

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

PROPOSAL 16-09

(This Proposal Supersedes Proposal 14-99)

“DOUBLE MAJORS AT MICHIGAN TECH ”

(Voting Units: Academic)

Background

Proposal 14-99 established the University Policy on Double Majors. Under the language contained in that policy, students may earn double majors with no regard for the degree (i.e. Bachelor of Science [BS] or Bachelor of Arts [BA]) under which the major is offered. Thus, a student's diploma and degree record may read, for example, "Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Sciences with an additional Major in Liberal Arts." The problem with this and similar possible examples is that Michigan Technological University does not offer a BS in Liberal Arts, nor is it allowed to offer that degree by the State of Michigan; Michigan Technological University only offers a Major in Liberal Arts under the BA degree.

To avoid such problems, this proposal clarifies the Double Major Policy, superseding in its entirety Proposal 14-99. Also, in keeping with efforts to maintain consistency in wording between university policy and the University Catalog, this proposal will be incorporated verbatim in the Undergraduate Catalog.

Proposal

- A single Michigan Tech bachelor's degree with two majors is granted when all requirements of both majors are satisfied at the same time. A student who completes a double major will be awarded one diploma listing both majors, for example, "Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering with an Additional Major in Mathematics".
- The double major is distinctly different from the second degree. Majoring in two subjects does not require additional credit hours beyond departmental requirements and only a single degree is granted. Double majors work best for degree programs with similar curricular structures. When two majors have very different requirements necessitating the completion of 32 or more "additional" credits, students should consider a second degree program that results in the awarding of two distinct baccalaureate degrees and diplomas.
- A student pursuing a double major will designate one as the primary major. Students planning to earn a double major should declare both majors and begin planning their course work as early as possible. Advisors must be identified in the departments of both majors in order to assure that the degree requirements of both are met.

- Students may only earn an additional major if that major is offered under the same degree type (Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts) as the primary major. If the degree types for the majors are different then the student must pursue a second degree.
- If a single department offers two distinct majors, it is possible to complete a double major within that department by fulfilling the requirements for both majors. However, student may not earn a double concentration or option within a single major.
- In the event that both majors require a senior project, a student may petition both departments to accept one project for both majors prior to beginning the senior project.
- Students who have previously been awarded a degree cannot have the double major designation added to their transcript.

Introduced to Senate: 01 April 2009

Sent back to committee: 15 April 2009

Reintroduced to Senate with name changed fm MTU: 21 October 2009

Adopted by Senate: 04 November 2009

Approved by Administration: 06 November 2009