Please attach/submit additional documents as needed to fully complete each section of the form.

I. DEPARTMENT / PROGRAM

Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures / Classical Civilization Option

II. SUMMARY

These proposed modifications (1) revise the total number of credits required for the Classical Civilizations option to 39 credits; (2) simplify requirements by eliminating distinction between Degree Electives I and Degree Electives II; (3) establish a Classics Core by combining the Lower-Division Core classes and the Language Component; (4) further refine the Classics Core by eliminating CLAS 155L Survey of Greek and Roman literature, including a required upper-division history class, and adding a required Classics Capstone Proseminar.

The purpose of these changes is to bring all three options in Classics in line with one another. All three options will require the same total number of credits, require the completion of a core of classes (24 credits), and will require a minimum of 2 years of either Greek or Latin.

III. ENDORSEMENTS AND APPROVALS

Requestor: Matthew Semanoff
Phone / Email: 243-2401 / matthew.semanoff@umontana.edu
Program Chair: Liz Ametsbichler
*Other Affected Programs:
none

Dean: Christopher Comer

Signature ___________________________ Date ____________

* Are affected because: (a) required courses incl. prerequisites or corequisites, (b) perceived overlap in content areas, or (c) cross-listing of coursework

IV. TYPE OF PROGRAM MODIFICATION

☑ Major  ☐ Minor  ☐ Option  ☐ Teaching major / minor

☐ Other, Please describe:
V. CATALOG LANGUAGE

Attach the [proposed changes] with the proposed changes clearly identified.

VI. JUSTIFICATION

These program modifications are proposed in response to concerns regarding the complexity of the requirements for the three options in Classics. The complexity arises primarily from the options requiring differing numbers of credits and some options having several options within them. In the case of Classical Civilizations, students currently have three choices in how they complete the language component and there are two different sections of electives. The Classics section is proposing streamlining the requirements to reduce confusion and promote a clearer advising process. These concerns were initially brought to the Classics section by Assoc. Dean McNulty and Liz Ametsbichler, chair of MOLL.

Require 39 credits for the Classical Civilizations option: This is achieved by eliminating one of the choices of the language component. Currently, students opting to take the first year of both Greek and Latin complete 42 credits for the option. Although this option adds a bit of flexibility for the students, they do not achieve proficiency in either language when only taking the first year. Students completing two full years of a language will have the opportunity to read literature (Greek: Homer and Plato; Latin: Virgil and Cicero).

Require two years of a Latin or Greek: this will bring the Classical Civilizations option closer to the Classical Languages major by requiring some basic familiarity with working in the languages at an intermediate level. This is also typical of programs in Classical Civilizations/Studies at other colleges and universities. We achieve this additional requirement by shifting it out of the current Degree Electives II category.

Eliminate distinction between Degree Electives I and Degree Electives II: The distinction is a hold over from when other affiliated programs on campus taught classes contributing to the Classics degree on a regular basis. As those classes ceased to be taught and were removed from the catalog, the Degree Electives II category essentially became only language and philosophy classes. These can be combined with other classes into Degree Electives.

Remove CLAS 155L from the requirements. There is a tremendous overlap of material of this survey throughout the Classics curriculum. Although we teach the Iliad, for example, in CLAS 251 with different methods and discuss different issues, many of the students have already encountered it in CLAS 155. The curriculum of CLAS 155 will be more appropriately addressed in classes such as CLAS 160, CLAS 251, CLAS 252, CLAS 365, HSTR 301, HSTR 302, HSTR 304, etc. Furthermore, there is significant overlap between CLAS 155 and LS 151. Removing this class from the requirements will reduce curricular redundancies.

Create a senior capstone experience as CLAS 399: Classics Proseminar. This class will serve as an advanced writing course for our majors. The course will have different topics depending on the faculty teaching it, and will serve as a research methodology course based on rotating topics. By creating a more uniform Classics Core, students in this class will be able to do advanced work in philology, history, literature, regardless of which option they have chosen to major in. Students will be encouraged to participate in undergraduate research conferences, and will be better prepared should they decide to pursue a graduate degree in Classics.

The uniformity of the Classics Core will also allow students to begin one option and smoothly transfer to another as their academic interests may change.

VII. SUBMISSION

After all signatures have been obtained, submit original, and an electronic file to the [signature], UH 221. An electronic copy of the original signed form is acceptable.