PROPOSAL SUMMARY AND ROUTING FORM

Proposal Title: Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy

Initiating Unit or Individual: Dr. Richard W. Griffin
Contact Person's Name: Richard W. Griffin  e-mail: griffin@ferris.edu  phone: 2761
Date or Term of Proposal Implementation: Spring 2012

☐ Group I - A – New degree/major or major, redirection of a current offering, or elimination of a degree, major or minor
☐ Group I - B – New minors or concentrations
☐ Group II - A – Minor curriculum clean-up and course changes
☒ Group II - B – New Course
☐ Group III - Certificates
☐ Group IV – Off-Campus Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group/Individual</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Vote/Action *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program or Academic Unit Faculty</td>
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<td>9/5/2011</td>
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<td>Department Faculty</td>
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<td>Department Head</td>
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<td>9/23/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Curriculum Committee</td>
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<td>Dean</td>
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<td>Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Affairs</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/5/15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Support with Concerns or Not Support must include a list of specific concerns. Votes must be shown for faculty groups. Administrators check appropriate action taken.

To be completed by Academic Affairs

President (Date Approved)  Board of Trustees (Date Approved)  President's Council (Date Approved)
1. Proposal Summary

(Summary is generally less than one page. Briefly: state what is proposed with a summary of rationale and highlights.
Additional rationale may be attached.)

During the 2011 Spring Semester, Ferris State University joined other institutions of higher education throughout west Michigan as a member of the “World Affairs Council of West Michigan.” The activities of this organization at Ferris are administered by the Office of the Provost.

An important activity regarding the University’s membership is that the University will develop and teach an academic course which examines contemporary “great decisions in U.S. foreign policy,” as defined annually by the Council. The primary objective of this course is to examine these “great decisions.” The course will focus upon one important dilemma in U.S. foreign policy-making each week. Weekly topics are drawn from recent history and current events, and each class will have either a regional or thematic focus. While the country-specific topics will be announced by the World Affairs Council in December, 2011, during the 2011 Spring Semester, the country-specific topics included U.S. foreign policy in Cambodia, Cuba, Rwanda, Russia, Kenya and Venezuela.

The course has also been designed to coincide with the World Affairs Council Great Decisions lecture series. These lectures will be web cast to the class.

2. Summary of All Course Action Required*

a. Newly Created Courses to FSU:
   Prefix   Number   Title
   PLSC   290   Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy

b. Courses to be Deleted From FSU Catalog:
   Prefix   Number   Title

c. Existing Course(s) to be Modified:
   Prefix   Number   Title

d. Addition of existing FSU courses to program
   Prefix   Number   Title
e. **Removal of existing FSU courses from program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3. Summary of All Consultations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form Sent (B or C)</th>
<th>Date Sent</th>
<th>Responding Dept.</th>
<th>Date Received &amp; by Whom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. Will External Accreditation be Sought? (For new programs or certificates only)

       Yes        X  No

If yes, name the organization involved with accreditation for this program.

5. Program Checksheets affected by this proposal.
   None
NEW COURSE INFORMATION FORM

Course Identification:

Prefix: PLSC  
Number: 290  
Title: Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy

Course Description:
During the 2011 Spring Semester, Ferris State University joined other institutions of higher education in west Michigan as a member of the “World Affairs Council of West Michigan.” The activities of this organization at Ferris are administered by the Office of the Provost.

An important activity regarding the University’s membership is FSU will develop and teach an academic course which examines contemporary “great decisions in U.S. foreign policy,” as defined annually by the Council. The primary objective of this course is to examine those “great decisions.” The course will focus upon one important dilemma in U.S. foreign policy-making each week. Weekly topics are drawn from recent history and current events, and each class will have either a regional or thematic focus. While the country-specific topics will be announced by the World Affairs Council in December, 2011, during the 2011 Spring Semester, the country-specific topics included U.S. foreign policy in Cambodia, Cuba, Rwanda, Russia, Kenya and Venezuela. The course has also been designed to coincide with the World Affairs Council Great Decisions lecture series. These lectures will be web cast to the class.

