary Nature of Careers (3 credits) **IDS 390**: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Communication (3 credits) **IDS 495:** Experiential Internship (3-12 credits) **UNIV 200**: Student Media Production (3 credits) **UNIV 202:** All Media Class (3 credits) **UNIV 205**: Student Services Leadership (3 credits) **UNIV 300**: Principles of Peer Mentoring (3 credits) **UNIV 301**: Applied Principles of Peer Mentoring (3 credits) **UNIV 303**: Foundations of Peer Leadership in University Housing (3 credits) **UNIV 310**: Veterans Transition Seminar (3 credits) **UNIV 315**: Service in Sustainability (3 credits) **UNIV 325Q**: Service Learning (3 credits) **UNIV495Q**: Internship (3 credits)		Narrowed the course options for Interdisciplinary Professional Development to include only the following options: Choose one: **IDS 333**: Interdisciplinary Nature of Careers (3 credits) **IDS 390**: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Communication (3 credits) **IDS 495**: Experiential Internship (3-12 credits)
		Interdisciplinary Program of Study now requires students to complete 15 credits in a primary discipline and 12 credits in a secondary discipline. This requirement better ensures disciplinary depth and provides more structure for students' academic programs.

New Courses

IDS 311: Interdisciplinary Program Planning Workshop (1 credit hour). This workshop allows students to work closely with an IDS faculty member or advisor to develop their interdisciplinary program of study. Students explore educational and career goals, along with reviewing previous coursework, to create an individualized program of study that best suits their interests and aspirations. At the end of the course, students submit their program of study to the chair of IDS.

Similar Programs in South Carolina offered by Public and Independent Institutions

Program Name and Designation	Total Credit Hours	Institution	Similarities	Differences
B.A.I.S.	36 (within major)	University of South Carolina	Requires 15 hours within a concentration.	CCU requires more credits (45) in the major. Requires only two courses within the major (6 credits) where CCU requires 12 credit hours.
I.C.P. (Individualized Curriculum Program)	32 (within major)	Furman University	Work closely with advisors to plan and prepare a rigorous academic program.	CCU requires more credits (45) in the major. Requires a 2.5 GPA for acceptance where CCU's B.A.I.S. requires a 2.0 GPA.
I.D.V.S. (Individualized Studies)	36 (within major)	Winthrop University	Research Methods and Capstone Courses are very similar. The course plan review process is consistent with CCU's.	CCU requires more credits (45) in the major. Only 18 credit hours are required above a 299 level where CCU's B.A.I.S. requires 36 credits.

Faculty

There are not any new personnel needed to implement these changes at this time.

Resources

Library Resources: No new resources
Equipment: No new resources
Facilities: No new resources

Impact on Existing Programs0
Will the proposed program impact existing degree programs or services at the institution (e.g., course offerings or enrollment)? If yes, explain

☐Yes
☒No

Financial Support

Estimated Sources of Financing for the New Costs						
Category	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**	**4th**	**5th**	**Total**
Tuition Funding						0
Program-Specific Fees						0
Special State Appropriation						0
Reallocation of Existing Funds						0
Federal, Grant, or Other Funding						0
Total						0
Estimated New Costs by Year						
Category	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**	**4th**	**5th**	**Total**
Program Administration and Faculty and Staff Salaries						0
Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials						0
Library Resources						0
Other (specify)						0
Total						0
Net Total (i.e., Sources of Financing Minus Estimated New Costs)						0

Budget Justification

No new costs are associated with this curriculum modification.

Evaluation and Assessment

Program Objectives	Student Learning Outcomes Aligned to Program Objectives	Methods of Assessment
1. Provide a unique academic program offering the opportunity to develop an individualized, innovative, and integrated program of study.	Justify, in writing, reasons for pursuing an IDS degree. Explain, in writing, how the academic courses taken coalesce into a unified program that helps the student achieve their individual academic and professional goals.	Applications for degree entry will be reviewed by a faculty committee and approved by the chair of the interdisciplinary studies department. Students must demonstrate that their course of study is a sound alternative to a traditional degree program currently being offered at CCU.
2. With the help of a mentor, build a program of study drawing from multiple disciplines, around a unified topic or theme.	Demonstrate a sound understanding of interdisciplinary inquiry and research. Identify and critically analyze a complex issue or theme from multiple disciplinary perspectives.	Final projects in our proposed IDS sequence courses (Research Methods and Capstone Research Project courses) will be evaluated to assess the SLOs. These projects will be reviewed yearly.

Will any the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed? If yes, explain.

☒ Yes

☐ No

The assessment and evaluation will change as a result of these modifications. Specifically, the department will be assessing the value of the IDS 311 Interdisciplinary Program Planning Workshop course that has been added. It is expected that students will have better defined, more intentional plans of study that guide their academic advancements. Faculty will continuously evaluate the research methods sequence to ensure that student are gaining disciplinary depth and interdisciplinary breadth. Finally, the department will more purposefully examine students' areas of interest, track their job placement, and evaluate opportunities to build tracks/concentrations within the major, or potentially create new majors.

