MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Sarah Fishman, Associate Dean, CLASS
FROM: J Jackson, Director, Undergraduate Studies, POLS
DATE: November 9, 2012

Background:
The Department of Political Science previously established two interdisciplinary minors: National Security Studies and Values, Law, and Policy. The National Security Studies Minor requires several minor corrections mainly dealing with correcting course numbers and adding two courses to the approved course listings to fill gaps, allowing students to graduate in a timely manner. The Values, Law, and Policy Minor requires a major rewrite, discussed below. The changes requested are primarily caused by courses initially listed many years ago are no longer taught by POLS and other departments. The small number of courses available from the approved lists has made it difficult for students to have a fair variety of courses from which to select, caused many substitutions of unlisted courses for listed requirements, and delayed graduation. Although the goals of the VLP Minor have not substantially changed, because the goal of many of the students wishing to take the Minor has changed, the title of the Minor was modified to reflect the students’ goals. Additionally, courses no longer taught by the various departments should be removed and new courses added to correct the course deficiencies that currently exist in the minor.

Actions:

NSSM:

a. Change course numbers as follows: POLS 2360 to 2342; POLS 4396 [Int. Law] to POLS 3344; POLS 4397 to POLS 3345; POLS 4396 [Intel Analysis] to POLS 4340; POLS 4396 [Risk Analysis] to POLS 4341; and AS 300 to AFSC 3301. These courses and their numbers have previously been added to the catalog.

b. Add the following courses: POLS 4397 [Capstone for NSS] to Capstone Courses category; and AFSC 3302 [Leadership] to Applications and Skills category.

c. Other minor language changes were made to the body of the Minor.

d. See attachments for old language with proposed changes, and proposed new catalog entry.

VLPM:

a. Change the title of the Minor from Values, Law, and Policy to Law, Values, and Policy.

b. Reorganize the categories to: Values; Political and Public Communications; Social Theory; and Legal Issues and Policies.
c. Remove the following courses: SOC 3311 and ECON 3332, 3377, 3386, 4321, 4391.

d. Add the following courses: COMM 3337, 3339, 3356; ENGL 3340; PHIL 1321, 2321, 3357; POLS 3355, 3357, 3358, 3359, 3385, 3390, 4344; PSYC 2380; SOC 3310.

e. See attachments for old language with proposed changes, and proposed new catalog entry.
NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES MINOR

The National Security Studies Minor prepares students with diverse majors for careers in homeland security, intelligence collection and analysis, foreign relations, Department of Defense, Department of State, and related areas, or to enter graduate programs that will further prepare them for careers in these areas. These careers might be as diverse as being a diplomat, a cryptologist, an area studies specialist, a linguist, an intelligence analyst, an energy economist, or a policy analyst. The program culminates in a capstone course that integrates student experiences in other courses within the minor into a Crisis Management Exercise (CME, or “wargame”). The CME requires students to play the roles of civilian officials and military officers tasked with addressing the crisis situation at hand in an interagency environment.

Requirements:

- Students complete a National Security Studies Minor by completing a minimum of eighteen hours in approved courses.
- Students must take the capstone course in National Security Affairs (AFSC 4301 or AFSC 4302) or Capstone for National Security Studies (POLS 4396).
- Students must take at least one course from the “Contemporary Security Environment” list.
- Students must take at least one course from those included under “National Security Policies and Institutions”.
- Students must take a total of at least three courses (9 hours) from the “Contemporary Security Environment” and the “National Security Policies and Institutions” lists.
- Students must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better in their minor courses.
- A student may not use more than six hours of work in the NSS Minor to satisfy requirements for a major field and/or any other minor.

Of course, eighteen hours is a minimum requirement — students may take additional NSSM courses as their schedules and other requirements permit. The remainder of the hours requirement can be satisfied by choosing electives from the NSSM courses listed below. Students with very specific interests may petition the director to have a course in another department/program substituted as an elective course for the NSSM.

During the sophomore year, students are also encouraged to apply for internships with the State Department, Department of Defense, National Security agency, Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies in the attempt to enhance their understanding of various aspects of national security in a non-academic setting.
COURSES

Capstone Courses (Pick 1)
AFSC 4301 National Security Affairs (Fall)
AFSC 4302 National Security Affairs (Spring)
POLS 4396 Capstone for National Security Studies (Spring)

The Contemporary Security Environment (Pick 1 or 2)
POLS 234260 Introduction to National Security Studies
POLS 3335 Political Terrorism
POLS 4343 Causes and Politics of War
POLS 4348 Contemporary Islamic Political Thought
POLS 4349 International Energy Politics
POLS 4394. Ideologies and Political Movements
HIST 3394. War, Globalization, and Terrorism

National Security Policy and Institutions (Pick 1 or 2)
POLS 3313 Introduction to International Relations
POLS 3331 American Foreign Policy
POLS 4365 National Defense Policy
POLS 33444396 International Law and the Law of War
POLS 33454397 National Security Law
HIST 3312. U.S. Diplomatic History to 1898
HIST 3313. U.S. Diplomatic History since 1898
HIST 3321. U.S. Foreign Policy since 1900
HIST 3322: The Vietnam War
HIST 3323: U.S. Military History to 1898
HIST 3324: U.S. Military History since 1898
HIST 3375: The CIA in the Third World

Applications and Skills (Electives)
POLS 3382. Strategy of Politics (Game Theory and Decision Analysis)
POLS 434096 Intelligence Analysis
POLS 434196 Risk Analysis and Assessment
ITEC 2337: Fundamentals of Information Security
ITEC 4355: Enterprise Assessment and Evaluation (with permission of instruction)
AS-300AFSC 3301: Leadership
AFSC 3302 Leadership

Electives
Additional courses in the categories appearing above may be taken as electives.

