

Memorandum

To: Faculty Senate
Seton Hall University

From: Dr. Larry A. Robinson
Provost and Executive Vice President

Date: February 23, 2015

Re: UN Studies Certificate Program



The Office of the Provost is in receipt of the Senate's approval of the graduate UN Studies Certificate Program in the School of Diplomacy and International Relations. Based on the increased attractiveness of certificate programs, the goals of increasing graduate enrollments in Diplomacy, the strong level of Library resources currently available to support this program, and its use of an already existing inventory of courses to offer the program, we concur with the Faculty Senate's approval of this certificate.



FACULTY SENATE
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Larry Robinson, Provost and Executive Vice President, Seton Hall University

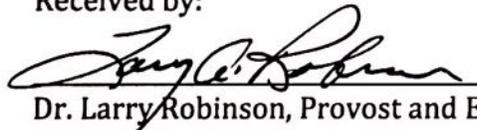
From: Faculty Senate, Seton Hall University

Re: UN Studies Certificate Program

Date: February 9, 2015

At the January 30, 2015, meeting of the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Senate approved the creation of a graduate UN Studies Certificate Program in the School of Diplomacy and International Relations. The proposal is attached.

Received by:

 February 9, 2015
Dr. Larry Robinson, Provost and Executive Vice President, Seton Hall University

 February 9, 2015
Dr. Judith Lothian, Chair, Faculty Senate, Seton Hall University

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

[Meeting of January 30, 2015](#)

1:00 p.m.

Beck Rooms

Walsh Library

9. Committee Motions

b. Academic Policy Committee

ii. UN Studies Certificate Program

a. [UN Studies Certificate Program Proposal](#)

b. *Motion:* The Senate approves the creation of the UN Studies certificate program in the School of Diplomacy.

*Vote: approved unanimously by voice vote.

Proposal to Create a Certificate Program in UN Studies

1. Program overview, rationale, and expectations

In order to strengthen enrollments and diversify our extant curricular offerings, the School of Diplomacy faculty and administration propose to develop a new graduate certificate program in United Nations (UN) Studies.

We believe that the subject matter, which builds on existing school programs and partnerships, coupled with the scarcity of similar programs in this area, will create sufficient enrollments to build a strong certificate program moving forward. The Graduate Certificate Program is designed for individuals who want to explore a career, develop additional skills, or take graduate-level courses. Some new students may already have an M.A. in a related field while others may want to pursue graduate-level training without completing a full M.A. degree.

The Certificate would require completion of five courses. All of these are already included in our existing M.A. program:

Core (12 credits, all required):

- DIPL 6007: UN Insider's View
- DIPL 6015: Human Resources Management in International Organizations
- DIPL 6201: UN Security Council Issues
- DIPL 6202: Politics at the UN: Relevance and Reform

Electives (3 credits, any of the following):

- DIPL 6004: Peacemaking and Peacekeeping
- DIPL 6005: Public International Law
- DIPL 6120: Catholic Peacemaking
- DIPL 6129: Preventing Humanitarian Crises
- DIPL 6140: International Human Rights

This program represents a natural extension of what the Diplomacy School has been doing since inception. The School was formed in partnership with the United Nations Association of the United States (UNA-USA). As a result, the school has been enmeshed in UN activities, including sending numerous students to New York for internships every semester. The creation of the Certificate in United Nations Studies will also strengthen the school's newly developed Center for UN and Global Governance Studies.

While it is important to note that the subject matter of the proposed certificate is well within our current capabilities, it is worth stressing why a certificate program is necessary. The rationale behind certificate programs can seem puzzling to scholars accustomed to thinking purely in terms of Master's and Doctoral Degrees. As we will detail below, professional certificates are a large part of what peer programs in international affairs offer. We believe that our existing courses would meet the market demand for trained and specialized candidates with a Certificate in United Nations Studies.

2. External and internal market assessment

The School of Diplomacy is an affiliate member of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA). APSIA is comprised of 33 member schools and 30 affiliate members in North America, Asia and Europe. The School of Diplomacy must remain competitive with the programs offered at other APSIA schools. New programs and certificates at APSIA schools indicate trends and changes in the discipline as well as market demand. We anticipate application for full membership in the next few years and an expanded range of educational products, including graduate level certificate programs, will be an additional asset on the application.

