

COLORADO COLLEGE - OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR IN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

I wish to major in Liberal Arts & Sciences. I understand that my courses of study within this major must be supported and approved by two faculty sponsors from two different departments, one of whom is my principal sponsor and academic adviser. The project or thesis must be evaluated by both faculty sponsors. However, the Principal Sponsor/Adviser works closely with the student in conceptualizing and completing the thesis and turns in the final grade. The Associate Sponsor acts as a reader of the final draft of the thesis and recommends a final grade to the Principal Sponsor. The approval of the Dean's Advisory Committee is necessary for final acceptance of my plan of study within the major. In addition, I understand that, to make changes in the approved plan, I must have the agreement of each faculty sponsor. A letter in support of the proposed changes should be sent by the Principal Sponsor to the Assistant Dean of the College and the Registrar.

(Please submit 7 copies of this application and your Liberal Arts & Sciences proposal to the Advisory Committee no later than the second semester of your sophomore year. The Advisory Committee will not consider your application until the completed proposal - including faculty recommendations - has been received.)

Name (Please Print) _____ Number _____ EL

Room Box _____ Phone _____ Student Signature _____

Current number of units earned 17.5 Expected graduation date Winter '97

Address 14 _____ Street _____ City ✓ _____ State _____ Zip 80907

Principal Sponsor/Adviser Maria Montano Dept. Anthropology

Associate Sponsor Doug Monroy Dept. Southwest Studies

Description of the field of concentration (TITLE) Southwest Studies

This form must be signed by two faculty members from different Departments who are full-time or adjunct faculty members who will be here (to the best of their knowledge) while the student is completing the major. Sponsors should also forward their letter of recommendation once they have signed this form. Return this form to the Office of the Associate Dean of the College, along with a description of the major and the required courses (including a description of the thesis topic). The Associate Dean will notify both student and sponsors of acceptance or rejection of the proposal, and the outline of the proposed major will be approved by both sponsors and sent to the Registrar. (Any change of adviser must be approved by the Dean's Advisory Committee, upon submission of a letter from the adviser.)

Principal Faculty Sponsor [Signature]

Associate Faculty Sponsor [Signature]

To the Sponsors: Your signature indicates approval of the proposed major. Please comment on this proposal in a brief letter to the Advisory Committee under separate cover. Please indicate your familiarity with the student's past academic performance and comment on his/her ability to carry out a program which requires an unusual amount of independence and responsibility. The Principal Faculty Sponsor/Adviser agrees to be the student's academic adviser and to work closely with the student in composing the major, conceptualizing, revising and completing the thesis.

LIST OF REQUIRED COURSES FOR PROPOSED LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES MAJOR

Note: only between 9 and 14 units can be counted for the major and only two courses at the 100 level may be required in the major. All other courses must be above the 100 level.)

Required courses already taken: with statement as to how courses relate to major.

See Attached

Required courses to be taken: with statement as to how courses relate to major.

Courses completed which are complimentary to the proposed major but not required:

(Be sure to list General Studies GS 400-401 if you plan to get credit for your thesis.)

Total number of units to be counted toward the major: _____

Other Requirements: The student should explain why the proposed goals of the major cannot be achieved through a departmental major or through outside courses taken in addition to the requirement of a departmental major. In addition, the application should be accompanied by a typewritten description of the concentration (major) proposed, that is, a rationale demonstrating the cohesiveness of the proposed program of courses, a listing of the courses completed and to be completed, and a narrative statement for each course indicating how each required course relates to the proposed major as described. Please indicate the content of your proposed thesis including a discussion of objectives and methods.

Associate Dean of the College _____

Signature

Please sign below if you give the Committee permission to share your name with other student's pursuing a Liberal Arts and Sciences major. The Committee would like to encourage more networking and support among students electing this option for the major.

Signature

March 1, '96

Date

NOTE: This completed application must be in the Associate Dean of the College's office by 5:00 p.m., the second Friday of the block in order to be considered at that block's meeting. The Dean's Advisory Committee meets during the 3rd week of each block.

