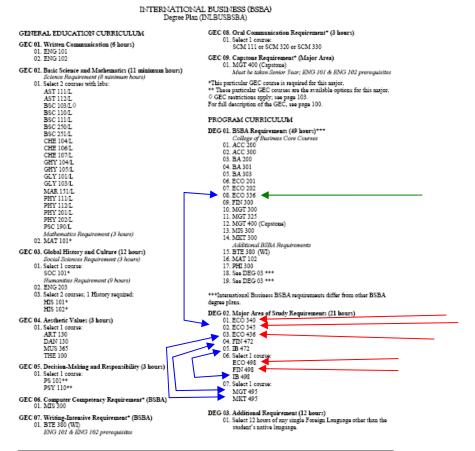
"CoB UG Programs Committee, Start Your Engines!"

With the dire budget/economic situation facing USM, many are now saying that the CoB's economics major is destined for the chopping block. As part of the plan to scale back what sources refer to as the bloated ECO portion of the EFIB faculty roster, the CoB's international business curriculum is facing changes that would reduce the number of economics courses required of IB majors. It is these courses that not only distinguish USM's IB major in a weird way (according to sources) from that at other institutions, sources also point out that it is these very requirements that have propped up the inflated ECO faculty roster for decades.

The marked-up degree plan for IB that is inserted at the top of the following page of this report provides a suggested avenue for extracting ECO from the IB curriculum. The suggestions depicted there were provided by an education consultant. The red arrows note course eliminations, which in this case are ECO 340, ECO 345 and ECO 436. These are the intermediate courses in economics and the "odd" second course in international economics. These eliminations cut 9 hours from the major requirements. The green arrow associated with ECO 336 in the CoB core reflects the growing demand to allow CoB students to use any international course to fulfill the CoB core requirements. These are ECO 336, FIN 472, MGT 495 and MKT 495 (pending insertion of an international course in TM). Currently, IB majors take three of these – ECO 336 (core), FIN 472 (IB major) and either MGT 495 (IB major) or MKT 495 (IB major). The mark-up below uses blue arrows to indicate course additions. Thus, the plan below has IB majors choosing one of the international courses to satisfy the core, and then taking all of the remaining international courses to satisfy the IB major. This restores 3 of the 9 hours lost from the deletions mentioned above.

The mark-up below also eliminates the option of taking ECO 498 or FIN 498 instead of IB 498. This change is based on the idea that IB majors should take courses with IB prefixes when and where available. The current configuration totals 15 hours in the major requirements section. The insertion of an international course in tourism management would restore 3 more hours, however the education consultant suggests that the UG programs committee work with the management faculty to develop at least 2 new courses with IB prefixes, not to include IB 492, to make up the remaining 6 hours in the program. Such a program could be delivered by the current CoB faculty roster, minus a significant number currently in ECO. The potential cost savings are enormous.



HOURS TO DEGREE

120 hours are needed to graduate with a BSBA in International Business. At least 50 percent of the hours applied to a degree at The University of Southern Miniskaippi must be earned from a senior college, and 45 of these hours must be in courses sumbered 300 or shove. The last 25 percent of course work must be earned from Southern Mini. The student must carn at least 12 hours in the major area of shully from Southern Mini. The student must carn at least 12 hours in the major area of shully from Southern Mini.