

4-19-1982

# Proposal for an Interdisciplinary minor in Applied Social Research

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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Routing #17 81-82

Resolution #15  
1981-1982

Proposal for an Interdisciplinary  
Minor in Applied Social Research

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering

FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on 4/19/82  
(Date)

RE: X I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)  
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)  
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

SUBJECT: Proposal for an Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research

(See attached)



Signed Ginny L. Studer Date Sent 4/20/82  
(For the Senate)  
Ginny L. Studer, President, Faculty Senate...

TO: The Faculty Senate

FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering

RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution  
 a. Accepted. Effective Date 5/12/82  
 b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II., III. a. Received and acknowledged  
 b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: Vice Presidents: Douglas

Others:

Distribution Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: [Signature]  
(President of the College)

Date Received by the Senate: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal For An  
INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN  
APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

Prepared By The  
Board of Directors  
INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH  
SUNY College at Brockport

April 1982

Proposal For  
INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

Introduction

The Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) was established in 1979 as a public service entity of the SUNY College at Brockport. The purposes and activities of the Institute include the conduct of contracted applied social research projects, the provision of research support services and consultation to community agencies and college faculty conducting sponsored and nonsponsored research projects, and the encouragement of applied social research efforts by faculty and students of the College.

Objective

The objective of the proposed interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research is to provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to develop and practice, with faculty supervision, applied social research competencies and skills complementing and enriching study in the curricula of their academic majors. Students pursuing majors in the departments and programs of the current divisions of Social and Behavior Sciences and Social Professions (and, in lesser numbers, those of the current divisions of Humanities, Natural and Mathematical Sciences and Physical Education) will find in the proposed minor an opportunity to better understand the methodologies and procedures by which a significant portion of the theory, concepts, principles and assertions comprising the body of knowledge in their disciplinary major was and continues to be developed and refined.

The Minor

The proposed interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research, intended to develop students' applied social research competencies and their understanding of the research-based knowledge in their disciplinary major fields, is composed of two components: an "academic" element and a "practicum" element.

The curriculum of the proposed minor requires a minimum of 18 semester hours of coursework, distributed as follows:

A. Required Coursework (12 semester hours)

Basic Statistics Course - selected by advisement from among:

CRJ 473	Statistics	3 cr. hrs.
ECN 303	Introduction to Economic Statistics	3 cr. hrs.
GGR 214	Basic Statistics	3 cr. hrs.
MTH 243	Elementary Statistics	3 cr. hrs.
PLS 300	Political Statistics	3 cr. hrs.
PSH 202	Introductory Statistics for Psychology	3 cr. hrs.
SOC 200	Social Statistics	3 cr. hrs.



Basic Research Methods Course - selected by advisement from among:

AAS 471	Research Methods	3 cr. hrs.
CRJ 471	Research Methods	3 cr. hrs.
SOC 310	Methods of Sociological Research	3 cr. hrs.
SPH 452	Mass Communication Research	3 cr. hrs.

Data Analysis Course:

SOC 413	Techniques of Data Analysis (or equivalent data analysis course)	3 cr. hrs.
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Advanced Research Methods Course:

SOC 414	Advanced Research Methods (or equivalent advanced research methods course)	3 cr. hrs.
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The selection of specific SUNY College at Brockport and transfer courses, if any, to fulfill these requirements will be done by advisement of members of the ISSR Board of Directors, functioning as the curriculum committee and academic advisors for the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research. The twelve semester hours of required coursework must be completed before the student enrolls in the practicum coursework of the proposed minor.

B. Practicum Coursework (6 or more semester hours)

ASR 401	Applied Social Research (proposed new course).	3 cr. hrs.
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Course description: Applied social research activities undertaken under the direction of a faculty sponsor/supervisor functioning as a Faculty Fellow of the ISSR. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 13 semester hours. Prerequisites: completion of required coursework for minor and ISSR Director's permission.

In addition, those students pursuing the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research who wish to pursue in greater depth one or more particular aspects of applied social research methodology and practice will be encouraged to elect additional coursework in that area. A student particularly interested in the application of computers in social research, for example, may elect one or more of the following courses beyond the minimum requirements for the major: CSC 101--Introduction to Computing, CSC 203--Fundamentals of Computer Science I, CSC 205--Fundamentals of Computer Science II. A student interested in the use of statistical approaches and techniques in social research may additionally opt to take one or more of the following: MTH 441 --Statistical Methods I, MTH 442--Statistical Methods II.

Academic Advisement

Students contemplating or pursuing the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research will be guided in the selection of appropriate courses by members of the ISSR Board of Directors, coordinated by the ISSR Director. Practicum advisement and supervision will be planned, coordinated and monitored by the ISSR Director and effected by the Faculty Fellows to whom students are assigned for research practica.

Clientele

Undergraduate students likely to be attracted to the minor include (but are not limited to) those in business administration, communications, criminal justice, education, health science, history, political science, social psychology, sociology and social work; in short, those programs and disciplines in which social survey or observational research constitutes a prominent methodology for the discovery, expansion and refinement of knowledge. It is anticipated that there normally will be at no time more than 8-15 undergraduate students pursuing the minor. The number of students pursuing and completing the minor will be constrained, at least in part, by the availability and suitability of ongoing or project research projects and activities of the ISSR in which students may gain practicum training.

Resources Available and Needed

Implementation of the proposed Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research will impose no significant additional demands upon the resources of the SUNY College at Brockport. The proposed minor, in actuality, represents a "packaging" of existing and ongoing courses and activities, and does not require the addition (or reallocation) of faculty, equipment and facilities. It will be necessary, however, with the imminent dissolution of the Bureau of Field Services, from which a one-eighth staff line was dedicated for the position of the ISSR Director, to identify other courses of "release time" for that position.

All courses, other than ASR 401--Applied Social Research, comprising the curriculum of the minor are currently being offered by departments. For this reason, and in view of the relatively small number of students anticipated for the minor, no additional faculty will be needed. Recruitment of faculty members currently on campus to serve as Faculty Fellows, ASR 401 instructor and faculty practica supervisors will be conducted by the ISSR Director and the Chairperson of the ISSR Board of Directors.

The computation and data analysis laboratories and equipment, computer facilities and library assets needed to support the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research, as well as the conduct of research projects and services undertaken by the ISSR, are already in place and available.



Administrative Structure

The Institute for Social Science Research was initiated originally as a public service entity of the SUNY College at Brockport, organizationally subordinated to the Division of Public Service. In the current organization of the College, the contracted, sponsored and nonsponsored research activities of the ISSR are coordinated and directed by the ISSR Director administratively responsible to the Dean for Public Service.

In the reorganization of the SUNY College at Brockport administrative structure being implemented in 1982, the ISSR will be organizationally subordinated to the Dean of the School of Letters and Sciences. Replacing the current Dean for Social and Behavioral Sciences, this Dean will oversee the academic or curricular activities of the ISSR represented by the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research. He or she will also bear the responsibility for maintaining liaison on the ISSR's behalf with the Dean of Adult and Continuing Education (replacing the Dean for Public Service) and the President's designated Public Service Officer for the public service undertakings of the ISSR.

Accordingly, the ISSR Director, and the ISSR Board of Directors functioning as the curriculum committee for the Interdisciplinary Minor in Applied Social Research, will be administratively responsible to the Dean of the School of Letters and Sciences for the direction and supervision of the proposed minor. The objectives and academic content of the proposed minor argue for the appropriateness of this administrative alignment.

The ISSR Board of Directors:

J. Donigian  
F. Halley  
M. Lindauer  
F. Powell  
G. Rentsch  
B. Vanfossen

April 2, 1982