Non-Consent Agenda Item:
Approval to accept the German Abitur Examinations as a Credit-by-Exam Option

Effective Term: Summer/Fall 2019 for incoming freshmen, following evaluation of the subject exams, determination of minimum scores for credit, and assignment of UA course equivalencies

Proposed Catalog Policy for the German Abitur Examinations:

The University of Arizona accepts German Abitur examinations (as well as International Baccalaureate, Cambridge International, and Advanced Placement exam scores) as a basis for awarding credit toward a degree. Credit is determined from the Abitur credit table that applies to the date when the student takes the exam. Credits earned based on the student’s exam performance may be counted toward the major or minor fields of study or General Education requirements. See the Abitur credit table below, and contact your College academic advisor to determine how the course credit will apply toward your specific academic program.

Rationale for this proposal:

- The German Gymnasium goes through grade thirteen. In their thirteenth year, all Gymnasium students are required to take a rigorous series of examinations that are regulated by the German federal government. Students are examined in at least one of each of these three areas: (1) Math, Informatics, Natural, and Technical Sciences (MINT); (2) German and 2 Foreign Languages; (3) Social Science, and an Elective Field. Compulsory areas of examination are Math, German, and Foreign Languages.
- Instruction in Gymnasium courses includes in-depth general education and prepares students for academic study at the university level along multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary lines.
- A number of U.S. universities accept the Abitur examinations and advanced courses taken in the higher grades of Gymnasium studies (for example, University of Michigan, University of Vermont, Pennsylvania State University, University of Virginia, New York University, Gonzaga University). The policy of the University of Michigan (a UA peer institution) reads: Germany: Abitur (Zeugnis der allgemeinen Hochschulreife). Advanced standing of seven to eight credits may be given for certain exams taken in appropriate Abitur (Leistungskurse - Prüfungsfächer) subjects with acceptable exam scores of seven or above (https://admissions.umich.edu/apply/international-students/requirements-deadlines/requirements-country). For an example of course equivalencies for the Abitur, see Boston University, http://www.bu.edu/admissions/files/2012/01/German_Abitur.pdf.
- International students from Germany admitted to the UA’s BA in World Literature, among other programs, will benefit from this policy.

Approvals:
Undergraduate Council: 10/17/18
Graduate Council: NA
Academic Deans: TBA (10/23/18)
Administrative Review: TBA (11/5/18)
FS: