

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSAL TO CREATE A MUSEUM STUDIES CERTIFICATE IN THE BRIDGING DISCIPLINES PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018**

Dean Brent Iverson, in the School of Undergraduate Studies has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to create an Ethics and Leadership in the Museum Studies Certificate in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. On September 10, 2015, the Undergraduate Studies Advisory Committee and the dean approved the proposed changes. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *general* interest to more than one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the certificate on January 6, 2016, and forwarded the proposal to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with UT System.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by January 26, 2016.



Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

**PROPOSAL TO CREATE A MUSEUM STUDIES CERTIFICATE IN THE BRIDGING DISCIPLINES  
PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES CHAPTER IN THE  
UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018**

1. **Type of Proposal**     New Certificate Program (requiring THECB notification only)  
 Change an Existing Certificate Program  
 Delete a Program

**Proposed classification**     Exclusive     General     Major

2. **2. THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES (Please check all that apply)**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courses in other colleges                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course in the core curriculum                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course sequencing for an existing program  | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses that have to be added to the inventory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in admission requirements (external or internal) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:   |

3. **SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE**

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools?    Yes  No   
If yes, then how?
- b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college?    Yes  No   
If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?
- c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college?    Yes  No   
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

We expect twenty to thirty students per year to enroll in this certificate program. This will increase the number of students taking BDP 320K, 320L, and 321K individual instruction courses and the number of students taking BDP 319 and BDP 101, both required foundation courses for this certificate.

- d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges?    Yes  No

**If 3 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.**

How many students do you expect to be impacted: We expect twenty to thirty students to enroll/year in this certificate program.

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

School of Architecture:

Person communicated with: Juan Miro

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: "I have reviewed the material you sent and I don't see any problem from the school of architecture point of view. On the contrary I think it would be great to add a certificate on Museum Studies."

McCombs School of Business:

Person communicated with: David Platt

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: Approves of the proposal.

College of Communication:

Person communicated with: Steve Reese

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: Approves of the proposal.

College of Fine Arts:

Person communicated with: Andrew Dell'Antonio

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: Approves of the proposal, and Fine Arts is very supportive of fostering the Museum Studies BDP certificate.

Jackson School of Geosciences:

Person communicated with: Richard Ketcham

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: Approves of the proposal.

School of Information:

Person communicated with: Patricia Galloway

Date of communication: 5/8/15

Response: "The impact for the School of Information for the Museum Studies BDP would probably be a slight uptick in registrations for a couple of our classes, which would be very welcome. It will also possibly add some classes that undergrad students partaking of our recent undergrad minor might find of interest. So in general all the effects would be good for us!"

College of Liberal Arts:

Person communicated with: Richard Flores

Date of communication: 7/16/15

Response: Approves of the proposal.

College of Natural Sciences:

Person communicated with: David Vanden Bout

Date of communication: 7/18/15

Response: Approved of the proposal and the CNS courses included.

4. **Official Certificate Name:** Undergraduate Certificate: Museum Studies Bridging Disciplines Program
5. **Proposed Implementation Date:** Fall 2016
6. **CIP Code** (administrative unit awarding the certificate): 30.1401
7. **Statement of Objective:**

The Museum Studies Bridging Disciplines Program (BDP) offers students the opportunity to develop an understanding of how museums, archives, libraries, galleries, and related institutions function as sites of collecting, education, and research. Course offerings spanning a wide range of disciplines allow students to learn about contemporary museum practices and their historical development, and to acquire skills and knowledge relevant to their own specific areas of interest within Museum Studies. Some courses focus on objects, collections, and their preservation or conservation; others will help students to think about how museums serve their audiences and publics and how they preserve and shape the histories, heritage, and identity of cultures and societies. Through the Connecting Experiences component of the BDP, students can gain first-hand experience working directly with professionals in the field at a variety of different institutions, both on and off the UT campus.

The Museum Studies faculty panel, which will oversee this certificate, will work with students to tailor their course work to fit their interests, and to identify research and internship opportunities. BDP certificates combine courses that fulfill core requirements, electives, and a limited number of courses counting toward students' majors with unique research and internships. With planning, the BDP should not add time to students' UT careers. Rather, the BDP certificates are designed to help students choose the

courses they already have to take in an integrated way, giving them the opportunity to develop a secondary area of specialization.

Our goal is to have the Museum Studies BDP approved for recognition on students' official transcripts. We would like to begin recognizing the Museum Studies BDP on transcripts for students who graduate in fall 2016. The Museum Studies BDP certificate has been approved by the BDP Steering Committee, the Undergraduate Studies Advisory Committee, and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. This change affects the School of Undergraduate Studies/Programs and Centers/Bridging Disciplines Programs section of the 2014-16 Undergraduate Catalog.

Although the Museum Studies BDP will rely on courses from a variety of departments, this certificate will not have a significant effect on other colleges/schools or departments. BDP students have the opportunity each semester to request seats in courses that they plan to count toward their BDP certificate, and the BDP office in turn contacts department chairs to request seats in these courses. Typically, we only request a few seats (if any) in any given course for a semester, and the BDP office never guarantees that any student will have access to any specific course. Before we list any course as part of the BDP certificates, we contact the faculty teaching those courses to ensure that the course is appropriate to include.

For most parts of the Museum Studies curriculum, students will be able to choose from among a variety of courses to satisfy any given requirement, and as a result, no one course is overloaded with demand. The only exceptions are the BDP 101 course, which is offered through the BDPs, and the BDP 319: Museum Studies Theories and Practices course. This course is being developed and will be team-taught by Dr. Chris Bell from the Jackson School of Geosciences and Dr. Louis Waldman from the College of Fine Arts. Both faculty are on the faculty panel overseeing this certificate, and they have permission from their departments to teach this course.

