March 28, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: James F. Harris  
   Dean, College of Arts and Humanities

FROM: Phyllis Peres  
   Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to add a Minor in Persian Studies (PCC log no. 07051)

At its meeting today, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses unanimously approved your proposal to add a Minor in Persian Studies. A copy of the approved proposal is attached. However, the Committee did express some concern about the practical aspects of a minor with such a substantial number of specialized prerequisite courses and requested careful monitoring of this issue. The School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures may want to consider revising the Minor into a Certificate if in practice the prerequisites prove too weighty to allow it to truly function as a minor.

The Minor is effective Fall, 2008. The College should ensure that the Minor is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure

cc: Carmen Balthrop, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid  
Laura Slavin, University Senate  
Barbara Hope, Data Administration  
Denise Nadasen, Institutional Research & Planning  
Anne Turkos, Archives  
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
Scott Wolpert, Undergraduate Studies  
Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux, College of Arts and Humanities  
Amy Weinberg, Linguistics  
Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
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.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED_Feb. 14, 2008__

COLLEGE/SCHOOL_ARHU_

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM_PERS

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD_x DELETE_____ CHANGE_____

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.)

Minor in Persian Studies

The School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures proposes a 15-credit minor in Persian Studies.

Enclosed:

1. Rationale/Resources
2. Catalogue description
3. Staffing and Phase-in
4. Sample 4-yr plan for student

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.)

Responding to student demand and helping establish the University of Maryland as a premier center for the study of Persian, the Minor in Persian Studies will provide students with a background in linguistic, literary, and cultural aspects of the study of Persian, including the cultures of Iran, Afghanistan, Persian-speaking Central Asia, and the Persian diaspora.

The development of this program will be supported by a grant from the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute. An undergraduate major in Persian Studies, to be supported in part by the National Security Education Program's Flagship initiative, is being developed as well.

=================================================================================================

APPROVAL SIGNATURES  - Please print name, sign, and date

1. Department Committee Chair  Laszlo Acs  [Signature]  2.14.08
2. Department Chair  
   PIERRE VERDAGUT  
   02 - 14 - C8

3. College/School PCC Chair  
   MAURICE VENIT  
   2/26/08

4. Dean  
   ELIZABETH LONEY  
   3/28/08

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)  

6. Chair, Senate PCC  
   CLMENT ESTEFANY  
   3/28/08

7. Chair of Senate  

8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost  
   Rupali Perez  
   3/28/08
Minor in Persian Studies

Rationale:

The School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures is pleased to propose a Minor in Persian Studies. The Minor in Persian Studies responds to national educational priorities, to student demand for official recognition of their interest in Persian language, literature, and culture, and to a desire to capitalize upon the newly established Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute Center for Persian Studies. The minor offers a course of study in Persian language and culture, with its ancient and its modern presence of intellectual/academic import. It will serve students who would like to become grounded in their Persian heritage, students working toward expertise in Middle Eastern studies who would like to expand the geographical and linguistic range of their knowledge, students majoring in another language in SLLC, and students who intend to work in government service or the international arena.

The minor is designed to allow students with little or no background in Persian to reach the 300-level in Persian language (min Pers 301). A student arriving at UM with no familiarity with Persian would begin with Pers 101 (4 credits), moving to 102 (4 credits) in second semester, and completing the 14-credit prerequisite with the co-offered 201 (3 credits) and 211 (3 credits) in the 3rd semester. (There are no prerequisites for students with equivalent knowledge of Persian. While this brings the total credits, including “hidden” credits, to 29, we have designed the minor this way to provide for a satisfactory language competency as an outcome. SLLC minors begin at the 200-level in general.) They would begin the minor language courses in the 4th semester. The Minor would also serve the heritage population, offering students who enter with some knowledge of the language the flexibility of advanced courses in Persian more suited to their needs. A student who wishes to take all courses in the target language is welcome to do so, as long as 3 of these courses are upper-level.

The minor includes the option of courses in English, for which CORE designation will be applied. This offers two practical advantages to the Minor -- students who begin Persian language study in their second or third year at UM will still be able to minor in Persian studies, gaining the crucial cultural content in English; students who initially take the courses in English to satisfy their CORE requirements may be attracted to studying the language through those very content courses; it also illustrates our desire to give students a background in what leads to and follows from the linguistic arena.

The attached catalogue-style description of the minor lists the courses that can be used to satisfy its requirements. Courses shown in italics are under development, in preparation for the proposal for a Major in Persian Studies. The courses in normal font are fully approved and are sufficient in range and number to allow a student to complete the minor in 4 years or less.
Resources:

The Persian Studies Center began offering courses in Fall 2005. We currently offer a series of six sequential courses in the Persian language at three levels (elementary 1 & 2, intermediate 1 & 2, and advanced 1 & 2) as well as courses taught in Persian at the 4xx-level in Persian literature (classical, modern, and contemporary) and CORE courses in modern Iranian culture and civilization. Recognizing the potential for excellence of our program, the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute (RCHI) has extended to us a $3,000,000 grant aimed at expanding our course offerings and for supporting our students through scholarships. RCHI has designated $400,000 of the grant for cultural enhancement and community involvement programs and for our outreach activities. RCHI has further indicated that it is prepared to extend other grants once we institute our major and minor in Persian Studies.