Course Outcomes and Assessment Plan:
According to the 2010 edition of the “Teacher’s Guide for Great Decisions” provided by the World Affairs Council,” the Great Decisions course will provide the following learning outcomes:

1. Expand students’ awareness and comprehension of the multiplicity of connections linking American society and the larger world;
2. Expand students’ awareness and comprehension of the historical context of America’s international linkages;
3. Expand students’ awareness and comprehension of the global policy issues and ethical questions confronting American citizens;
4. Challenge students to examine global policy issues from multiple perspectives, not only from the United States point of view;
5. Challenge students to explore various global policy options and the potential implications of each policy;
6. Develop students’ skills in sharing information with others in exchanging ideas; and
7. Develop students’ skills in discovering and responding to differing and previously unconsidered global perspectives and viewpoints.

To determine whether students have fulfilled the above learning outcomes the following assessment plan will be implemented. Students will

1. Complete a Mid-Term Essay Exam that assesses the student’s comprehension of the material presented during the first seven weeks of the course;
2. Complete a Final Essay Exam that assesses the student’s comprehension of the material presented during the final eight weeks of the course;
3. Submit two five page Issue Papers based upon the lectures, required readings and class discussions in the course; and
4. Submit a Reflection Paper in which the student reflects upon new knowledge, perspectives, understandings, and viewpoints garnered from the course.

Course Outline including Time Allocation:
According to the 2010 edition of the "Teacher's Guide for Great Decisions" provided by the World Affairs Council," the Great Decisions course will examine the following global topics.
Sample (though not all) topical Student Learning Outcomes are listed under each topic.

1. Introduction to the Course (Week 1)
2. The Special Envoy in American Foreign Policy (Week 2). Students will
   a. Identify future envoy opportunities
   b. Gain a better understanding of the role that special envoys play
   c. Acquire more knowledge about specific envoys and their mission
3. Halting Atrocities in Kenya (Week 3). Students will
   a. Identify recent humanitarian crises in Africa, as well as their causes and outcomes
   b. Compare and contrast the success of diplomatic efforts to halt violence in Kenya with recent failures to do so in other African nations
   c. Identify the conditions that must be present in order for the international community to justify intervention in a conflict or crisis occurring in a sovereign state
4. Transnational Crime: Globalization's Shadowy Stepchild (Weeks 4 & 5). Students will
   a. Understand the development and breadth of transnational organized crime
   b. Draw connections to their own life regarding pirated materials
   c. Analyze the extent of human trafficking in the world today
   d. Compare historical versions of slavery to today's modern examples
   e. Evaluate how well antihuman trafficking programs are working
5. China Looks at the World: The World Looks at China (Weeks 6 & 7). Students will
   a. Identify key elements of current U.S. foreign policy toward China
   b. Explain key elements in the peaceful rise of China over the last three decades
   c. Understand the impact and scope of China's ongoing shift to a market economy
6. The Global Financial Crisis and its Effects (Weeks 8 & 9). Students will
   a. Identify the causes and immediate effects of the global financial crisis
   b. Obtain a greater understanding of the respective roles of banking, government officials, financial firms and consumers, and their relationship to the financial crisis
   c. Identify the types of policies that could prevent future economic crises from occurring
7. Europe's 'Far East': The Uncertain Frontier (Week 10). Students will
   a. Understand the basis for Russia's economic worries
   b. Draw connections between economics, domestic stability and foreign policy
   c. Evaluate the extent of NATO's presence in Eastern Europe and its impact on Russia
8. The U.S. and the Persian Gulf (Weeks 11 & 12). Students will
   a. Develop a greater understanding of the historical background of the Gulf region
   b. Analyze U.S. historical foreign policy in the region
   c. Determine a foreign policy strategy for the Persian Gulf in the next decade
9. Enhancing Security through Peacebuilding (Weeks 13 & 14). Students will
   a. Define strategies used to prevent/end violent conflict, create and sustain peace
   b. Identify foreign policy tools that multilateral organizations use to attain peace
   c. Define the role of international organizations in resolving and mediating conflicts
   d. Identify the types of organizations that contribute to peacebuilding around the world
   e. Analyze challenges in the coordination of international peacebuilding efforts
10. Summing Up and Student Assessments (Week 15).
**CREATE NEW COURSE**

Course Data Entry Form

**FORM F**

Create New Course

Rev. 07/23/07

I. **ACTION TO BE TAKEN:** CREATE A NEW COURSE

Notes
1. Complete each item in Section I and Section II.
2. If this course is to be used as a prerequisite for other university courses, Form Fs that reflect the prerequisite change must be submitted for those courses as well.

