

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

Institution Submitting Request: *University of Utah*

Proposed Title:

Currently Approved Title: *Geography MA*

School or Division or Location: *College of Social and Behavioral Science*

Department(s) or Area(s) Location: *Department of Geography*

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs):

Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): *45.0702*

Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs):

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date: *MM/DD/YEAR*

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 (Ruth Watkins – Signature will be collected after BoT Approval)*

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Program Request - Abbreviated Template
The University of Utah
MA Geography
10/09/2015

Section I: Request

The Department of Geography at The University of Utah requests to discontinue the Geography MA degree. The proposal was made to the Geography faculty at the annual faculty retreat on August 18, 2015. After a short discussion, the faculty unanimously voted to request the degree be deactivated. The request was reviewed by representatives from each department and approved by the Curriculum Committee of the College of Social and Behavioral Science.

Section II: Need

The Department of Geography offers three Master's degrees: MS in Geography, MA in Geography, and MS in Geographic Information Science. Almost universally, students opt for either the MS in Geography or the MS in Geographic Information Science. During the last 12 years, only one student has enrolled in and no students have completed the Geography MA degree. The Department has concluded that there is no demand for a Geography MA degree and wishes to simplify its Master's program offerings.

Section III: Institutional Impact

No impacts are foreseen, since there are currently no students in the Geography MA program and since the Geography MS has equivalent requirements to the MA.

Section IV: Finances

The discontinuation of the Geography MA degree will have no impact on finances.

Section V: Program Curriculum

Not required for discontinuation.

March 17th, 2016

Curriculum Administration
Undergraduate Studies
Sterling Sill Center
University of Utah Campus

Dear Madam or Sir:

At the request of the Geography department, and with the approval of the CSBS College Curriculum Committee, I hereby announce the discontinuation of the Master of Arts degree in Geography. If you have any questions about the Curriculum Committee's actions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Cathleen D. Zick, Ph.D.
Associate Dean

cc: Dean Cynthia Berg, Ph.D.
Department Chair Andrea Brunelle, Ph.D.



3/15/2016

Curriculum Administration
Undergraduate Studies
Sterling Sill Center
University of Utah Campus

To the Graduate Council and Executive Committee,

I am writing this letter of support to discontinue the Master of Arts degree in Geography. The Geography Department still offers a Master of Science degree in Geography and a Master of Science degree in Geographic Information Science (GIS). Students almost always choose to pursue the MS or MSGIS programs and not the MA. Only one student pursued the MA in the last twelve years, and no students have completed the MA.

There was a unanimous vote to discontinue the MA from our program at the annual faculty retreat in August, 2015. Currently, no students are pursuing the MA degree. Every once in a while, a student will apply for the MA degree but will quickly switch to the MS degree once they arrive here because of an accidental computer click or confusion on the difference between the two.

There is no demand for the MA degree in Geography and there are no foreseeable impacts of discontinuing the MA degree. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at andrea.brunelle@geog.utah.edu.

Andrea Brunelle

Chair

Department of Geography

University of Utah