

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 4 – C
DATE: October 3-5, 2017

SUBJECT

New Site: NSU BA in Spanish

PERTINENT HISTORY

None

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:12 – Distance Education](#)
[Academic Affairs Guideline 2.11 – New Site Requests](#)

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Northern State University (NSU) requests authorization to deliver the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Spanish through online distance delivery. NSU makes the request in response to growing demand for online Spanish courses currently offered at the university. In addition, NSU notes there are market opportunities as few universities currently offer Spanish online. All but two of the courses needed for the program are already available online. Black Hills State University, South Dakota State University, and the University of South Dakota offer bachelor’s degrees in Spanish on-campus, but not online.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

NSU is not requesting new state resources to deliver the program. NSU estimates the online program will produce 14 graduates per year after full implementation.

Board staff recommends approval of the request.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – NSU BA in Spanish New Site Request

DRAFT MOTION 20171003_4-C:

I move to approve NSU’s request to deliver the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Spanish through online distance delivery as described in Attachment I.



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Site Request

Use this form to request authorization to deliver an existing degree program (graduate program, undergraduate major or minor, certificate, or specialization) at a new site or by distance delivery. Board of Regents approval is required for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery. The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the New Site Request Form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

UNIVERSITY:	NSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	B.A. in Spanish
NEW SITE(S):¹	Online Delivery (Internet)
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	Spring 2018
CIP CODE:	160905
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Languages and Communication
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Arts and Sciences

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

/s/ Timothy Downs

President of the University

8/21/2017

Date

1. What is the need for offering the program at the new physical site or through distance delivery?

Northern State University requests authorization to deliver the Bachelor of Arts in Spanish via distance (Internet). Since launching online Spanish courses in Fall 2009, the total number of students taking an entry-level NSU Spanish course online has averaged 40+ per academic year. In 2012, students taking NSU online entry-level Spanish courses totaled 54. NSU began offering 200-level Spanish courses online in 2010. The student rosters for 200-level NSU online Spanish courses have risen dramatically. Four students took the first course offered in 2010 and in Spring 2013 18 students took SPAN 202. A total of 89 students enrolled for online courses in Fall 2013. Past online roster information indicates that the majority of students taking NSU online courses are non-NSU students seeking to fulfill Spanish courses not available at local onsite institutions. Total Spanish online enrollments since 2013 are as follows: Spring 2014 – 80, Summer 2014 – 44, Fall 2014 – 71, Spring 2015 – 75, Summer 2015 – 46 and Fall 2015 - 72. Delivery will be supported with self-support tuition.

¹ If the request is for a new physical location, include an address for the location.

Career placements for Spanish majors may include public and private school teachers, translators and interpreters, leadership functions in non-profit organizations, communications experts in global companies, and a range of other fields based on combining the Spanish major with other majors such as History, Mathematics, Chemistry, International Business, among other fields. Spanish majors often combine their coursework with a major in another field, using their language skills as an attractive complement to their studies and a means to increase their competitiveness on the job market. Employment areas for Spanish majors thus include a wide range, represented by accounting, customer service, performing musicians, artists, educators, medicine, tourism, international law and diplomacy, engineering, museum work, librarianship, military, sales, management, human resources, consulting, and other fields. Students who graduate with Spanish degrees obtain jobs in a wide variety of fields locally, nationally, and internationally.

As international trade activities in South Dakota and the Upper Midwest grow, it is important that higher education be able to provide graduates with specialized skills in World Languages, specifically Spanish. Offering the B.A. degree in Spanish online will ensure that South Dakota's workforce is positioned to meet these needs, without the barriers of a traditional classroom.

- 2. Are any other Regental universities authorized to offer a similar program at the proposed site(s) or through distance delivery? Is any non-Regental institutions offering a similar program at the new site(s)? If either answer is "yes," identify the institutions and programs and explain why authorization is requested.**

Black Hills State University, South Dakota State University, and the University of South Dakota offer bachelor's degrees in Spanish. They are not authorized to offer their degrees online.

NSU and SDSU offer online Spanish courses.

Only one other university in the country offers a Spanish major online: University of Arizona.

- 3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates (*replace "XX" in the table with the appropriate year*).**

Northern anticipates that most of the students will be new to the university, although some may be redirected from our on-campus program due to the flexibility that online courses provide to working adults, students with family obligations, etc.

We anticipate an increase in new student enrollments due to the demand for online degrees. Since launching online Spanish courses in Fall 2009, the total number of students taking an entry level NSU Spanish course has averaged 40+ per academic year. In 2012, students taking NSU online entry level Spanish courses totaled 54. NSU began offering 200-level Spanish courses online in 2010.

The student rosters for 200-level NSU online Spanish courses have risen dramatically. Four students took the first course offered in 2010 and in Spring 2013 18 students enrolled for SPAN 202. A total of 89 students enrolled for online courses in Fall 2013. Past online roster information indicates that the majority of students taking online course are non-NSU students seeking to fulfill Spanish courses not available at local onsite institutions. Total Spanish online enrollments since 2013 are as follows: Spring 2014 – 80, Summer 2014 – 44, Fall 2014 – 71, Spring 2015 – 75, Summer 2015 – 46 and Fall 2015 - 72. Allowing for attrition and assuming that a few students will take a full load each semester, we expect the following enrollments and graduates during the first four years of the online Spanish program:

	Fiscal Years*			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<i>Estimates</i>	FY XX	FY XX	FY XX	FY XX
Students new to the university	10	15	20	25
Students from other university programs	15	20	25	30
=Total students in the program at the site	35	45	50	65
Program credit hours (major courses)**	32	32	32	32
Graduates	8	10	12	14

*Do not include current fiscal year.

