PART I – NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND PROGRAM CHANGES

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

1. Request to establish a **Bachelor of Science** degree in **Economic Geography** in the Department of Geography. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE) will consider this request.

a. **Background Information:**

The department is proposing a new Bachelor of Science degree in Economic Geography in response to Academic Program Review and changing opportunities for bachelor’s degree recipients in employment and continuing education. The proposed new degree aligns with the department’s undergraduate degree program and faculty research expertise and will replace the current Bachelor of Science degree in Geography which is in moratorium and will be phased out and discontinued.

The Department of Geography currently offers three undergraduate degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography, a Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science, and a Bachelor of Arts in Human Geography. The degree in Environmental Geography is for students interested in jobs within the environmental field such as with consulting firms, the Forest Service, Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Agriculture or as soil analysts. Students enrolled in the Geographic Information Science major are interested in the specific application of digital technology, for example, to environmental firms, state government, the transportation sector, or real estate. Students pursuing Human Geography can train for jobs in both large and small private sector companies, all levels of government, and/or nonprofits and non-government organizations. Human geographers work as demographic analysts, sustainability directors, circulation managers, historic preservation specialists, policy analysts and developers. They can work in fields such as operations, consulting, social justice, tourism/parks and recreation, and others.

The Bachelor of Science in Economic Geography is designed to attract students to the science of Economic Geography and its applications to our communities at various scales. The determination and planning of locations of commercial, industrial, medical and other service facilities, the structure and functioning of our cities, as well as the transportation systems that connect them, all involve Economic Geography. These analyses are conducted at various scales from the very local to the near global. To properly address such issues, students need to be trained with significant quantitative and scientific skills that are well beyond those currently required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Geography. For example, locational optimization is premised on concepts involving applications of calculus instead of only entry level statistics. As a result, Economic Geography should not be viewed as positioned along a continuum ranging from the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geography (the ‘natural science’ end) to the Bachelor of Arts in Human Geography (the ‘social science’ end). Instead, the proposed Bachelor of Science degree in Economic Geography should be considered as having a different ‘node’ apart from them both, as is the case with the Bachelor of Science degree in Geographic Information Science. This node would intersect with the general field of Economics much more directly than the degrees in Human or Environmental Geography.

Although the concept of a distinct degree in Economic Geography may seem novel to many in the United States, the field is recognized in international contexts such as China and the United Kingdom. There are also dozens of professions utilizing the content in business, government and trade. Annually, many highly capable prospective students with interests in this field are not admitted to the College of Business, and the College of Social Science’s Department of Economics due to capacity issues. Therefore, this degree, with importance that many of them would recognize, would allow an opportunity for them to remain at Michigan State University while majoring in an appropriate degree program that would make them eminently ‘employable’ upon graduation.
b. **Academic Programs Catalog Text:**

The Bachelor of Science degree in Economic Geography provides a comprehensive program for students interested in the roles of space, place, location, scale, key agents, and forces in the economic sphere. The program prepares students to succeed in commercial, non-government organizations, nonprofits, or governmental realms as well as the pursuit of graduate degrees, with emphases on spatial planning and control of issues ranging from transport and markets to poverty and inequality. Students attain substantial quantitative and technical skills as well as practical skills for solving problems drawn from local, regional, and global settings.

**Requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Economic Geography**

1. The University requirements for bachelor’s degrees as described in the *Undergraduate Education* section of this catalog; 120 credits, including general elective credits, are required for the Bachelor of Science degree in Economic Geography.

   The University’s Tier II writing requirement for the Economic Geography major is met by completing Geography 480. That course is referenced in item 3. below.

2. The requirements of the College of Social Science for the Bachelor of Science degree.

3. The following courses with a minimum 2.0 grade-point average (42 or 43 credits):

   **CREDITS**

   a. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):
      - LB 118 Calculus I 4
      - MTH 124 Survey of Calculus I 3
      - MTH 132 Calculus I 3
      - MTH 152H Honors Calculus I 3

   b. The following course (3 credits):
      - EC 201 Introduction to Microeconomics 3

   c. Both of the following courses (6 credits):
      - GEO 113 Introduction to Economic Geography 3
      - GEO 151 Introduction to Human Geography 3

   d. Both of the following courses (6 credits):
      - GEO 221 Introduction to Geographic Information 3
      - GEO 363 Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Geographers 3

   e. Three of the following courses (9 credits):
      - GEO 413 Urban Geography 3
      - GEO 414 Geography of Transportation 3
      - GEO 415 Location Theory and Land Use Analysis 3
      - GEO 418 The Ghetto 3
      - GEO 453 Metropolitan Environments: Urban Forms and Land Uses 3
      - GEO 459 Tourism in Regional Development 3

   f. The following course (3 credits):
      - GEO 480 Senior Seminar 3

   g. Six additional credits in Geography courses at the 300-level and above.

   h. Two courses outside the Department of Geography (6 credits):
      - CE 341 Transportation Engineering 3
      - CE 448 Transportation Planning 3
      - CSUS 320 Environmental Planning and Management 3
      - CSUS 447 Community Economic Development 3
      - CSUS 474 Advanced Topics in Tourism Management 3
      - EC 301 Intermediate Microeconomics 3
      - EC 306 Comparative Economic Systems 3
      - EC 310 Economics of Developing Countries 3
      - EC 340 Survey of International Economics 3
      - EEP 320 Environmental Economics 3
      - UP 314 Methods for Investigation of Urban Systems 4
      - UP 353 Land Use Planning 4
In addition to the requirements for the major, students may elect to complete a
cognate in business. The requirements for the cognate are met by completing
four of the following courses (12 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC 230</td>
<td>Survey of Accounting Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI 320</td>
<td>Introduction to Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBL 323</td>
<td>Introduction to Business Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGT 325</td>
<td>Management Skills and Processes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKT 327</td>
<td>Introduction to Marketing</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Effective Fall 2016.
PART II - NEW COURSES AND CHANGES

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LA 449  Landscape Architecture Design Studio
Fall of every year. 3(0-6) P: LA 448
REINSTATEMENT  Self-selected evidence based design studio project.
             Effective Fall 2015