- 8. Number of Students Expected to Receive the Certificate Each Semester:** Once the certificate is fully implemented, we expect approximately ten to fifteen students per semester to receive the certificate.
- 9. Number of Hours Required for Completion:**<sup>1</sup> A minimum of nineteen credit hours is required for completion of the certificate.

**10. List Faculty on the Certificate Program Faculty Committee.**

Name of Faculty Member	College/Department	Title at UT Austin	Highest Degree and Awarding Institution
Louis Waldman* (chair)	College of Fine Arts/Department of Art and Art History (Art History)	Associate Professor	Ph.D. New York University
Chris Bell*	Jackson School of Geosciences/ Department of Geological Sciences	Professor	Ph.D. University of California Berkeley
Katie Dawson*	College of Fine Arts/Department of Theatre and Dance	Assistant Professor	M.F.A. University of Texas at Austin
Caroline Frick*	College of Communication/Department of Radio-TV-Film	Assistant Professor	Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin
Frances Gale	School of Architecture	Senior Lecturer	M.S. Columbia University
Patricia Galloway*	School of Information	Professor	Ph.D. University of North Carolina
Dean Hendrickson	College of Natural Sciences/Department of	Curator, Ichthyology	Ph.D. Arizona State University

	Integrative Biology		
Janice Leoshko*	College of Fine Arts/Department of Art and Art History (Art History)	Associate Professor	Ph.D. Ohio State University
Melinda Mayer*	College of Fine Arts/Department of Art and Art History (Art Education)	Assistant Professor	Ph.D. Pennsylvania State University
Rob Oppenheim*	College of Liberal Arts/Department of Asian Studies	Associate Professor	Ph.D. University of Chicago
Karen Pavelka	School of Information	Lecturer	M.S. Columbia University
Pauline Strong*	College of Liberal Arts/Department of Anthropology	Professor	Ph.D. University of Chicago

### 11. Academic Course Requirements:

Course Abbreviation and Number	Course Title	SCH
BDP 101	Introduction to Museum Studies	1
BDP 319	Museum Studies Theories and Practices	3
Various	Six credit hours connecting research or internship experience (see number twelve below for details)	6
Various	Nine credit hours additional courses in a strand (see number twelve below for details)	9

### 12. Other Certificate Requirements:

All students are required to complete the following requirements:

1. At least nineteen credit hours of course work, to be distributed as follows:
  - a. *Foundation Courses*: Four-to-seven credit hours of foundation courses that introduce key concepts and skills/theories related to the interdisciplinary study of Museum Studies. Students take both of the following courses:
    - i. Forum Seminar (one credit): BDP 101: Introduction to Museum Studies; or another course approved by the Museum Studies faculty committee.
    - ii. Museum Studies Foundation Course (three credits): BDP 319: Museum Studies Theories and Practices; or another course approved by the Museum Studies faculty committee.
    - iii. Optional Introductory or Survey Course (three credits): Chosen from a list of courses offered in Art History, Anthropology, Architecture, American Studies, Classics, History, and Textiles and Apparel. If students choose to take a course from this list, they will only take 6 hours of strand courses.
  - b. *Connecting Experiences*: Six credit hours of coursework in undergraduate research and/or internships that connect students' Museum Studies BDP to their major field. Connecting Experiences are designed to be individualized based on the student's interests and goals, and a variety of course numbers offered through the BDPs (BDP 320K, 320L, and 321K) and in departments across the University may be used. All students must write a three to five page essay reflecting on the experience, in addition to the academic requirements specified by the faculty member supervising the student and assigning a grade.
  - c. *Courses in a Strand*: Six-to-nine credit hours of approved courses in a strand that allow students to focus their remaining BDP course work. Students will work with their BDP advisor and the faculty panel to design an interdisciplinary strand that allows them to pursue their interests, and at the same time exposes them to multiple areas of concern related to

museum studies. In designing their strand, all students must choose at least one course from each of the following categories: Objects, Collections, Preservation; and Cultures, Societies, Audiences. The attached curriculum sheet for Museum Studies lists the currently approved courses for each category. The faculty committee for the Museum Studies BDP approves new courses that may count toward the certificate each semester, and the committee may also approve student petitions to count unlisted courses on a case-by-case basis.

2. A three to four page integration essay in which students reflect on what they have learned and accomplished through their BDP experience. These essays will be reviewed by members of the BDP faculty panel.
3. Students must earn a grade of at least C- in each of the courses taken to fulfill BDP requirements and the cumulative grade point average in all courses counting toward a student's BDP certificate must be at least 2.0. All but one of the courses taken to fulfill BDP requirements must be taken on the letter-grade basis.
4. At least half of the required course work in the BDP certificate must be completed in residence at The University of Texas at Austin.
5. Completion of the requirements of a major.

**13. Give a Detailed Rationale for Change(s):**

The Museum Studies certificate is a new addition to the Bridging Disciplines Programs, and it will begin accepting applications from students in spring 2016. Each of the other BDP certificates has already received approval to be recognized on student transcripts, and we would like to have the Museum Studies certificate also recognized.

The Museum Studies certificate was developed in response to student interest in learning more about this topic at the undergraduate level, and faculty interest in offering such a program. There is currently no academic program at UT Austin focusing on museum studies at the undergraduate level, and we believe there is a need for a program that teaches students about how museums, archives, and related institutions function as sites of collecting, education, and research.

**14. College/School Approval Process:**

Approver:	Undergraduate Studies Advisory Committee
College approval:	September 10, 2015
Dean's approver:	Brent Iverson
Title:	Dean, Undergraduate Studies
Date:	September 10, 2015

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<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1b above: 18-24 hours are required.