Proposal for BDIC Major

Student Information:

Name: [Redacted]  SPIRE ID: [Redacted]
Permanent Address: [Redacted]
UMass E-Mail Address: [Redacted]  YOG: [Redacted]
Cell Phone: [Redacted]
Concentration Title: Environmental Ethics & Psychology

Do you give BDIC permission to show your proposal as a sample to prospective students?

Yes [X]  No [ ]

Sponsor Approval:
Sponsor (print): Jean S Forward
Campus Phone: 5-2063  Academic Dept: ANTH
College: UMass  Campus Address: IOY Macmillan Hall
E-Mail Address: jsforward@anthro.umass.edu
Signature: Jean S Forward  Date: 11/19/15

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

☐ Cover Sheet, signed by Sponsor  ☑ Current Unofficial Transcript
☐ Curriculum Proposal Sheet  ☑ SOM Course Memorandum
☑ Academic Contract  ☐ Civ-X Sign-off Sheet

BDIC Peer Advisor (print): Shaine
Signature: [Signature]  Date: 12/15/15

BDIC Assistant Director (print): Linda Rooney
Signature: [Signature]  Date: 12/15/15

BDIC Faculty Supervisor (print): Mark Kamimura
Signature: Mark Kamimura  Date: 12/15/15

According to the curriculum provided here, does this program require a foreign language?

☑ Yes  ☐ No  Supervisor’s Signature: Mark Kamimura
Environmental Ethics & Psychology

Educational Goals

I am a sophomore at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and I am majoring in Bachelor’s Degree with Individual Concentration (BDIC) and minoring in English, specializing in Professional Writing and Technical Communication (PWTC). I have always had a passion for both ethics and the environment in addition to my love for writing. I am therefore combining my passions in order to supplement my PWTC path. I plan to use my BDIC major to conceptually supplement my foundation of professional writing; this will allow me to obtain a familiarity with the ethics and beliefs comprising the environment around us, which includes the psychology, mindset, and behaviors of not only human beings but all aspects of life. I will pursue my BDIC major with classes from the following Departments: Animal Science, Communication, English, Journalism, Political Science, Psychology, and Natural Resource Conservation.

Courses in Communication, Journalism, and Political Science will provide me with a strong foundation in understanding, communicating, and interacting with both large and small-scale communities about assorted issues. Courses in Animal Science and Natural Resource Conservation will further my knowledge in the fields of human, animal, and ecological interaction, providing me with the ability to understand relations between each group on a holistic scale. Courses in Psychology will assist my studies by helping me comprehend and appreciate the underlying innate and psychological characteristics of human beings and their tendencies. Finally, courses in English will allow me to communicate my findings creatively and efficiently to others. My proposed major is
different from existing majors on campus because it successfully combines a multitude of subjects from distinctive fields, expanding my knowledge in assorted subjects and providing me with the expertise needed to understand the world from a foundation in environmental ethics and psychology. I would not be able to productively explore the breadth of my interests if I had simply confined myself to one major. My BDIC concentration also supplements my PWTC track, which requires the knowledge and understanding of diverse topics for success in the field. Additionally, I may continue on to higher-level education after my undergraduate studies to pursue further research.

**Continuing Aims**

After obtaining my undergraduate degree from UMass Amherst, I intend to use the knowledge from my concentration to supplement my pursuance within the field of professional writing. It will make me a strong candidate for different organizations because I will have pursued a major that shaped me into a well-rounded individual, using my background in psychology and ethics to communicate more efficiently both on a personal level and through my writing. In the future, I would like to take my studies to graduate school and pursue my Master’s degree. I plan to either pursue my Masters in a specific field of psychology or ethics or eventually apply to law school in order to continue my education through the legal field.