Submitted on
March 1, 1996

Proposal for LAS Major in Southwest Studies
Faculty Sponsors: Mario Montaña, Anthropology Department
Doug Monroy: Southwest Studies Department

I will start with a brief personal history... I was born and raised in Vermont. Until I came to school in Colorado, I had never travelled further west in the United States than St. Louis, Missouri. Upon arriving for my first semester at Colorado College, I was awed by the climate, landscape, and differences in culture of the area. Having studied some Spanish in high school, I immediately noticed the Mexican influence in such things as street names, food, and of course the people of Colorado Springs. For my first block-break I travelled to Pecos, New Mexico for a school led foot-trip. Although most of our time was spent camping and hiking in the mountains, I must confess that what I saw of New Mexico, I completely fell in love with. Being an Easterner I felt somewhat out of place in this culture and land; however, then and there, I decided that I would like to experience as much of the Southwest as possible.

I spent the first part of the second semester studying intermediate Spanish which I feel to be very important in understanding the culture of the Southwest. A course in Native American art offered me somewhat of an understanding of the artistic expression of the native peoples of the area. The following summer I returned to Vermont for family reasons, and got a job as a cook at a wilderness camp for children. My next semester I spent on the Colorado College semester in Mexico. This was a very productive and fulfilling experience for me, partly because of my dedication and interest in the classes I was taking, but also because of my personal experience with the culture; namely the people and the food. After finishing off the academic year with an excellent geology course which explored the geological history of much of Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico, I decided to take the following semester off in order to fully evaluate my academic goals.

The summer I spent managing a pub and restaurant in the Bahamas [a

true, once in a lifetime, fluke opportunity]. I was then offered a job, which I had applied for in the spring, as a chef at a base lodge at Mount Washington in New Hampshire. I spent the fall cooking for twenty to over a hundred people, depending on the occasion. I applied what knowledge I had of Southwestern food [partly from Mario Montaña's class on the Anthropology of Food in the New World] and blew these people away with one or two of the tastiest dishes I had learned to make. While cooking and living in the White Mountains, I reached some very important decisions about my future at Colorado College. I greatly considered going to culinary school but I firmly reached the conclusion that I want to finish my education here and in doing so, learn much more about the Southwest in all of its aspects.

I feel that the LAS Major in Southwestern studies is particularly appropriate for me because it can offer me the extremely specific field that I would like to do my work in. I would like to take full advantage of the location of Colorado College as well; In terms of first hand experience in classes that I am planning to take, and in terms of field work for my thesis, I ask, what could be a better school for such? Finally, to combine my lifelong interest with food with my fascination of the Southwest, I propose to write my thesis on food in the Southwest.

The following is a list of courses that I am proposing count towards my major. With the understanding that the LAS Major may not exceed fourteen credits toward the major, I will discuss various other classes which I feel to be related, in a different list.

Spanish 312: Composition and Culture of Mexico

This class was intensely focused on learning more of the Spanish language. There was little field work but heavy reading loads, daily quizzes on the readings, and strictly Spanish speaking class discussions. [We were actually fined twenty-five cents for each word spoken in English]. The amount of grammar that I learned from this class helped facilitate access to concepts in the following classes.

relation to my proposed major: Spanish 201: Intermediate Spanish, and Spanish 300: Intensive Grammar Review [in Mexico]. I would like to propose that the following two courses count as complimentary courses because they are directly related to this field of study.

Geology 130: Introductory Geology

Although I have completed a higher level geology course [that is Geology 250: Studies in Hydrology], I feel that this course was very closely related to the southwestern studies mainly because of the extensive field work we did. We travelled through much of Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah, studying rock formations and other geological aspects of the Southwest.

Spanish 306: Introduction to Literary Analysis

Contrary to the name, I believe this not an introduction to Mexican literature, but an extension of the study of literature taught in the previous class as well as the half-block before that. This class however, [which was absolutely amazingly dynamic and well taught] offered the connection between some excellent literature, and the immersion into the culture of Guanajuato, Mexico. That is to say, that this class offered such an excellent tie between the fiction, fact, and history of the literature, and our surroundings that I feel that is actually one of the more important classes in relation to the Southwest Studies Major.