**Term Effective (6 digit code only):** 201201

**Examples:** 200801 (Spring), 200805 (Summer), 200808 (Fall)

**Note:** The first four digits indicate year, the next two digits indicate month in which term begins.

II. **PROPOSED FOR NEW COURSE:** Complete all sections a through r. See manual for clarification.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Course Prefix</td>
<td>b. Number</td>
<td>c. Enter Contact Hours per week in boxes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>LECTure X LAB INDependent Study – Check (x)</td>
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<td>Practicum: ___ Seminar: ___</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Course Title: <strong>Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy</strong> (Limit to 30 characters/spaces.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. College Code: <strong>AS</strong></td>
<td>f. Department Code: <strong>SOCS</strong></td>
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<td>Credit Hours: Check (x) type and enter maximum and minimum hours in boxes.</td>
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<td>g. Type: □ Variable  X Fixed  h. Minimum Credit Hours 3  i. Maximum Credit Hours 3</td>
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<td>j. May Be Repeated for Added Credit: Check (x) □ Yes  X No</td>
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<td>k. Levels: Check (x) X Undergraduate  □ Graduate  □ Professional</td>
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<td>l. Grade Method: Check (x) X Normal Grading  □ Credit/No Credit only (Pass/Fail)</td>
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<td>m. Does proposed new course replace an equivalent course? Check (x) □ Yes  X No</td>
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<tr>
<td>n. Equivalent course: Prefix   Number   See instructions on Replacement courses.</td>
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<td>o. CATALOG DESCRIPTION – Limit to 75 words – PLEASE BE CONCISE.</td>
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The course focuses upon one dilemma in U.S. foreign policy-making from recent history and current events and has a regional/thematic focus. Topics will be announced by the World Affairs Council in December, 2011. During the 2011 Spring Semester, topics included U.S. foreign policy in Cambodia, Cuba, Rwanda, Russia, Kenya and Venezuela. The course is designed to coincide with the Council's Great Decisions lecture series which will be web cast to the class.

| p. Term(s) Offered: **Spring** (See instructions for listing.) | q. Max. Section Enrollment: 40 |
| r. Prerequisites/Co-requisites/Restrictions: (If none, leave blank.) Limited to 100 spaces. |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>UCC Chair Signature/Date:</th>
<th>Academic Affairs Approval Signature/Date:</th>
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To be completed by Academic Affairs Office: - Standard & Measures Coding and General Education Code

□ Basic Skill (BS) □ General Education (GE) □ Occupational Education (OC) □ G.E. Codes

Office of the Registrar use ONLY

Date Rec'd: ___ Date Completed: ___ Entered: SCACRSE _ SCADTEL _ SCARRES _ SCAPREQ ___
GREAT DECISIONS IN US FOREIGN POLICY
SPRING SEMESTER, 2012
3 SEMESTER HRS.

Dr. Richard W. Griffin                   Office – ASC 2094
Office Hours – By Appointment           Office Phone – 231-591-2761
Email -- griffin@ferris.edu

TEXT:

PURPOSE: During the 2011 Spring Semester, Ferris State University joined other institutions
of higher education throughout west Michigan as a member of the “World Affairs Council of
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Kenya and Venezuela.

The course has also been designed to coincide: with the World Affairs Council Great Decisions
lecture series. These lectures will be web cast to the class.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
According the World Affairs Council,“ the Great Decisions course will provide the following
student learning outcomes:
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**ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING:**
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   c. Define the role of international organizations in resolving and mediating conflicts
   d. Identify the types of organizations that contribute to peacebuilding around the world
   e. Analyze challenges in the coordination of international peacebuilding efforts
10. Summing Up and Student Assessments.