**Experiential Background**

Growing up, I was always fascinated by people, nature, and my surroundings. I have spent a majority of my life exploring, from traveling to different countries to getting
involved locally with different non-profit organizations. From travelling over 2,500 miles
in order to volunteer at the largest non-kill animal shelter in the world (Best Friends
Animal Sanctuary) to visiting the streets of Czech Republic at the age of nine where I
received my first serious exposure to the various levels of worldwide poverty, I have
already been exposed to a lot of different circumstances in my nineteen years of life.
Having been extremely fortunate to travel widely with my family, I am inspired to obtain
a holistic view on the world and learn as much as possible in order to understand and
mediate between different points of view. This ignited my passion particularly for
advocacy, which inspired me to create a Facebook page dedicated to world-wide animal
advocacy, a page that now has nearly 1,500 supporters. Additionally, being an
experienced writer and editor in English has further encouraged my ability to use my own
words to promote clarity and change. I wanted to combine my love for writing into
something that will leave a lasting impact on the world—literally. I decided to pursue
Environmental Ethics and Psychology through BDIC in order to expand my knowledge
on how exactly the natural world and its inhabitants are valued and how they are
perceived by individuals. This BDIC concentration will allow me to take courses from a
wide variety of Departments, such as Animal Science, Communication, English,
Journalism, Political Science, Psychology, and Natural Resource Conservation, which
will provide me with a better sense of perspective and objectivity than if I had declared a
single broad major in a general field of study.
Exceptions

Retroactive Classes

Legal Studies 250- Introduction to Legal Studies

This was a class that I took in order to set my foundation in the world of law and politics. It was a very comprehensive and work-heavy course, which included studies on the influential philosophers of the legal world as well as modern-day cases and their impact on both the present day and future legal system. The class challenged its students to look objectively at law and how it affects human life as well as how human life affects the law. In the same objective sense, this class introduced law as an object that cannot be understood apart from its social, political, and cultural contexts.

Sponsor Choice

Jean Forward

Professor Jean Forward is a senior lecturer within the Department of Anthropology at UMass Amherst, and she has a Ph. D in Anthropology. Professor Forward takes particular interest in colonialism as well as environmental and human rights issues. She teaches various levels of Anthropology courses, from an Honors course focusing on cultural Anthropology to higher-level courses focusing on Native American and Indigenous Studies.

Professor Jean Forward is a great BDIC faculty sponsor for many reasons. First and foremost, she would be a good sponsor because she is willing to share her knowledge with all of her students and anyone who shows an interest in the field. She is eager to not only teach her students, but to learn from them as well. I was particularly inspired in her
Honors Cultural Anthropology course in which we learned about the holistic anthropological perspective. This perspective encourages individuals to look at issues as a whole and urges them to look at matters in an unbiased way. Secondly, Professor Forward would be a beneficial sponsor because she is very familiar with the BDIC program. Professor Forward has not only been a former BDIC faculty sponsor, but she is also currently a faculty supervisor within the program for those with interests in the Social Sciences, which ties in directly with my final concentration. She has obtained a lot of experience in the field and program over the years, and she can help lead me down the right path with plenty of resources and guidance.
BDIC CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Name: [Redacted]
Spire ID: [Redacted] YOG: [Redacted]

Concentration Title: Environmental Ethics and Psychology

Primary BDIC Curriculum: The following 12 courses comprise the Core Curriculum for your BDIC Concentration. These courses must be 300+ level and at least 3 credits each. This curriculum must be completed across four semesters at the University with at least two courses completed in each semester. The ‘BDIC 396P Proposal Writing Course’ and the ‘BDIC 496C Junior Year Writing Course’ should not be included on this Curriculum Form.

Semester I: Fall 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Department</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Intro to Legal Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</table>

Semester II: Spring 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Department</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Conservation</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>Natural Resource Policy &amp; Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>Culture, Communication &amp; Social Identities</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Semester III: Fall 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Department</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>391 MP</td>
<td>Moral Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>Intro to Visual Storytelling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>397F</td>
<td>Media Ethics</td>
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### Semester IV: Spring 2017

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Science</td>
<td>494 GI</td>
<td>Good Intentions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Conservation</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>Evolution &amp; Conservation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>Communication &amp; Organizational Structure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

### Semester V (if needed): Fall 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Department</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>391 T</td>
<td>Animals, Politics, &amp; the Law</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>Studies in Textuality and New Media</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Courses:** While the following courses do not count directly towards your BDIC Concentration, they demonstrate the substance and depth of your Concentration. Supporting courses may come from any department, be any level, carry any credit value, and include any relevant prerequisite courses. Students can modify their list of supporting courses as they please without approval from their sponsors, advisors, or the BDIC Office. If you wish to move a supporting course to your primary Curriculum, you must submit a ‘Changes to Concentration’ form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course Department</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
<th>Exception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Intro to Journalism</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>160 H</td>
<td>Intro to Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Animal Science</td>
<td>260 H</td>
<td>Animal Care &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACADEMIC CONTRACT

