

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template/Abbreviated Template with Curriculum

Institution Submitting Request: University of Utah

Currently Approved Titles: Communication Discontinuation Requests: Communications

Composite Teaching BA/BS; Teaching Speech Minor; Minor in Communication –

Interpretation; Minor in Communication – Speech Communication

School or Division or Location: College of Humanities

Department(s) or Area(s) Location: Department of Communication

Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): 09.0101

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

Regents' General Consent Calendar Items		
<i>R401-5 OCHE Review and Recommendation; Approval on General Consent Calendar</i>		
SECTION NO.		ITEM
5.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor*
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emphasis*
5.2.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	(CER P) Certificate of Proficiency*
5.2.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	(GCR) Graduate Certificate*
5.4.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Administrative Unit
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Transfer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Restructure
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation
5.4.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conditional Three-Year Approval for New Centers, Institutes, or Bureaus
5.4.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau
5.5.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs
5.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Consolidation
5.5.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs
5.5.4	X	Program Discontinuation
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension
5.5.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Administrative Unit

**Requires "Section V: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template*

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date: MM/DD/YEAR

Printed Name: Name of CAO or Designee

Program Request - Abbreviated Template
University of Utah
Communication Discontinuation Requests
02/19/2014

Section I: Request

The Department of Communication seeks to discontinue the following programs, effective Academic Year 2014-2015: Communications Composite Teaching BA and BS; Teaching Speech Minor; Minor in Communication – Interpretation; Minor in Communication – Speech Communication.

Faculty consultation: Communication Department faculty voted January 10, 2014, and February 6, 2014, to support these discontinuations. The College of Humanities Curriculum Committee voted January 22, 2014, to support these discontinuations. In an attached memorandum, College of Humanities Acting Dean Mark Bergstrom provided his support for these discontinuations on February 13, 2014.

Section II: Need

The Department's primary reasons for seeking these administrative changes are lack of student involvement and lack of resources.

The Communications Composite Teaching BA and BS and Teaching Speech Minor are not supported by personnel. There are currently no full-time Communication faculty specializing in the pedagogy of the discipline; thus, there is no one to teach the courses that formerly supported the major and minor. The Department's academic advisors are not specifically trained to assist students with teaching requirements. In addition, it is apparent that neither the major nor the minor fully prepares students to meet the minimum requirements to teach in Utah public schools.

The other minors represent an area (Interpretation) in which faculty no longer specialize and a major (Speech Communication) that was discontinued effective Academic Year 2012-2013.

Because these programs remain in the University Catalog, the Department sees a need to formally discontinue them to avoid confusion.


Section III: Institutional Impact

Institutional impacts are expected to be minimal. Prospective students have other options within the University. For example, the Utah State Office of Education has advised that the teaching program offered in the Department of English can prepare students to teach Speech. There is currently one student declared under the Communication Department's Teaching Speech minor, and this student has applied to graduate in Spring 2014. The other programs have been inactive for some time, so their discontinuation is not expected to have an impact.

Section IV: Finances

No financial impacts are anticipated as a result of this change.

To: The University of Utah Undergraduate Council

From: Mark Bergstrom, Acting Dean 

Re: Support for Discontinuation of Inactive Programs in Communication

I support the Department of Communication's request to discontinue these inactive programs effective Academic Year 2014-2015:

- Communications Composite Teaching B.A. and B.S.
- Minor in Speech Teaching
- Minor in Communication – Interpretation
- Minor in Communication – Speech Communication

The Department's reasons for seeking these administrative changes are lack of student involvement and lack of resources. In teaching, for example, there are currently no Communication faculty specializing in the pedagogy of the discipline. The Department has only two academic advisors for more than 850 declared majors, and neither advisor is specifically trained to assist students with teaching requirements. The teaching major, teaching minor, and two inactive minors remain in the University Catalog, however, so the Department sees a need to formally discontinue them to avoid confusion.

Institutional impacts are expected to be minimal. Prospective students have other options within the University, including other teaching majors, other teaching minors, and the Communication Department's Media Studies Minor. In terms of impacts, no students are declared in the Minor in Communication – Interpretation and Minor in Communication – Speech Communication. There is currently one student declared under the Communication Department's Teaching Speech minor, and this student has applied to graduate in Spring 2014. No financial impact is anticipated as a result of this change.

Thank you for your attention.