**EXAMS:** PLSC 290 will have two exams, a Mid-Term Exam and a Final Exam. Since the
course takes both a conceptual and systematic approach to understanding the Great Decisions,
both exams will be essay (see CLASS SCHEDULE for due dates). Essay exams allow the
student to best express his/her complete knowledge and understanding of course materials. The
exams will test information from the textbook, from lectures, from class discussions, from
speakers, and from all other class material including videos and handouts.

Each exam will count for 20% of your final grade for the course for a total of 40%. The exact
dates for the exams are listed on the Class Schedule. **Students must take each exam at the
designated time and on the designated date.** If, for any reason, you have a conflict with the
exam schedule, notify me at once. **Make-up exams will not be given unless prearranged with
me. Additionally, a total of 10 points will be deducted from the grade for each calendar day
the exam is late.**

**ISSUE PAPERS:** The student is responsible for submitting two Issues Papers. The student will
select two specific Foreign Policy issues that are discussed in class. From assigned readings,
class discussions, information presented in class and individual research, he/she shall select two
specific issues and write a 5 page Issue Paper. Each Issue Paper will determine 10% of your
final grade for the course for a total of 20%. The exact due dates for these Papers are listed on
the Class Schedule. Ten points will be deducted from the grade for each calendar day the paper
is submitted past the due date.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT DUE and TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>The Special Envoy in American Foreign Policy</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Halting Atrocities in Kenya</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Transnational Crime: Globalization’s Shadowy Stepchild</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Transnational Crime: Globalization’s Shadowy Stepchild</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>China Looks at the World: The World Looks at China</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>China Looks at the World: The World Looks at China</td>
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**MID-TERM EXAM**

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<th>ASSIGNMENT DUE and TOPIC</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>The Global Financial Crisis and Its Effects</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The Global Financial Crisis and Its Effects</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Europe’s ‘Far East’: The Uncertain Frontier</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>The U.S. and the Persian Gulf</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>The U.S. and the Persian Gulf</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Enhancing Security through Peacebuilding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Enhancing Security through Peacebuilding</td>
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**ISSUE PAPER #1**  
**ISSUE PAPER #2**  
**REFLECTION PAPER**

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT DUE and TOPIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Summing Up and Student Assessments</td>
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**FINAL EXAM**
**REFLECTION PAPER:** An additional 20% of your final grade for the course will be based upon a Reflection Paper. The content of the Reflection Paper should summarize your reflections (feelings, ideas, insights, etc.) of the way in which you now view globalization and the Great Decisions as a result of having taken this course. The paper should focus upon new knowledge and values, which you have acquired from this course and should be between five and seven double-spaced typed pages (See CLASS SCHEDULE for due date). **Also, 10 points will be deducted from the grade for each calendar day the paper is late.**

**PARTICIPATION:** This will be an interactive class in which each student is expected to openly discuss course material. Since student participation is critical to the success of the class, an additional 10% of your final grade will be based upon your individual class participation. Remember, in this class there is no such thing as a dumb question!

**ATTENDANCE:** Class attendance is directly related to student performance and to your grade for participation. Thus, it is imperative that you attend class on a regular basis. Class attendance will be taken daily and will count for 10% of your final grade. Each student will begin the course with 100 points for attendance. For each **unexcused absence**, 10 points will be deducted from the 100 points. Also, for **each tardy to class**, 5 points will be deducted. Promptness to class and regular attendance are necessary for your success in this course.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issue Paper #1</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issue Paper #2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FINAL GRADE</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grade ranges for the course are as follows:

A = 100-93

A- = 92-90

B+ = 89-88

B = 87-83

B- = 82-80

C+ = 79-78

C = 77-73

C- = 72-70

D+ = 69-68

D = 67-63

D- = 62-60

F = 59 or less
September 29, 2011

TO:    Don Flickinger, Associate Provost of Academic Affairs  
       Meral Topcu, Chair, College Curriculum Committee

FR:    Karen Strasser, Interim Dean

RE:    PLSC 290 – Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy

Enclosed for your information is the proposal for PLSC 290 – Great Decisions in U.S. Foreign Policy which I have approved to be offered Spring 2012 by the Department of Social Sciences.

Thank you.

Cc:     Andy Karafa  
        Amy Truong