

MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM PROPOSAL SUMMARY

ITEM 130-1018-R0307

Institution: The University of Montana - Missoula

Program Title: Minor in Irish Studies

1. How does this program advance the campus' academic mission and fit priorities?

A key objective of this minor is to build on the high quality of scholarship produced by past and present faculty and to enhance the reputation of The University of Montana as a center of excellence in language, literature, history and the creative arts.

2. How does this program fit the Board of Regents' goals and objectives?

This unique program provides an educational experience across disciplines that focuses on scholarship and creative contribution. In addition, the program further promotes international exchange with the University College-Cork in Ireland.

3. How does this program support or advance Montana's needs and interests?

Given our historical connections in Montana to Ireland, the establishment of an Irish Studies minor will not only provide a greater understanding of the Irish, but also the people of Montana. Furthermore, the minor, by explicating the depth and breadth of Montana's and the nation's diversity, will contribute positively toward incorporating diversity as an integral component of Montana and The University of Montana's past, present, and future.

4. How will this program contribute to economic development in Montana? (Note projected annual economic impact both regionally and statewide.)

There are major cultural and economic benefits that could accrue to The University of Montana and to the state of Montana in general through the Irish Studies minor. Increased enrollment and acquisition of federal, international, and community funding will result from having the minor. A cross-disciplinary Irish Studies minor also will enhance a number of cooperative ventures between departments, colleges, and other universities in the region.

There are no developed Irish Studies programs in the American West that offer such a scholarly program. Thus we would attract students from a large market, with the potential to attract a broad spectrum of students.

5. What is the program's planned capacity?

• Break-even point?	8	FTE students
• Enrollments / year?	27	
• Graduates / year?	NA	
• MT jobs / year?	NA	

6. Resource Allocation:

• Total program budget?	\$ 37,000
• Faculty FTE?	1
• Staff FTE?	0

7. Does this program require new resources? Yes No

If yes, what is the amount? \$ _____

8. How will the campus fund the program?

Current funding within the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Fine Arts will cover the expenditures associated with the program. In addition, external funding is being pursued in order to supplement tuition income.

9. If internal reallocation is necessary, name the sources.

NA