In our discussions in preparation for faculty retreats, we learned that certificate programs are common among full APSIA member schools. Of particular concern here are the programs based at other universities in the area, as they would share many of the same benefits of being located in close proximity to the UN that we enjoy. While most APSIA schools offer certificate programs, only two competitor schools: Columbia and Rutgers, have UN Studies Programs. There are some important differences between our proposed certificate program and the programs offered by other schools. For example, Columbia University offers a 12 credit standalone certificate, but it is run in conjunction with Continuing Ed, and as such is less of an integral component of SIPA than our proposed program. In the case of Rutgers University, their brand new UN-focused program is a stand-alone MA in UN Studies, but it requires more course work and more time than would be the case with our certificate, thereby making it less attractive for some of the mid-career professionals mentioned below.

We anticipate enrollment in the certificate program will attract two segments of the graduate education market:

- 1) Matriculated graduate students already enrolled in one of our degree programs who wish to secure an additional credential. These students would take UN-focused courses within our existing graduate specialization on international organizations and then complete one additional course drawn from the list above to complete the certificate program.
- 2) Mid-career professionals who seek to explore a career and develop additional skills to move on in their career, but do not immediately seek or want a master's degree in order to attain these skills. The program would be particularly appealing to individuals with the following backgrounds:
 - School of Diplomacy Alumni and all previous participants in our United Nations Intensive Summer Study Program
 - Members of the United Nations Association of the USA and supporters of the UN Foundation (our partner institutions)
 - United Nations Personnel currently posted in New York
 - Diplomats assigned to Permanent Missions to the UN, especially those without previous multilateral experience
 - Civil servants and staff of international, regional and national organizations

- Representatives from nongovernmental organizations accredited to the United Nations
- Teachers and college level instructors, especially those affiliated with model United Nations programs

Our School is fortunate to possess a number of advantages when it comes to attracting these potential certificate students. In particular, our exclusive alliance with the United Nations Association of the USA and the United Nations Foundation provides us with a network of relationships within the UN community that can assist with identifying potential students and with providing additional learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. The potential benefits of this relationship for the UN Certificate is most clearly demonstrated by the success of our United Nations Intensive Summer Study Program, which is included as part of the proposed certificate (DIPL 6007). This program has been offered in cooperation with UNA and UNF for 15 years, and over 610 students have taken advantage of the opportunity to learn from and interact with UN officials and delegates through this unique experience. Having both the alliance and the existing UN Summer Program to anchor the certificate will certainly aid in recruiting students. One concrete example of this is that four members of the diplomatic staff of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York (the equivalent of Taiwan's mission to the UN) have completed the UN Summer Program over the past three years, and their staff has repeatedly inquired about the availability of additional year-long training to enhance their job-related knowledge and skills.

Based on these advantages, our goal is to have 5 to 8 students in the certificate program in its first year.

3. Internal impact

The UN Certificate Program will not involve a duplication of courses, a duplication of concentrations, or cross-listings of courses offered by other campus units. The courses proposed for the UN Certificate Program have all been offered within the School's graduate curriculum previously, many of them for a number of years. In addition, these courses already count toward the specialization in International Organizations. Each course in the Certificate will be offered at least once per year, with a few offered twice per year if needed.

These courses have not required and will not require support from other schools and programs, and do not and will not promote competition for students in other programs. Therefore, we do not believe there will be any negative internal impact.

4. Program needs

The School of Diplomacy is well-positioned to offer a United Nations Studies Certificate Program without the need for significant additional resources: the International Organizations specialization is already in place, all of the courses listed above are already offered in our curriculum, the School's full-time and adjunct faculty includes a number of professors with UN-related scholarship and professional experience, and the School will soon have the opportunity to

host additional current UN officials on our faculty through our new Sergio Vieira de Mello Visiting Chair in the Practice of Post-Conflict Diplomacy.

As a result of these existing assets, the cost of establishing the certificate program will be minimal, as we plan to allow co-enrollment in all of the existing UN-focused courses that we offer. Co-enrollment will allow students in the 45-credit master's program and students enrolled in the 15-credit certificate program to share the same classes. With co-enrollment, there will be no additional costs in terms of hiring new faculty, at least in the short-term. Instead, existing UN courses will have more students. This also means that there will also be no extra need for facilities, classroom space, equipment, and technology, and only minimal extra administrative needs. Should enrollment in the new certificate become sufficiently robust that additional course sections are necessary, then the School may need to hire one or two adjunct professors to teach courses in the certificate program, and our adjunct budget could be adjusted to accommodate this expense. In the future, especially if the program is particularly successful, we may also need to hire one full-time faculty for the certificate program and the International Organizations specialization.