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation

☐ Yes

☒ No

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If the program is an Educator Preparation Program, does the proposed certification area require national recognition from a Specialized Professional Association (SPA)?

☐Yes

☒No

Attachment A

B.A.I.S. Interdisciplinary Studies

Mission Statement: The mission of the Interdisciplinary Studies major is to provide a unique academic program that offers highly motivated and intellectually curious students the opportunity to develop an individualized, innovative, and integrated program of study. As an alternative to a traditional major, self-directed students are engaged and mentored by Interdisciplinary Studies faculty and advisors to build a program of study, drawing from multiple disciplines, around a unifying theme.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the requirements for a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a sound understanding of interdisciplinary inquiry and research.
2. Identify and critically analyze a complex issue or theme from multiple disciplinary perspectives.
3. State in writing their reasons for pursuing an interdisciplinary studies degree.
4. Explain in writing how the academic courses they have chosen to pursue coalesce into a unified program that helps them to achieve their individual academic and professional goals.
5. Research and develop new interdisciplinary insight into a complex issue related to their focus of study.
6. Communicate their research findings through a capstone project.

Program Description: Admission procedures and guidelines for the B.A.I.S. may be obtained from University College. All applications for admission will be reviewed by a faculty committee and approved by the chair of the interdisciplinary studies department. Consideration is given to previous coursework and suitability of the proposed curriculum. The student must demonstrate that an individualized course of study will be an educationally sound alternative to traditional degree programs currently being offered at CCU.

Students applying to the B.A.I.S. major, under the guidance of interdisciplinary studies advisors and faculty members, develop a program of study listing the courses proposed to complete an interdisciplinary program. Admission is not complete until the program of study has been approved by the chair of the department. All students must complete their approved program of study to be eligible for graduation. Any subsequent change of major requirements in the program of study will require the prior written approval of the student's adviser and the chair of the department.

The guidelines here apply to B.A. degree programs. B.S. degree programs require STAT 201/201L and either MATH 132 or MATH 160, in which the student earns a grade of 'C' or better, and a minimum of 12 credit hours from the College of Science within the Interdisciplinary Studies major requirements.

Students must receive a grade of 'C' or better in all major requirements. Students double majoring, earning a second degree, earning minor(s) or certificates may share up to nine credit hours from the IDS major requirements per program. The B.A.I.S. major requires its graduates to earn 120 credit hours with a minimum 2.0 GPA. At least 12 credit hours in major requirements and 30 total credit hours must be completed at CCU.

Degree Requirements (120 credits)

I.   Core Curriculum (38-42 credits)
II. Graduation Requirements (3-6 credits)

   Minimum grades of C are required.

   - UNIV 110 First-Year Experience (0-3 credits)

- Choose one from the following: (3 credits)

    ○ HIST 201 History of the United States (3 credits)
    ○ POLI 201 Introduction to American Government (3 credits)

III. Foundations (4-13 credits)

- Disciplinary Exploration (0-9 credits)

    Students can take up to 9 credits of 100- or 200-level courses related to their interdisciplinary program of study, including IDS 190 and IDS 191.

- Interdisciplinary Introductory Sequence (4 credits)

    ○ IDS 310 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies (3 credits)
    ○ IDS 311 Interdisciplinary Program Planning Workshop (1 credit)

    IDS 311 is co-requisite with IDS 310. Before enrolling in IDS 311, you must have already taken or be signed up to take IDS 310.

IV. Major Requirements (45 credits)

- Interdisciplinary Professional Development (3 credits)

    ○ Choose one of the following:
        ▪ IDS 333 Interdisciplinary Nature of Careers (3 credits)
        ▪ IDS 390 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Communication (3 credits)
        ▪ IDS 495 Experiential Internship (3-12 credits)

- Interdisciplinary Research and Discovery (6 credits)

    ○ IDS 398 Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Studies (3 credits)
    ○ IDS 499 Capstone Research Project in Interdisciplinary Studies (3 credits)

- Interdisciplinary Program of Study (36 credits)

    All courses in the program of study must be at the 300-level or above. At least 12 credits in this area must be from the College of Science.

    ○ Primary Discipline (15 credits)

        Students must choose courses from a primary area of study, generally defined by a course prefix.

    ○ Secondary Discipline (12 credits)

        Students must choose courses from a secondary area of study, distinct from the primary area of study.

        It should be noted that EDUC, EDEL, EDML, EDLL, and EDPE are not considered distinct areas of study. If a student chooses to use education courses as one of their areas of study, they must choose a non-education discipline for their other area of study.

○ Integrative Coursework (9 credits)

Students must chose courses related to their program of study from disciplines other than their primary and secondary areas of study.

Students should work with their IDS advisor or an IDS faculty member to develop their program of study. Programs of study must be approved by the chair of the interdisciplinary studies department.

No more than 6 credits of independent/directed study or internship may be used to satisfy the interdisciplinary program of study requirement.

V. Electives (14-30 credits)