An attached page illustrates the staffing that would be required to support the Minor in Persian Studies. The first year includes 2 new courses, PERS 211 (Intermediate Conversation) and PERS212 (Intermediate Reading), intended as co-requisites for the intermediate sequence of PERS201 and PERS202. (These two courses will be reduced from 4 credits to 3, with oral and reading skills given enhanced attention in the focused co-requisites). A search at Associate or Full Professor level, funded by the Roshan donation, is currently underway. This faculty member would join Professor Karimi-Hakkak, a world-renowned scholar in Persian language, literature, and culture. While no further new courses or faculty would be required to support the Minor in Persian Studies, the development of the Major in Persian Studies will lead to new courses that will serve students pursuing the minor. (A second T/TT faculty search will be part of the proposal for the Major in Persian Studies.)

Library resources: The Roshan Center has approximately 2,000 donated volumes in its possession. The library has agreed to hire a cataloguer so these items can be added to the collection. (See attached letter)

This 15-credit minor will provide students with a background in linguistic, literary, and cultural aspects of the study of Persian, including the cultures of Iran, Afghanistan, Persian-speaking Central Asia, and the Persian diaspora. Students will work toward linguistic competence in speaking, reading, writing, and listening; students will be introduced to Iranian culture in its diverse perspectives, practices, and products.

The Minor in Persian Studies complements a range of professions, including careers in education, engineering, government, journalism, the arts, business, and communication.

A minimum of 9 credits must be earned through courses taught in Persian. Up to 6 may be earned from PERS courses taught in English. A minimum of 9 credits must be at the upper level. All courses presented for the minor must be passed with a grade of 2.0 or better.
A maximum of 6 credits may be applied to the minor from courses taken at other institutions. No more than 6 credits of the minor may be used to satisfy the requirements of a major. No courses applied to the minor may count toward another minor. All students planning to pursue the Minor in Persian Studies should contact the undergraduate advisor for Persian, who will be responsible for oversight and record keeping.

**Prerequisites (14 credits):**

**Courses listed in italics are under development.**

- PERS 101 Elementary Persian I (4 credits)
- PERS 102 Elementary Persian II (4 credits)
- PERS 201 Intermediate Persian I
- **PERS 211 Intermediate Conversation**

There are no prerequisites for students with equivalent knowledge.

**Course requirements:**

1. **Courses taught in Persian** (at least 9 credits)

   All prerequisites imply “or equivalent knowledge.”

   - PERS 202 Intermediate Persian II (prereq 201/211)
   - **PERS 212 Intermediate Reading (coreq 202)**
   - PERS 301 Advanced Persian I (prereq 202/212)
   - PERS 302 Advanced Persian II (prereq 301)
   - **PERS 311 Persian Media (pre-coreq 301)**
   - **PERS 312 Iranian Culture (prereq 301)**
   - **PERS 401 Persian Composition (prereq 302)**
   - **PERS 402 Persian Translation (prereq 302)**
   - **PERS 411 Readings in Modern Iranian History and Culture (prereq 302)**
   - **PERS 412 Language and Identity (prereq 302)**
   - PERS 452 Modern Persian Literature: A Survey (prereq 302)
   - PERS 453 Classical Persian Literature: A Survey (prereq: 6 credits Arabic)
   - **PERS 498 Special Topics in Persian Studies**
   - **PERS 499 Special Topics in Persian Literature**

2. **Persian Studies Courses Taught in English** (up to 6 credits; no prerequisites)

   - **PERS 250 Contemporary Iranian Arts (HA/D)**
   - PERS 251 Modern Iran (SH/D)
   - PERS 283 Iranian Cinema (HA-HO/D)
   - PERS 353 Iranian Life in Literature and Film (D)
   - PERS 371 Introduction to Persian Literature in Translation (D)
PERS 372  The History of Persian (D)  
PERS 441  Islam in Iran (D)  
PERS 498  Special Topics in Persian Studies  
PERS 499  Special Topics in Persian Literature  

Minor in Persian Studies: Staffing  

a. Roshan Hire; PT instructor (10 credits); Karimi-Hakkak  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 08</th>
<th>Spr 09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101 (4) Elem I  Instructor</td>
<td>102 (4) Elem II  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201  Interim I  Instructor</td>
<td>202  Interim II  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211  <em>Interim Conv</em>  Instructor</td>
<td>212  <em>Interim Read</em>  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301  Adv I  New Hire</td>
<td>302  Advanced II  New Hire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251 E  Modern Iran  New Hire</td>
<td>353E  Lit/Film  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>371 E  Pers Lit Trans  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
<td>441E  Islam in Iran  New Hire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>452  Lit Survey  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. 2nd T/TT Hire; PT instructor (10 credits); Karimi-Hakkak; assumes major in place  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 09</th>
<th>Spr 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101 (4) Elem I  Instructor</td>
<td>102 (4) Elem II  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201  Interim I  Instructor</td>
<td>202  Interim II  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211  <em>Interim Conv</em>  Instructor</td>
<td>212  <em>Interim Read</em>  Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301  Adv I  New Hire I</td>
<td>302  Advanced II  New Hire I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311  Persian Media  New Hire I</td>
<td>312  Iranian Culture  New Hire I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401  Persian Composition  NewII</td>
<td>412  Lang and Ident  NewII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>371 E  Pers Lit Trans  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
<td>283 E  Iranian Cinema  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251E  Modern Iran  New II</td>
<td>452  Pers Lit Survey  Karimi-Hakkak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLLC499a  Islam and Democ  New II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>