

Impact: No impact is expected. We are combining two, 2-credit classes (POLS 490 and 460 - the senior research and research presentation class, respectively) into one 4-credit classes for ease of scheduling and staffing. The credits for POLS 290 have also increased, but the required hours in the major are not affected by this change. Since POLS 460 has always been offered as a 2-credit course, there will not be an increase to the number of hours in the major.

Rationale: While the two credit courses are attractive in theory, they have created scheduling complications for students and faculty alike. We are combining the senior research and research presentation courses in the interest of simplifying the senior requirements and minimizing scheduling challenges. It also makes more sense for the faculty who mentors the student's research to also evaluate the oral presentation.