I. Background Information

A. Title of Program: Ojibwe Language Certificate

B. Department(s)/Program(s): Department of Languages

C. Administrative Home: Department of Languages

D. Division: ☑ Undergraduate (Requires approval by APC*) ☐ Graduate (Requires approval by GC**) 

E. Effective Year and Term for Implementation of Action: Fall 2016

II. Unit Approvals

A. Department Chair(s)/Program Director(s) [Signature] 2/19/16

B. Dean of College [Signature] 2/25/16

C. Chair, Academic Policies Committee

D. Chair, Graduate Council
III. Certificate program proposals should originate at the department/program level; all affected departments/programs must endorse proposals. Each proposal will include the following:

A. Context for the certificate program (any predecessor programs, relationship to existing programs, alignment with university mission);

This certificate aligns with the UW-Eau Claire Guide Post Goal to "increase enrollment of students of color" by 20% and to "close the opportunity gap" because it will strengthen the diversity of our curriculum, making us more attractive to diverse applicants. It will also make our university more attractive to Ojibwe students, and those from tribes that are related linguistically and culturally to the Ojibwe, including Regional tribes: the Potawatomi, Menominee, Cree, and Ottawa.

This program aligns with the university mission by providing students with:

- Multicultural learning experiences that will broaden their undergraduate liberal education by providing them with the opportunity to become proficient in a language that requires speakers to describe the world using an entirely different worldview than that used by mainstream society and culture: The only way to accurately communicate in the Ojibwe language is to learn how the culture and the language divide the world into living and non-living subjects, and the categories of these subjects are far different than those used in non-Native languages. Every sentence in Ojibwe is formed by pairing the correct animate verb with the correct animate noun or the correct inanimate verb with the correct inanimate noun. Being able to converse in Ojibwe at an intermediate level, one of the learning goals for this certificate, requires a speaker to be able to operate within this diverse worldview.

- Skills required to conduct future student-faculty research in a wide range of research areas associated with Ojibwe language and culture and Indigenous language revitalization. The speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural competency skills students will acquire upon completion of this certificate will enable them to conduct more informed, culturally appropriate research in Ojibwe and other Native communities.

- Inclusive experiences that will add to their personal, cultural, and social competencies. Upon completion of this certificate, students will have Ojibwe language skills and a functional understanding of Ojibwe culture and history, all of which are important to interact effectively with Ojibwe or other Native people, especially those tribes related culturally and linguistically to the Ojibwe, in a personal, cultural, social, or business context.

- The opportunity to respond to the needs of communities around our state, region, and beyond. The Ojibwe people are related culturally and linguistically to Native tribes around Wisconsin and Minnesota, and to a larger region that stretches across the United States and Canada from the Atlantic Ocean to the Rocky Mountains. All of these tribes are endanger of losing their languages, many of which are mutually intelligible, within the current generation. The learning outcomes of this certificate program were created in order to respond to the needs of these Native communities: to train individuals, both inside and outside of these communities, to make Ojibwe part of their daily lives and to aide Ojibwe language revitalization efforts.
B. Rationale explaining need for the program (e.g., target audience(s), evidence of long-term need, anticipated enrollment);

Ojibwe is the only Indigenous language offered on our campus. This certificate program will create a home for the Ojibwe language in the Department of Languages and add to the diversity of languages housed within that department. As previously stated in section A, this certificate program answers the UWEC Guide Post Goal to increase, by 20%, our enrollment of students of color. See Section A for more information on the need for this program. Current Ojibwe language courses on this campus have a history of community members outside of the university using live and archived internet streaming to watch our Ojibwe language classes. Many of our online community members have expressed interest in enrolling in credited Ojibwe language courses above the elementary level. As a result of our strong online presence and the fact that we are the only university in the world offering online credited Ojibwe courses via live internet stream, we receive phone calls and emails from students at regional tribal colleges and universities around the US and Canada inquiring about the possibility of enrolling in intermediate Ojibwe language courses at UWEC. For more on "target audience," please see list of Academic Programs in section C. The anticipated initial enrollment in this program is 10-20 students, with the potential of growth.

C. Statement of benefits to students, the department(s)/program(s), college(s), and university;

*All students seeking baccalaureate degrees that require language competency can can satisfy that requirement through this certificate.

