MEMORANDUM

TO: Edward Montgomery
   Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

FROM: Victor Korenman
      Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Add Math 111 to the Major Requirement in Criminology and Criminal Justice (PCC Log No. 04039)

At its meeting on February 11, 2005, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses approved your proposal to add Math 111 to the major requirements for Criminology and Criminal Justice. The main effect of this action is that a minimum grade of C- in Math 111 will be required before students are eligible to enroll in CCJS 200. A copy of the approved proposal is enclosed.

The change is effective in Fall 2005 and will apply only to students who declare CCJS as their major in the Fall of 2005 or thereafter. The College should ensure that the new requirement is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog, the Schedule of Classes, and in all other relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

VK: sfm
Enclosure

Cc: Dr. Sylvester J. Gates, Chair, Senate PCC
    Dr. Katherine Beardsley, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
    Dr. John Doerr, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
    Dr. Mary Giles, University Senate
    Ms. Barbara Hope, Data Administration
    Dr. Phyllis Peres, Undergraduate Studies
    Ms. Anne Turkos, Archives
    Dr. Linda Yokoi, Records & Registrations
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS: Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one-page in length. Forms and appropriate attachments should be submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs, who will assign a Log Number to each proposal. Also submit an electronic version of as much of the proposal as is possible.

DATE SUBMITTED _10/18/2004__

PCC LOG NO. 04039

COLLEGE/SCHOOL _Behavioral and Social Sciences

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM _Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice_

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD____ DELETE____ CHANGE_X_

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

We propose to add completion of MATH 111 with a grade of C- or higher as a requirement for our major.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

Our research shows that students who achieve a grade of C- or higher in MATH 111 perform significantly better in our required statistics class (CCJS 200) and are thus less likely to have to repeat this class.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

1. Department Committee Chair ____________________________ DATE 10/20/04
   Signature
2. Department Chair ____________________________ DATE 10/23/04
   Signature
3. College/School PCC Chair ____________________________ DATE 12/9/04
   Signature
4. Dean ____________________________ DATE 12-9-04
   Signature
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) ____________________________
6. Chair, Senate PCC ____________________________ DATE 02/11/05
   Signature
7. Chair of Senate ____________________________
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost ____________________________ DATE 2/11/05
   Signature

VPAAP Rev. 3/1/04
Our proposal is to add MATH 111 to our required courses for our major. Students would need to complete this course with a minimum grade of C-. We currently require MATH 111 as a prerequisite for our statistics course (CCJS 200), however, students have been required to pass this course with a minimum grade of D-. Our research shows that there is a strong link between performance in MATH 111 and CCJS 200. Students who complete MATH 111 with a grade of D have lower academic performance in CCJS 200. Students who achieve a grade of C- or better in MATH 111 are more likely to be able to achieve our required grade of C- or higher in CCJS 200. Students who get the grade of D in MATH 111 are much more likely to have to repeat CCJS 200, thus delaying their completion of their degree.

Analysis of the Fall 2002 semester reveals that of the 156 students enrolled in CCJS 200 that took a Math perquisite at the University of Maryland (106 took Math 111 and the rest took MATH 140 and other classes), 14 of these got a D in the prerequisite. Of these students, 8 of them failed to achieve a C- or greater in CCJS 200 (57%). In contrast, 28% of those students who did achieve a C in the Math prerequisite failed to achieve a grade of C- or higher in CCJS 200. Those who achieved a grade higher than C (As and Bs) in the MATH prerequisite did substantially better in CCJS 200. Therefore, we believe that by adding MATH 111 to our major and increasing the required grade, students will be more prepared for and thus perform better in CCJS 200, and will therefore be less likely to have to repeat CCJS 200.
Since MATH 111 is already taken by most CCJS majors, we do not anticipate much impact on student’s schedules or on the Mathematics Department. The only exception to this would be on the student who will need to retake MATH 111 or a higher Math class in order to achieve the grade of C-. Our research shows that this number should be fairly low. Using the Fall 2002 data, of the 106 students who took MATH 111, 7 of these got a D. Additionally, as stated above, a total of 14 students who take either MATH 111 or higher failed to obtain the grade of C- or higher. We also anticipate that if students are aware that they need a C- or higher in MATH 111, they will devote more effort and energy to that class, and will in turn perform at a higher rate.

We propose that this new requirement will be effective beginning in the Fall of 2005. It will only apply to students who declare CCJS as their major in the Fall of 2005 or after. Students who are already in the CCJS major will be grandfathered in and will be allowed to complete MATH 111 with a D- or higher as is currently the policy.