PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN FINANCE MINOR FOR BUSINESS ECONOMICS OPTION PROGRAM IN THE MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020

Dean Jay C. Hartzell in the McCombs School of Business has filed with the Secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to create a Finance Minor for Business Economics Option Program in the McCombs School of Business chapter in the *Undergraduate Catalog*, 2018-2020. On October 3, 2016, Department of Economics Chair Jason Abrevaya approved the proposal, and on October 20, 2016, Department of Accounting Chair Robert Freeman and Department of Finance Chair Robert Parrino it. On April 26, 2017, the college faculty and the dean approved the proposal. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *exclusive* interest to only one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the certificate on March 29, 2017, and forwarded it to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Provost on behalf of the President.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by May 8, 2017.

Alan W. Friedman, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council

The University of Texas at Austin

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Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

Distributed through the Faculty Council Wiki site https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/facultycouncil/Wiki+Home on May 1, 2017.

PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN FINANCE MINOR FOR BUSINESS ECONOMICS OPTION PROGRAM IN THE MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020

1.	TYPE OF PROPOSAL:	New Transcript-Recognized Minor
		☐ Change an Existing Transcript-Recognized Minor
		☐ Delete a Transcript-Recognized Minor

- 2. OFFICIAL NAME: Finance Minor for Business Economics Option Program
- 3. PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall 2018
- **4. FIELD OF STUDY, CIP CODE** (administrative unit awarding the certificate): FOS FIN, CIP 52.0801 Finance
- 5. STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVE: The BEOP Finance Minor allows Economics majors to take a set of accounting and finance courses at UT's McCombs School of Business for completion of a Minor in Finance. By taking accounting and finance classes alongside business majors, BEOP students explore complementarities between economic analysis and business, thereby strengthening the quantitative and analytical skills they acquire as economics majors. We are deleting the previous minor that combined both accounting and finance into one credential with two tracks, to be separate minors.

6. ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENT (IF ANY):

Students must be admitted into the Business Economics Option Program by the Department of Economics, to be eligible for the BEOP Finance Minor. BEOP eligibility requirements are a declared Economics major, a UT cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher, an Economics GPA of 3.00 or higher, and an earned grade of at least C in ECO 329.

The admission prerequisites for the BEOP ACC minor and the BEOP FIN minor will differ. Admission to the BEOP ACC TRM will require credit for ECO 420K with a grade of at least *C*-. Admission to the BEOP FIN minor will require credit for ECO 329 with a grade of at least *C*. (Under the 2016-18 Catalog, admission to the BEOP ACC/FIN minor required credit for ECO 420K with a grade of at least *C*-.)

ECO 329 with a grade of at least C is a more relevant and therefore better admission prerequisite for the BEOP FIN minor. Some of the Finance courses in the BEOP FIN minor have a statistics prerequisite (STA 309, for which ECO 329 is a sub), and some of them have an econometrics prerequisite (STA 371G, for which ECO 341K is a sub, or STA 371H, STA 375, or STA 375H), which require completion of statistics.

Additionally, using ECO 329 as the admission prerequisite for the BEOP FIN minor will allow qualified Economics majors to begin the BEOP FIN minor one semester earlier than if ECO 420K were retained as the admission prerequisite. This is because ECO 329 with a grade of at least C has been added as a prerequisite for ECO 420K (as of Spring 2017). The additional semester of participation in the BEOP FIN minor will allow the student greater flexibility in designing the best semester plan that meets their major and minor requirements.

The analytical skills a student acquires in ECO 420K are relevant for accounting (the ACC major requires Microeconomic Theory). Therefore, ECO 420K with a grade of at least *C*- is an appropriate admission prerequisite for the BEOP ACC minor and will be retained.

- 7. NUMBER OF STUDENTS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE THE TRANSCRIPT-RECOGNIZED MINOR EACH SEMESTER: Seven to ten
- **8. ANTICIPATED ENROLLMENT CAPACITY?** Seventy-five (75) (the capacity on total number of students "enrolled" in the Minor at a given point in time)
- 9. NUMBER OF HOURS REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION: Fifteen