I will now list the courses that I would like to propose to take in the remainder of my CC career, that will count towards the major. Taking into consideration, the fourteen course limit, here they are:

Southwest Studies 275: The American Southwest: The Heritage and the Variety

I am already signed up to take this course for eighth block this year. A combination of anthropological, historical, and literary studies will offer me more of a background for more in-depth research next year.

Natural Science 200: Geology and Ecology of the Southwest

My background in geology would greatly help in furthering my

Political Science 339: Mexican Politics: Domestic and International Dimensions

Also taught in Spanish, this course focused on Mexican Politics [clearly]; but in particular interest towards the LAS Major in Southwest studies, it examined Mexico's political relationship with the United States in great depth.

Anthropology 308: The Anthropology of Food in the New World

Truly a class of my taste! [Pun intended]. I was greatly inspired by this course. Trips to marketplaces, great restaurants, street-vending food, and lots of human interaction, all contributed to a greater understanding of the heritage of the Southwest. I learned that food is an elemental factor not only in culture, but in the structure of the family as well. Emphasis was placed on the sociology of food, which is important to my proposed major. I must note that I was particularly drawn to this field of study from a very personal interest in food which, in this particular location, is precisely what intrigues and inspires me to write my thesis on food in the Southwest.

Geology 250; Hydrology

This course was an in depth study of water which focused largely on local hydrology. Field trips were very frequent and we not only discussed physical properties of water but we got into water rights and laws in the Southwest as well as nearby drilling sights etc. We also covered seismology and vulcanology.

Art History 180: Native American Art

I would like to propose that this class count towards my major because I feel that the studies of Native American art of the Southwest that we performed, clearly pertain to just that. We looked at basketry, weaving, painting, beading, and many other forms of southwestern art from as far back as our records go, up until present-day art of the Southwest.

Although already mentioned, and although I do not wish to propose these classes for my major, I feel that it is noteworthy to acknowledge the following two courses because of their

knowledge in this field of study. The ecological study would be very useful to me in understanding the effects of people on the land, and the inter-relationship of the physical properties [such as the hydrology of the area and the sections of fertile land, etc.] with the laws governing the area; for example, American Indian reservations.

Southwest Studies 311: Topics in Southwest Studies: Ecology, History, Spirituality

This course can further my study of ecological factors of the Southwest as well as provide a more philosophical approach to understanding this particular inter-relationship of law and land as well as that of people and land.

Music Theory 291: Southwest American Indian Music

I have yet to take a music theory class at Colorado College or elsewhere. I feel that this course would offer me a better understanding of the culture of the Southwest by looking into "origin narratives, cosmology, ritual drama, dance, and other aesthetic modes as related to Southwest Indian musical performance."

Field Botany 202

By examining ecosystems and their flora of the area, I would gain a hands-on experience and immersion into that which largely determines a culture: what grows in the particular climate. This scientific approach to studying the Southwestern plant life will help me in writing my thesis because I will gain insight into the roots of the subsistence of the southwestern culture.

History 267: History of the Southwest under Spain and Mexico

This course may help to serve as insight into the roots of the Southwest. By looking at the earlier history of the Southwest, I hope to gain a more thorough understanding of the true nature of the area and thereby acquire a better background for understanding the more recent historical events of the Southwest.

History 268: History of the Southwest since the Mexican War

The rise of Anglo powers has, of course, played a major role in the development of the Southwest in social, cultural, and political contexts. Because history is usually told in the eyes of the winner, it is often the other side that needs to be studied. It is this viewpoint on history that

interests me.

English 390; Literature of the Southwest

Literature offers very individualized and specific interpretations of one's environment. By looking at these perspectives in the Southwest I hope to gain a type of "inside view" of various aspects of the culture of the Southwest and why certain literature stems from such cultures. I would hope to be able to tie some of this literature in with works that I have read in Spanish [primarily in Mexico].

Finally, I would like to propose a double-block thesis to bring all of my studies in the Southwest, together. I propose to write [advised by Mario Montaña], an extensive, in-depth, examination of food in the Southwest. I am fully aware that this thesis will involve extremely extensive field work which will include interviews, application of previous experience and knowledge, and in-depth research of the sociological, cultural, environmental, and even religious, role of food in the Southwest. I would like to note that the thesis topic will be greatly refined and honed once I have more of a Southwest studies background.