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R401-5. Request for Restructuring of an Existing Program

Section I: Request

The Utah State University English Department requests that its English master's degree specialization in Technical Writing, which was approved for online delivery in 1998 as a 30-credit Plan B specialization, be changed to a 33-credit Plan C specialization. No impact on the program is anticipated.

Section II: Need

The Technical Writing master's degree specialization is offered online to serve a non-traditional student population of working professional communicators—students who work as editors, software documentation writers, publications managers, website developers, etc.

Plan C would allow the Technical Writing specialization to recruit and graduate students who live and work anywhere in the world where there is internet access, without requiring them to travel to Logan to complete the degree. Plan C would help the specializations better achieve its mission and goals of serving nontraditional students who work full time as professional communicators, and it would allow the specialization to compete better with other online technical communication programs around the country.

Section III: Institutional Impact

No institutional impact is expected from changing the specialization from Plan B to Plan C.

Section IV: Finances

No financial impact is expected from changing the specialization from Plan B to Plan C.