10. COMPOSITION OF THE MINOR FACULTY COMMITTEE (INCLUDING THE COMMITTEE CHAIR):

Name of Faculty	College/Department	Title at UT Austin	Highest Degree and	
Member			Awarding Institution	
David Platt	Business School /	Associate Dean, Senior	Ph.D., Cornell	
(committee	Accounting	Lecturer	University	
chair)				
Richard Flores	Liberal Arts /	Senior Associate Dean	Ph.D., The University	
	Anthropology,	for Academic Affairs,	of Texas at Austin	
	Center for Mexican	Professor, Director		
	American Studies,	Academic Program		
	UTeach-Liberal Arts			
	Program			
Jason Abrevaya	Liberal Arts /	Professor, Department	Ph.D., Massachusetts	
	Economics	Chair	Institute of Technology	
Robert Freeman	Business School /	Professor, Department	Ph.D., The University	
	Accounting	Chair	of Texas at Austin	
John Hatfield	Business School /	Associate Professor	Ph.D., Stanford	
	Finance		University	

11. Academic Course Requirements: Use this table to identify the courses that qualify for this certificate program.

Course	Course Title	SCH
Abbreviation		
and Number		
#ACC 311	Fundamentals of Financial Accounting	3
	(#prerequisite: 24 hours college credit)	
#ACC 312	Fundamentals of Managerial Accounting	3
	(#prerequisite: ACC 311)	
#FIN 357	Business Finance	3
	(#prerequisite: STA 309, credit or registration for ACC 312 &	
	BA 324. ECO 329 can be used in place of STA 309, and BA	
	324 is waived for BEOP students)	
#FIN 367	Investment Management	3
	(#prerequisite: FIN 357, credit or registration for STA 371G.	
	ECO 329 can be used in place of STA 371G but BEOP students	
	are required to complete ECO 341K prior to enrolling in FIN	
	367)	
#FIN 3xx	Any upper-division finance elective	3
	(#prerequisite: may vary, but all require FIN 357)	

12. OTHER MINOR REQUIREMENTS: All courses must be taken on the letter-grade basis. Only students accepted into the BEOP program are eligible.

13. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS:

Department approval date: October 3, 2016 Approved by whom: Dr. Jason Abrevaya,

Professor, Department of Economics Chair

College approval date: October 20, 2016 Approved by whom: Drs. Robert Freeman &

Robert Parrino, Professor, Department of Accounting Chair; Professor, Department of

Finance Chair

Undergraduate Program November 14, 2016 Faculty representatives from each McCombs

Department, and student representatives

College approval date: April 26, 2017 Approved by whom: all McCombs faculty
Dean approval date: April 26, 2017 Approved by whom: Dean Hartzell

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT

Catalog language; section $\underline{Catalogs} > \underline{Undergraduate} > \underline{Red\ McCombs\ School\ of\ Business} > Minors\ and\ Certificate\ Programs$

Finance Minor for Business Economics Option Program

The Finance Minor for the Business Economics Option Program (BEOP FIN) allows economics majors to take a set of accounting courses and finance courses at the McCombs School of Business for completion of a Minor in Finance. BEOP FIN students take upper-division accounting and finance courses to explore the application of economic concepts and models to finance and financial markets; to strengthen the quantitative and analytical skills they acquire as economics majors; and to acquire knowledge and skills in business and finance.

To participate in the BEOP FIN Minor, students must apply to and be accepted into the Finance Track of the BEOP through the Department of Economics. To be eligible for the Finance Track of the BEOP, a student must:

- be a declared economics major;
- have a cumulative University GPA of at least 3.00;
- have an economics GPA of at least 3.00 (based on economics coursework taken at UT); and
- have earned a grade of at least C in Economics 329.

Students must contact the Department of Economics to apply, and for all questions about the Business Economics Option Program.

To obtain the BEOP FIN Minor, a student must complete 15 semester hours of coursework as described below. At least half of the coursework must be completed in residence at The University. All coursework must be taken on the letter-grade basis. The student must fulfill the requirements for an economics major and apply to graduate with an economics major, in addition to fulfilling the BEOP FIN Minor requirements, to receive the BEOP FIN TRM.

Registration for any of these courses will require that existing prerequisite course requirements are adequately met.

	Requirements	<u>Hours</u>			
ACC 311	Fundamentals of Financial Accounting	<u>3</u>			
ACC 312	Fundamentals of Managerial Accounting	<u>3</u>			
<u>FIN 357</u>	Business Finance	<u>3</u>			
<u>FIN 367</u>	Investment Management	<u>3</u>			
Three additional semester hours of upper-division coursework in finance					
All courses must be taken on the letter-grade basis.					