To: Sarah Fishman, CLASS Undergraduate Studies Committee
From: Dr. Susan Collins, Political Science (Contact telephone: 3-3900)
RE: New Minor in Phronesis Politics and Ethics
Date: 7 September 2007

The Phronesis Politics and Ethics Minor Program

The Greek word phronesis means prudence or practical wisdom, the quality distinctive of good citizens and political leaders. As an interdisciplinary minor housed in the Honors College, the Phronesis program focuses on questions and issues that leaders and citizens are likely to confront in a self-governing political society. Drawing on the foundation provided by the year-long interdisciplinary “Human Situation” course required of all Honors freshmen, this minor in Politics and Ethics will explore such core issues as the origins and grounds of political order; the scope and content of justice; the relation between the individual and the community; the place of family and gender; the nature and responsibility of science and technology; the relation between religion and politics; the demands and prospects of a free and self-governing society.

For the Politics and Ethics Minor, a student must complete 19 hours of approved coursework. 15 hours of which must be advanced, including

REQUAID COURSES
1. Foundational Courses:
   ENGL 2361; HON 2101
2. 3 hours from POLS 3349, 3342, 3343
3. 3 hours from PHIL 3350, 3351, 3375, 3355, 3358
4. Two courses from approved list (below)
5. Capstone: 4000-level seminar

HOURS IN MINOR

TOTAL HOURS IN MINOR

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES
POLS 3310: Introduction to Political Theory
POLS 3340: Ancient/Medieval Political Thought
POLS 3341: Political Thought from Machiavelli and the Renaissance
POLS 3342: Liberalism and its Critics
POLS 3343: Democratic Theory
POLS 3349: American Political Thought
POLS 4346: Greek Political Thought

PHILOSOPHY COURSES
PHIL 3304: History of 17th Century Phil.
PHIL 3305: History of 18th Century Phil.
PHIL 3350: Ethics
PHIL 3351: Contemporary Moral Issues
PHIL 3355: Political Philosophy
PHIL 3356: Feminist Philosophy
PHIL 3358: Classics in the History of Ethics
PHIL 3375: Law, Society, and Morality
PHIL 3383: History of Ancient Philosophy
PHIL 3386: History of 19th Century Phil.
PHIL 3387: History of American Phil.

CLASSES COURSES
CLAS 3341: Roman Republic

All courses must be Honors sections or approved by program advisor. Non-Honors students may participate in the Minor with the approval of the program director.

The 4000-level course must be an approved seminar with a substantial writing component (such as POLS 4344, 4346, 4394; PHIL 4396, 4397).

At least nine advanced hours must be taken in residence. An average GPA of 3.0 on all courses in the minor is required. No more than six hours of coursework in minor may also count toward major requirements.

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ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

The *Phronesis* program has been developed by a committee of faculty (listed below) from Political Science, Philosophy, and Classical Studies, and has the support of both CLASS and HONORS.

Of the courses in Political Science and Philosophy that are listed, one or more of these courses are taught every semester. The Classics course is taught at least every other year. Interested faculty will be encouraged to add or develop new courses as the program matures.

The program will be housed in and administered by the Honors College and has the Honors gateway course as a prerequisite, but we have established a route by which interested and eligible non-Honors students can participate in the Minor.

FACULTY COMMITTEE

Political Science
Jeremy Bailey, Assistant Professor
Susan Collins, Associate Professor
Dennis Rasmussen, Assistant Professor

Philosophy
Cynthia Freeland, Professor and Chair
Dave Phillips, Associate Professor

Classical Studies
Richard Armstrong, Associate Professor

Honors
Andrew Little, Advisor and Adjunct Professor