As a prospective BDIC student, I acknowledge the following guidelines and requirements of the program:

1. Successfully complete the one credit course, BDIC 396P, and submit a proposal that is accepted by a Faculty Supervisor.
2. Completion of at least twelve upper level (numbered 300 or above) 3-credit courses totaling at least 36 credits in the area of concentration, with a minimum grade of “C.”
3. Completion of either: BDIC 496C, a Junior Year Writing class from a different department that fulfills all of the Junior Year Writing requirements, or an Honors Thesis/Project.
4. Completion of BDIC 394I, Integration and Innovation (BDIC’s IE course), or a class from a different department that fulfills the Integrative Experience requirement.
5. Completion of the Foreign Language requirement if required by your faculty supervisor. FL requirement dependent on area of concentration.
6. Commit to at least four semesters in the program. The semester a student is in the Proposal Writing class is considered the first semester in BDIC. A semester is counted if two or more upper level courses related to the concentration are taken and listed on curriculum.
7. All changes to the curriculum plan (using the “Changes to Concentration” request form) must be submitted to the student’s BDIC Supervisor with the SPONSOR signature already on it. Forms must be submitted during the semester in which the classes are taken. Changes submitted after the last day of classes in any given semester will not be accepted.
8. Submit a Senior Summary and one-page Abstract during the last semester in the program. Both documents must be turned in by November 15th for February grads, April 1st for May grads, and September 1st for October grads.
9. Meet at least once per semester with Faculty Sponsor and BDIC Supervisor.
10. Agree to include no more than three retroactive courses from no earlier than the semester previous to the one in which you are enrolled in BDIC 396P, Proposal Writing. Any additional retroactive classes inadvertently included in the proposal will automatically be removed from the curriculum plan.
11. Periodically check your ARR and contact the Office with any issues. It is your responsibility to check your requirements.

I further understand that my acceptance into BDIC is conditional upon acceptance of my Proposal, and the completion of my degree is provisional upon following the above guidelines.

[Blank]

Student’s Signature

11/23/15

Student’s Printed Name

Date

Rev 06/14
Isenberg Course Memorandum

Memo to: All BDIC students who may include any Isenberg School of Management courses in their proposal.

Courses in the Isenberg School of Management are often overenrolled. For this reason, it has become necessary to emphasize the following points:

1. BDIC majors may include a maximum of four courses from the Isenberg School of Management in their BDIC program. This includes any courses numbered 301 and higher. Students WILL NOT be enrolled in any courses if they have not met the pre-requisite for that course.

2. Being a BDIC major does not guarantee you admission to any Isenberg course. BDIC students are not precluded from enrolling in Isenberg courses, but they have the same priority as students from non-Isenberg departments.

3. Isenberg professors will not accept the plea that you need a specific course for graduation, etc. any more than they would accept such a plea from one of the other non-Isenberg majors.

4. Therefore, for each Isenberg course that you include in your BDIC proposal, it is your responsibility to list an alternative non-Isenberg course and be prepared to take it should you not be able to enroll in your first choice. Alternative courses can be taken through Continuing Education, in another department at UMass, and/or at another college or university. However, even at another college or university, the substitute courses must be outside that college or university’s management department.

5. The following courses WILL NOT be accessible to BDIC students: Sch-mgmt 310, 312, 314, 315, 390A and 390S (which are any of the Sch-Mgmt communication courses), Marketing 412, Management 397A, or a capstone course such as Sch-Mgmt 494Bl, Ht-Mgt 433, 444, 455, and SportMgt 494P1. NO EXCEPTIONS

I have read and understood the above policy.

[Signature]
Student Name (print)

[Signature]
Signed

11/23/15
Date

Rev 2/13
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Undergraduate (general)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Major</td>
<td>Undeclared</td>
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### Spring 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGY 105</td>
<td>Biology of Social Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONORS 201</td>
<td>Ideas That Change the World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURNAL 201</td>
<td>Introduction To Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIST 101</td>
<td>People &amp; Their Language</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fall 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 104H</td>
<td>Culture, Society and People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDIC 396P</td>
<td>Proposal Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 200</td>
<td>Intensive Literary Studies/Maj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGAL 250</td>
<td>Intro Legal Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIST 201</td>
<td>Intro to Linguistic Theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>