*While completing this certificate, students will also satisfy the University Design for Diversity requirement (R1) and they will have had an LE core experience in S1, with the option of also having one in K3.

*Students across the university are required to complete a second program to fulfill their degree requirements (unless pursuing a comprehensive major), and this certificate will provide them with an option that will complement a breadth of majors, including: American Indian Studies, social work, education, political science, history, geography, biology, business, and nursing. There are jobs on reservations across the country for students with all of these majors, and having an Ojibwe Language Certificate on their transcript will make our students more attractive to future employers in these communities. The presence of this certificate on a transcript will demonstrate to Native communities that the future employee is dedicated to the revitalization of Native cultures and languages and that will be both respected and appreciated even in Native communities unrelated to the Ojibwe.

D. Description of the academic component including:

i. Learning goals and outcomes for students;

Upon completion of this certificate, students will:
*Be able to converse at an intermediate level in the Ojibwe language.
*Increase their own language fluency.
*Have the linguistic and cultural competency to function effectively and appropriately in an Ojibwe cultural setting.
* Have the skills to conduct future Ojibwe language research.
* Have oral presentation skills which they can apply to giving presentations in any language.

ii. Specification of any program admission requirements, minimum GPA requirements for courses, GPA requirements for certificate completion above the university minimum, applicability of the S/U option;

There is no minimum GPA requirement for these courses. There is no minimum GPA requirement for the certificate completion above the university minimum. The S/U option does apply to this certificate.

iii. Course array, including specification of new, required and elective courses. If electives are allowed within the certificate program, an explanation of the proposed electives in light of the need for program cohesion should be included.

Minimum of 15 credits. The following courses are required for completion of the certificate:

LANG/AIS 121 or FLG/AIS 121: Ojibwe I*
LANG/AIS 122 or FLG/AIS 122: Ojibwe II**
LANG/AIS 221: Ojibwe III
*AIS 111 may be substituted for LANG/AIS 121 if the topic taught that semester is focused on Ojibwe language.
**AIS 112 may be substituted for LANG/AIS 122 if the topic taught that semester is focused on Ojibwe language.
Electives:
For their remaining credits, students can choose from the following elective courses:
LANG 160: Ojibwe Culture and History or LANG/AIS 222: Ojibwe IV

E. Description of the administration, staffing, and budgeting for the program, including:

i. Faculty/staff participating in the certificate program;

Dr. Wendy Makoons Geniusz

ii. Proposed frequency of offering for courses included in the certificate program;

All of the courses required for this certificate will be offered yearly:
LANG/AIS 121 and LANG/AIS 221 will be offered each fall
LANG/AIS 122 and LANG/AIS 222 will be offered each spring
LANG 160 will be offered each spring
iii. Proposed arrangements for ongoing advising for students in the certificate program;

Dr. Wendy Makoons Geniusz will be responsible for ongoing advising for students in this certificate, and these duties will be part of her regular advising duties.

iv. Anticipated need for student support services for students enrolled in the certificate program;

No additional support for students is required for this certificate. As previously stated, there is already a plan in place for ongoing advising for this certificate.

v. Identification of an administrative home for certificate programs involving more than one academic department/program;

N/A

vi. Funding needs to initiate and maintain the certificate program, including source(s) of funding and any needed resource reallocation;

No additional funding is required to maintain this program. These courses are part of Dr. Geniusz's regular course load and are offered on a regular basis.

vii. Impact on existing courses and programs.

We do not anticipate any impact on courses or programs within the university. In terms of impact outside the university, currently, our students are ineligible for the only full immersion opportunity for Ojibwe language students, "Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang: The Ojibwe Language Immersion Academy," because they cannot meet the two years of Ojibwe language instruction requirement. With the addition of Ojibwe Language Certificate to their transcripts, our students will be able to compete with their regional peers at the University of Minnesota and Bemidji State University for entrance into this highly competitive program.
• For complete information, see Policy Statement on Credit-Bearing Certificate Programs at http://www.uwec.edu/CAS/faculty/infoandforms.htm.

• Submit the certificate proposal electronically to College of Arts and Sciences Office for review (cassidml@uwec.edu or nilsena@uwec.edu).

• Finalized proposals will be considered by the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (CASCC). The CASCC will route the approved proposal to APC or GC as appropriate.