As for current and future library holdings, the Seton Hall Library has a strong collection of books, academic journals, and other resources on international organizations and the United Nations in order to support our existing graduate programs. In addition, the Seton Hall Library is recognized as an official UN depository library, which provides students with access to a wide range of United Nations documents and reports. In addition, the University Archive hosts the official archives of the United Nations Association of the USA from its establishment in 1945 through its merger with the United Nations Foundation in 2010.

5. Program evaluation

The Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA), of which Seton Hall's School of Diplomacy and International Relations is an affiliate, does not provide or require accreditation for individual certificate programs, and it does not provide curricular guidelines. Nonetheless, the School of Diplomacy's UN Studies Certificate Program will be evaluated in several ways. Because the primary goal is to provide students with specialized knowledge of the field in order to better pursue their careers, we will assess the program through end-of-semester course evaluation forms, through a post-graduation survey asking students to rate the program's effectiveness in increasing their understanding, and through evaluating how successful our graduates are in obtaining new jobs or promotions. The School of Diplomacy will also compare the performance of Certificate Program students with the performance of MA students in the classes they share. Finally, this certificate program will also be subject to any scheduled program review.

6. Statements of support (see enclosed support statements)

Appendix 1: Course Descriptions

CORE CLASSES

DIPL 6007: UN: Insider's View

Bridges the gap between students and practitioners by complementing an academic understanding of the United Nations with an appreciation of the day-to-day concerns and realities of the organization. Structured around a series of guest lectures offered by U.N. officials and representatives of governments, civil society and the private sector on a broad range of substantive issues of current concern to the United Nations. *3 credits*

DIPL 6015: Human Resources Management in International Organizations

Provides a comprehensive review of human resources management policies and practices in international organizations. It is designed to develop both analytical and practical skills for dealing with complex personnel management issues in a multicultural and political environment. *3 credits*

DIPL 6201: UN Security Council Issues

An in-depth study of the bureaucratic and political factors that shape the policy and process of this key UN institution. Lectures and class sessions will focus on specific topical issues of relevance to the Security Council. *3 credits*

DIPL 6202: Politics at the United Nations: Relevance and Reform

This course will examine how the United Nations seeks to address the growing range of transnational problems that appear on its agenda. This increased demand for action comes at a time when the organization is being subjected to varying interpretations about its structure, role and potential in the international system. The course will explore what the UN does, how it works, and the challenges it faces while also considering the potential for United Nations reform in the name of greater effectiveness and legitimacy. *3 credits*

ELECTIVE CLASSES

DIPL 6004: Peacemaking and Peacekeeping

Examines theories and research concerning the nature and causes of conflict at both the domestic and international levels, as well as methods for avoiding, managing or resolving such conflicts. *3 credits*

DIPL 6005: Public International Law

Explores the nature and content of international law governing relations between states and relations between states and nonstate actors. The first part of the course examines the building blocks of international law; the second part applies this framework to particular topics, such as the use of force, human rights and international environmental law.

3 credits

DIPL 6120: Catholic Peacemaking

The Catholic Peacemaking course offers an introduction to the understanding and practice of Catholic peacemaking as experienced through the centuries. It focuses on Catholic contributions

to a contemporary understanding of peace; the appreciation of the changing context in which this understanding has evolved, especially through the encounter with relevant Catholic Peacemakers; and the identification of peace as a relevant contemporary challenge that must be confronted by all. Each student will present on an historical case. *3 credits*

DIPL 6140: International Human Rights

This course introduces the basic philosophy and principles of human rights and examines the historical development and expansion of human rights norms. The course then focuses on the instruments, institutions, and enforcement of human rights from a multidisciplinary perspective, exploring the major international human rights regimes and treaties. *3 credits*

DIPL 6129: Preventing Humanitarian Crisis

Investigates the causes, global responses to, and prevention of complex humanitarian emergencies. Beginning with the fundamental problem of defining what qualifies as a humanitarian crisis, this course further examines significant cases searching for factors to account for successful and unsuccessful international engagement. *3 credits*