

As Ne

Studies - Online Version -

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Propos	Contact Phone*	7-2729

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Rationale for

(A) Why is the program being proposed?*

State System Chancellor Brogan recently said, *"Think about this: there are more than 1 million Pennsylvanians who started a degree but never finished. We must reach out to those individuals to let them know they have options at a State System university, and ensure we are organized in a way to meet their needs."*

IUP's enrollment has been declining for several years, primarily due to declines in traditional undergraduate enrollment. The population of adult learners, however, has increased in Pennsylvania over the same time frame, and there are now more adult learners in the state than 18 to 23 year-olds. These adult learners typically have jobs and cannot enroll in a full-time or face-to-face degree programs (http://www.rural.palegislature.us/documents/reports/fafsa_report_print.pdf).

As a result, IUP is faced with three trends: declining undergraduate enrollment, an increasing population of adult learners, and more than 1,000,000 individuals who have started but not completed a degree. The best prospect IUP has in maintaining or growing enrollment is with the adult learner population. Other institutions, including CalU (PASSHE), have developed and implemented online adult degree completion programs (

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(E) Proposed Narrative

The Online Associate of Arts Degree Program in General Studies is designed to provide the student with a broad base of knowledge in liberal studies with a focused concentration in a field of study at IUP. This concentration may include the already approved courses of an established minor program or a set of pre-approved courses to satisfy this 18 credit concentration requirement. No more than 30 credits may be transferred into this degree program from other colleges or universities.

Catalog Description*

Students who may find this degree appropriate are those whose career goals only require an Associate of Arts degree, who are distance education students, who need a degree credential en route to a Bachelor's degree, or who are unable to complete a Bachelor's degree, but seek a degree that can accurately reflect their accomplishments in college.

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(F) Proposed Program Requirements*

Associate of Arts–General Studies

Liberal Studies: As outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog with the following specifications/exceptions: 39-40

Fine Arts 3cr

Dimensions of Wellness/ROTC 3cr

Humanities BTt43ls7o0732.7.5c rrrw /F24 BT /F2 72 ET BT C5 79r13 Tm : Tm ()Tj eg 86/F20g ooc

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For Deans Review

Are Resources Available/Sufficient for this Course?

Is the Proposal Congruent with the College Mission?

Has the Proposer Attempted to Resolve Potential Conflicts with Other Academic Units?

Comments:

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