

Alteration of an Academic Unit

Alterations include renaming of a unit and transferring the unit to a different school or college.

1. Identify the type of unit (see accompanying approval process flow chart and description for each):
 - a. College
 - b. School
 - c. Academic Department: Department of Political Science and Department of International and Global Studies
 - d. Academic Program:
 - e. Research/Membership Center/Institute
 - f. General Support or Public Service Center/Institute
2. Name of the unit: The curricular programs in the Department of International and Global Studies (DIGS) (Major in Global Studies, International Development (BA/BS), Minor in International and Global Studies, Certificates in Middle East Studies, Global Studies and International Development) will be transferred to the Department of Political Science (PS). Following the transfer of faculty and programs from DIGS, the name of the unit will become The Department of Politics and Global Affairs (PGA) and International and Global Studies will no longer be a department. The Chair of PS will become the Chair of PGA and will have administrative authority, but will assign someone to act as a program coordinator over DIGS programs. Our intention is to retain the INTL prefix for all DIGS courses and the PS prefix for PS courses, as PGA will continue to offer these degree programs. The department code in Banner for the combined unit will change to PGA. For now, DIGS will retain a separate website to guide its majors and minors as it is an informative comprehensive site that serves as a first step for students who need advising. We have assurance and support from the Interim Dean in CUPA, Jennifer Allen, that we will have guidance and a chance to consult with Communication and Public Relations professionals both in the CUPA Dean's office and at the University level in order to consolidate our websites and other marketing materials in the future. We are keen to make sure that students are directed to our change in the best and most effective way possible.
3. Provide a justification for the alteration, including its impact on the unit's objectives and outcomes.

The Department of International and Global Studies at Portland State University (PSU) has been included in Phase III of the Program Review and Reduction Process (PRRP), which makes its faculty and programs eligible for a recommendation for reduction based on budgetary concerns. An overarching goal of the PRRP is "...to strengthen the financial health of the university while maintaining our ability to meet the needs of students and sustain our academic mission." In December 2022 and January 2023, the full faculties of both the

DIGS and PS voted to transfer DIGS academic programs and three tenured faculty from DIGS. This goal was to reduce administrative costs, to serve the student body by maintaining existing academic programs, and to increase the potential for new academic program development. Three DIGS faculty members will transfer to PS to support the programs. In addition to cost savings, such a move will allow for important synergies and reduce curricular overlaps. This move reflects the fact that we already have shared faculty positions, and a large number of double majors, and will allow us to better offer DIGS' revised curriculum, and deepen teaching collaborations.

4. How will this alteration help Portland State University to achieve its goals (e.g., pedagogy, research, community service, diversity and inclusion)?

DIGS faculty have made changes to these programs in keeping with the requirements of the PRRP process. DIGS' Phase 2 and Phase 3 reports reaffirm a commitment to pedagogy, research, service in the community, diversity and inclusion in detail and are available for review.

5. What will happen to significant activities that are currently being performed by the unit?

All activities in service of the BA/BS in Global Studies and International Development; the Global Studies Minor; and the Certificates in Global Studies, International Development Studies, and Middle East Studies will continue in the Department of Politics and Global Affairs. The three tenured faculty members who are transferring from DIGS will continue to support these programs, in addition to PS faculty members who have expertise in relevant areas. We are confident that our faculty have the capacity to support both PS and DIGS academic programs, especially because the Provost has signed a Memorandum (attached) that supports our work to integrate and synergize our curricula.

6. Indicate the expected percentage of time and resources that will be allocated to each activity. Please include, if appropriate: courses to be offered, course development, research performed, community partnerships built, other (specify). This includes activities that will continue to be performed by this unit and those shifted to other units.

DIGS is moving its programs, including major, minor, and pertinent certificates to PS. All administrative staff positions are being consolidated. DIGS website lists all the current and future courses in our catalog. [Here is a](#) list.

7. Why is a change needed to achieve these outcomes?
 - a. What other units are impacted by this alteration? Meet with these units and include documentation on the outcomes of these meetings.

Both the Department of International and Global Studies, and the Department of Political Science will be affected by this alteration. The faculty of both departments voted to transfer from DIGS to PS the academic programs and three tenured faculty members. (An additional faculty member's FTE was already split .49 DIGS/.51 PS, with a tenure home in PS. Her .49 FTE has transferred as well.) One NTTF faculty member was also directly appointed to PS/PGA from DIGS to support DIGS programs.

The three tenured faculty that will transfer to PS received support from DIGS faculty in a vote that was finalized on January 20th).