**This is the total number of credit hours generated by students in the program in the required or elective program courses. Use the same numbers in Appendix B – Budget.

4. What is the perceived impact of this request on existing programs in the Regental system?

The University anticipates that the offering of the B.A. degree in Spanish online will strengthen the face-to-face program by making it possible to offer an optimal course rotation due to growths in enrollment at all levels.

Internet delivery of the B.A. in Spanish supports “Goal 1: Student Success” in the Board’s Strategic Plan 2014-2020, specifically by responding to the Board’s call to “Expand distance learning and hybrid course offerings and improve student support services for these students.”

5. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If there are corresponding program modifications requested, please attach the associated form. Explain the delivery of the new courses and attach any associated new course request forms.

The curriculum for the B.A. in Spanish is provided in Appendix A. This appendix also includes a summary of which courses are offered via Internet by Northern State University and by the other regental universities.

All of the courses needed by students to complete the B.A. in Spanish have been developed for online delivery at NSU.

B.A. in Spanish – Internet Delivery	Credit hours	Credit hours currently	Credit hours currently	Credit hours currently	Credit hours new to

		available from this university at this site	available from other universities available at this site	available via distance	this university
System General Education Requirements	30	30	0	30	0
<i>Subtotal, Degree Requirements</i>	30	30	0	30	0
Required Support Courses	9	9	0	9	0
Major Requirements	31	31	0	31	0
Major Electives or Minor	3	3	0	3	0
<i>Subtotal, Requirements of the Proposed Major</i>	64	64	0	64	0
Free Electives	56	56	0	56	0
<i>Total, Degree with Proposed Major</i>	120	120	0	120	0

*If the major will be available in more than one degree (e.g., BA, BS, BS Ed) at the new site(s) and the number or distribution of credits will vary with the degree, provide a separate table for each degree.

6. How will the university provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?

Northern State University currently offers the B.S. in Banking and Financial Services, B.S. in Management, B.A. in International Business Studies, B.S. in Business Administration, B.S. in Accounting, Bachelor's in General Studies, B.S. in Professional Accountancy, and B.S. in Marketing degrees in an online format, along with several Associate's and Master's level degrees, and as a result comparable services have been established (e.g. D2L training and other services).

- The Admissions Office provides students with the information they need to succeed in an online environment.
- The Office of Online and Continuing Education and the Student Success Center follow up with students who have stopped participating in their online courses.
- The University College provides academic advising for all general education online courses.
- The College of Arts and Sciences has established an academic advisor who will coordinate with faculty to ensure that the online Spanish majors receive solid academic advising. A combination of email, telephone calls, and live chats will be utilized to accomplish this.
- NSU's Beulah Williams Library has a wealth of resources available to distance students, including online access to library resources, remote borrowing, and information and advice regarding online research.
- Dr. Juan González, Assistant Professor of Spanish, will liaise with online students regarding Student Exchange opportunities and other resources available to them through the International Programs Office.
- NSU provides special service and support for language learners such as email, Q&A sessions, language tables, Skype tutoring and SI (Supplemental Instruction) study groups and F2F gatherings for students as needed and requested.

7. Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).

The University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Schools & Colleges. There are no accreditation issues or costs associated with offering this degree online.

8. Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.

None

9. Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor. Complete Appendix B – Budget using the system form.

There are no such costs associated with this site request. For this reason, a site budget is not provided. As indicated above, NSU projects the online Spanish program will enroll 25 students new to the university by the fourth year of its implementation. Assuming full enrollment, these students would generate 750 credits during that year, providing gross revenue of \$251,250 (based on the current self-support tuition rate of \$335 per credit hour).

APPENDIX A: B.A. in Spanish

		Credits	Online Delivery
System General Education Requirements		30	B,D,N,S,U
Institutional Graduation Requirements		11	B,D,N,S
Supporting Courses	Choose three to four for 9- 12 credits total*	9 -12	N
FREN 101	Introductory French I (4 credits)		N
FREN 102	Introductory French II (4 credits)		N
FREN 201	Intermediate French I (4 credits)		N
FREN 202	Intermediate French II (4 credits)		N
LING 403	Introduction to Linguistics (3 credits)		N
MFL 420	K-12 Foreign Language Methods (3 credits)		N
GER101	Introductory German I (4 credits)		N
GER102	Introductory German II (4 credits)		N
GER 201	Intermediate German I (3 credits)		N
GER 202	Intermediate German II (3 credits)		N
Total:		53	
Unspecified Electives		38	B,D,N,S,U
Spanish Major			
SPAN 101	Introductory Spanish I	4	N,S
SPAN 102	Introductory Spanish II	4	N,S
SPAN 201	Intermediate Spanish I	3	N
SPAN 202	Intermediate Spanish II	3	N
SPAN 311	Integrated Writing, Conversation and Grammar I	3	N
SPAN 312	Integrated Writing, Conversation and Grammar II	3	N
SPAN 353	Introduction to Spanish Literature I	3	N
SPAN 355	Introduction to Latin American Literature I	3	N
SPAN 469	Texts, History and Contexts in Spain and Latin America	3	N
SPANISH ELECTIVE	SPAN 354 – Introduction to Spanish Literature II or SPAN 356- Introduction to Latin American Literature II	3	N
Total		32	
Total Major		120	

*Other options for the Supporting Courses are possible at the discretion of the student's Advisor

B = Black Hills State University D = Dakota State University
 S = South Dakota State University U = University of South Dakota

N = Northern State University