



UNC
COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Department of Statistics & Operations Research
Hanes Hall, Campus Box 3260
Chapel Hill, NC 27599, USA

October 12, 2015

James Thompson
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Curricula
3018 Steele Building
Campus Box 3504
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3504

Dear James Thompson,

We are writing to request several changes in the requirements for the Major and Minor in Mathematical Decision Sciences (MDS), offered through the Department of Statistics and Operations Research (STOR).

The first requested change concerns Group B courses in the Core Requirements of the Major. The Group B list currently consists of 13 courses outside the STOR department. Essentially two of these courses are required for the MDS Major, though students often take more than two.

We would like to ask that the following courses be added to the current Group B list:

- ECON 410, 420 and 511
- BUSI 403, 410, 532 and 533
- BIOS 511
- COMP 521
- INLS 523

We have informed the respective schools or departments at the University about our plans to make these additions. We have not received any objections to these additions, but to the contrary, got a positive and useful feedback.

The STOR faculty feels that making these additions to Group B would increase the number of options for MDS students, raise awareness of relevant courses for MDS majors outside the STOR department, and facilitate coursework for students double majoring or minoring in MDS and other programs.

We would also like to ask to remove the following course from the current Group B list:

- BIOL 526

After conversations with the Biology faculty, it is our understanding that BIOL 526 will not be taught for the foreseeable future. BIOL 525 seems to be a replacement course but it is paired with a lab work, and it is not immediately clear how the course can serve MDS students.

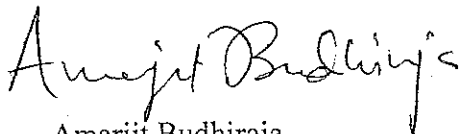
The second requested change is to inactivate several courses in the MDS requirements, namely,

- STOR 515 in Group A of the Core Requirements of the Major, and in the list of the 3 elective STOR courses for the Minor,
- STOR 582 in Group B of the Core Requirements of the Major,

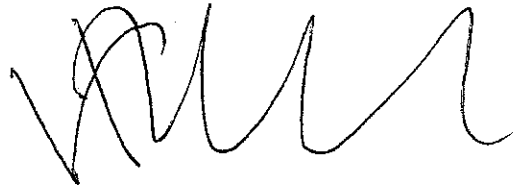
STOR 515 and 582 have not been taught in the last 10-15 years, and there are no plans to restart them.

The requested changes are highlighted in the attached text about Majoring and Minor in Mathematical Decision Sciences, as the text now appears in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Do not hesitate to contact us at budhiraj@email.unc.edu or pipiras@email.unc.edu if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Amarjit Budhiraja
Chair, Dept. of Statistics & Operations Research



Vladas Pipiras
Director of Undergraduate Studies