In summary, DIGS has three 1.0 FTE tenure lines who will transfer to PS, one faculty member who is transferring 0.49 FTE to PS, and one NTTF faculty member who has been appointed directly to PS to support delivery of the curriculum.

- b. Why is a separate or changed identity and/or structure key to success in meeting the objectives and planned outcomes?

The changes included in this proposal were motivated primarily by the inclusion of the Department of International and Global Studies in Phase III of the Program Review and Reduction Process, and the threat of program reduction. There are significant synergies between PS and DIGS in terms of program overlaps—for example, both DIGS and PS have degree tracks in “International Development”—double-majored students, and shared faculty lines. We believe that transferring these programs is critical to maintaining and supporting them. Without the transfer, all programs included in this proposal are in danger of program reduction, which would be a tremendous loss to our students, to the College of Urban and Public Affairs, and to PSU.

- c. How will these outcomes be measured and assessed? What benchmarks will be used to determine the success of the unit?

At an administrative level, the success of this endeavor will be determined by future SCH generation, student retention, Major and Minor headcounts, and other metrics such as faculty and student feedback.

8. What is the proposed new structure of the unit? Examples include: Where will it be housed? Will it become a separate administrative unit? Will it have its own support staff? How will faculty become affiliated with the unit? Will faculty FTE be assigned to the unit? What is the likely faculty composition (% tenure-track, % fixed-term, % adjunct)? According to what rules will faculty be evaluated for P&T?

The programs in this proposal will be transferred from DIGS to PS, and the combined unit will be renamed the Department of Politics and Global Affairs. As PS is absorbing DIGS programs and faculty, no changes are necessary to the structure of PS (other than the name change), though in the near future we will be reviewing our curricula to better capitalize on our shared strengths and faculty expertise, and to reduce program overlaps. The Department of Politics and Global Affairs will continue to be housed in the College of Urban and Public Affairs. During the 23-24 academic year, the former-DIGS faculty will move their offices adjacent to the PS faculty, but no new office space is required.

Currently, the P&T documents will remain as is. However, the integration of the departments will require a more extensive conversation about how to incorporate interdisciplinarity, especially for faculty who have doctorates that are not in Political Science.

9. When would the change be enacted? What is the period of time for the unit to operate (if it is not permanent)? Describe how the unit may evolve or expand.

These program transfers would come into effect on June 16, 2023 at the end of academic year 22/23, and the tenure transfers would take place on September 16th 2023, at the beginning of the contract year 23/24.

10. What additional resources are needed for the change? What is the new level of resources needed to support the now smaller unit? What will happen to reassigned resources? What revenue will the unit generate?

a. Budget

Budgets for DIGS programs will be transferred to PS along with the programs and tenure lines. No new budgetary allocations are required for this program transfer. These moves are internal to CUPA. The Dean's Office is in support of this proposal.

b. Space

No new space is required for this transfer. The former-DIGS faculty will co-locate to the CUPA 6th floor (PS) during the 23-24 academic year. The goal for these moves is to make PGA space more functional and better aligned with the collaboration needs of the unit.

c. Staff

No new staff will be required for this transfer.

d. Support Services

No new support services will be required for this transfer.

11. List the individuals proposing the change and their affiliations.

Joshua Eastin, Chair of the Department of Political Science

Priya Kapoor, Chair of the Department of International and Global Studies.

Signatures

Request prepared by*: Joshua Eastin, Priya Kapoor

Date: 4/26/2023

Approved by*: Jennifer Allen

Title: Interim Dean, College of Urban and Public Affairs

Date: 4/26/2023

** Signatures are required of the immediate supervisor, and administrators at each level above that of the immediate supervisor, that approve the project prior to submission to EPC. Insert additional rows if needed.*

Reviewed by Budget Committee Chair: Jill Emery

Date: 5/5/23

Reviewed by Educational Policy Committee Chair: Tim Anderson

Date: 5/9/23

Reviewed by Presiding Officer representing Faculty Senate:

Date:

Approved by Provost:

Date:

Note from Secretary:

This version of the text is transcribed from the original proposal form.

Preparers' endorsements and Dean's approval per original proposal form.

BC chair review per email to Presiding Officer and Secretary, 5/5/23.

EPC chair review per email to Presiding Officer and Secretary, 5/9/23:

On April 28th, the EPC met and reviewed the proposal related for merging International Studies with Political Science. On April 28th, the EPC met and reviewed the proposal for merging International Studies with Political Science. The EPC noted that the process had been followed with faculty support from both departments. The rationale was well reasoned. The EPC recommended approval of the proposal without any dissent.