Students interested in the National Security Studies Minor should contact:
Gregory R. Weiher, Ph.D.
Director, National Security Studies Minor
Department of Political Science
University of Houston 77204-3011
Law, Values, Law, and Policy Minor

Law, Values, Law, and Policy is an interdisciplinary minor involving the Departments of Political Science, Economics, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, and others.

Participation in modern society requires an interdisciplinary grasp of issues. Ordinary party politics, structural changes to either state or federal government, changes in society health care and insurance, alterations in property law, or increased or decreased protections for racial, gender, or sexual orientation categories implicate issues of values, economics, and social interaction as well as law. Laws affect and change society. Changes in society drive changes in the law and policy.

The minor in Law, Values, Law, and Policy will provide students with an overview of the theories and analytical techniques of moral philosophy as well as the insights of economics, political science, history, and sociology on the desirability and consequences of different legal regimes, our current legal structures, and legal change.

The utility of the minor in Law, Values, Law, and Policy (LVLP) is not just the liberal arts objective of a broad education enabling full and knowledgeable participation in society, but also a sound foundation for a professional career in any field whether law, liberal arts, or science.

The LVLP minor provides a breadth of perspectives that would serve well for those students who intend to enter the legal profession or any of the professions that have a substantial interface with legal regulations. It would also provide a good background in the social sciences to enable graduate study in economics, political science, sociology, philosophy, or history.

Minor in Law, Values, and Policy (18 hours)

Requirements:

- Students complete a Law, Values, and Policy Minor by completing a minimum of eighteen hours in approved courses with a minimum of 12 of the 18 hours taken in residence, and at least nine hours in advanced courses.
- Students must take at least two courses from the “Values” category.
- Students must take at least one course from the “Political and Public Communications” category.
- Students must take at least one course from the “Social Theory” category.
- Students must take at least two courses from the “Legal Issues and Policy” category.
- Students must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better in their minor courses.
• A student may not use more than six hours of work in the LVP Minor to satisfy requirements for a major field and/or any other minor.

VALUES [Select 2]

PHIL 1321: Logic I
PHIL 2321: Logic II
PHIL 3350: Ethics
PHIL 3351: Contemporary Moral Issues
PHIL 3355: Political Philosophy
PHIL 3357: Punishment
PHIL 3375: Law, Society, and Morality

POLITICAL AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS [Select 1]

COMM 1332: Fundamentals of Public Speaking
COMM 3356: Business and Professional Communications
ENGL 3340: Advanced Composition
PSYC 2380: Introduction to Social Psychology
SPAN 3307: Public Speaking in Spanish

SOCIAL THEORY [Select 1]

POLS 3310: Introduction to Political Theory
POLS 3343: Democratic Theory
POLS 3349: American Political Thought
POLS 3350: Public Law and Political Theory
POLS 3368: Race, Gender, and Ethnic Politics
POLS 3390: Women in Politics
SOC 2310: Social Problems
SOC 3300: Introduction to Sociological Theory

LEGAL ISSUES AND POLICIES [Select 2]

HIST 3348: Crime and Punishment in Modern England
POLS 3318: Introduction to Public Policy
POLS 3319: Politics of Social Policy
POLS 3354: Law and Society
POLS 3355: Judicial Process
POLS 3356: Introduction to Constitutional Law I
POLS 3357: Introduction to Constitutional Law II
POLS 3358: Judicial Behavior
POLS 3359: Criminal Justice
POLS 3385: Introduction to Law
POLS 4366: Constitutional Design
POLS 4397: English and American Legal History
SOC 3313: Criminology

Other courses accepted by petition and approval of program advisor.

Each student is required to take microeconomics, one course in moral or political philosophy, one course in social theory, and a choice of courses on law, ethics, or public policy.

**Total Hours for Values, Law and Policy Minor, 18**

A course can satisfy both a requirement of the student's major and the VLP minor. However, the total hours required by the VLP minor cannot count toward the total hours required by the major. Example: VLP minor hours (18) + major hours (usually 30) = 48 hours.
I. Basic Requirements (2 required)

ECON 3332: Microeconomic Theory
and choose one of the following:
PHIL 3350: Ethics
PHIL 3355: Political Philosophy
PHIL 3351: Contemporary Moral Issues

II. Social Science Theory (choose one of the following)

SOC 3300: Introduction to Sociological Theory
POLS 3310: Introduction to Political Theory
POLS 3343: Democratic Theory
POLS 3349: American Political Thought

III. Law and Policy

(No two courses may be selected from the same subject area [POLS, SOC, etc.] in this requirement; must select one course from the LAW category, and the other two courses from any category.)

LAW

POLS 3350: Public Law and Political Theory
POLS 3354: Law and Society
POLS 3356: Introduction to Constitutional Law
POLS 4366: Constitutional Design
SOC 3311: Sociology of Law
SOC 3313: Criminology
PHIL 3375: Law, Society, and Morality
HIST-XXXX: English Legal History, American Legal History
ECON 4324: Economic Analysis of the U.S. Legal System

PUBLIC POLICY

ECON 3377: Economics of Public Finance
ECON 3386: Economics of Project Evaluation
ECON 4391: Economics and the Real World
POLS 3318: Introduction to Public Policy
POLS 3319: Politics of Social Policy
NORMATIVE COURSES

PHIL-3350: Ethics
PHIL-3351: Contemporary Moral Issues
PHIL-3354: Medical Ethics
PHIL-3355: Political Philosophy
PHIL-3358: Classics in the History of Ethics

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