
College of Letters and Science Curriculum Committee
Report to L&S Faculty Senate
Concerning Academic Years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 (to March 26, 2007)

Curriculum Committee Members and Chairs

2005-2006

Robert Bleiweiss (Zoology)
John Coleman (Political Science)
Diana Frantzen (Spanish & Portuguese)
Lew Friedland (Journalism)
Ellen Jacobson (Sociology)
Paul Milewski (Mathematics)
Michael Morgan (AOS)
Teju Olaniyan (African Lang & Lit)
Russ Shafer-Landau (Philosophy, Chair)

Students:

Elijah Lewien
Hope Wallace

2006-2007

Robert Bleiweiss (Zoology)
John Coleman (Political Science, Chair)
Greg Downey (Journalism)
Diana Frantzen (Spanish & Portuguese)
Ellen Jacobson (Sociology)
Paul Milewski (Mathematics)
Michael Morgan (AOS)
Teju Olaniyan (African Lang & Lit)
Norma Saldivar (Theatre & Drama)
Students:
Brittany Bice (appointed observer)
Connor Ewing (appointed observer)
Kerry Gabrielson (appointed observer)
Jeremy Goldstein (appointed member, active)
Elijah Lewien (appointed observer)
Hillary Minor (appointed observer)
Michael Nemmetz (appointed observer, active)
Colleene Thomas (appointed member, active)

Ex Officio:

Anthony E. Garcia (Assistant Dean, L&S Student Academic Affairs)
Elaine M. Klein (Assistant Dean, Academic Planning, Program Review & Assessment)
Michael J. Pflieger (Assistant Dean, L&S Student Academic Affairs)
Geoffrey Thompson (Assistant Dean, L&S Student Academic Affairs – 2005-2006)
Nancy Westphal-Johnson (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education & Academic Administration)

Proposals to Add, Change or Delete Courses

The L&S Curriculum Committee (LSCC) is responsible for college-level review of proposals to add, change, or delete courses listed within *Timetable* or *Catalog* subject listings managed by L&S departments and programs. All proposals are approved by the department faculty prior to submission to the LSCC. L&S Administration staff conduct a technical review to ensure that proposals conform to college- and campus-level expectations articulated in the Divisional Executive Committee guidelines for course proposals (<http://www.secfac.wisc.edu/divcomm/courses/CourseProposals.htm>). The committee chair reviews all proposals and determines when they are ready for committee consideration. Approved proposals are forwarded to the Divisional Executive Committee. Since May 2005, the LSCC has processed an annual average of 245 proposals to add, change, or delete courses.

Proposal Type	Summer 05	AY 05-06	Summer 06	AY 06-07 (to March 26)	Total
New	21	89	16	52	178
Change	35	106	15	75	231
Delete	1	31	8	40	80
Totals	57	226	39	167	489

Proposals to Change Requirements for Academic Programs

The LSCC reviews and approves substantial changes to the L&S undergraduate curriculum, to L&S undergraduate majors, and to university-approved undergraduate certificate programs managed within L&S departments and programs. The LSCC also reviews substantial programmatic changes to L&S graduate programs in cases where there is no Graduate School oversight (e.g., for graduate program tracks or certificate programs). “Substantial” revisions include, but are not limited to, changes in requirements for admission to the major; course changes that affect the flow of resources between departments; increasing or decreasing the number of credits in the major; adding or removing requirements related to course sequence in the program; and adding or changing prerequisites related to courses taught in other departments. Guidelines for curricular change, developed in AY 00-01 and revised in AY 04-05, help departments consider changing the requirements for academic programs; the current guidelines are available online at <http://www.ls.wisc.edu/handbook/ChapterOne/chapter1-3ccpol.htm>.

In AY 06-07, colleagues in the School of Education sought a stronger connection with the LSCC regarding curricular changes. The Associate Dean of Education Academic Services now receives copies of all materials related to curricular changes, and is informed when changes to L&S academic programs are approved by the committee.

Since the time of the last LSCC report, the following departments and programs sought and received permission to change their academic programs. Requested changes included technical corrections; the addition of Honors tracks to existing degree programs; reconfigurations of courses required for admission to or to complete degree programs; and updates to program goals and requirements for meeting them. Most of the changes to the programs listed below were approved in time to meet publication deadlines for the *2007-2009 Undergraduate Catalog*.

2005-2006

- American Indian Studies (Certificate) – program restructuring to increase coherence of student course experience
- Computer Sciences (BA/BS) – change in GPA required for admission
- French (BA/BS) – increase in course options for completion of requirements
- Spanish (BA/BS) – clarification of requirements to complete minimum number of credits on UW-Madison campus

2006-2007

- Botany (BA/BS) – streamlining of requirements
- Classics (Classical Humanities Certificate) – program reorganization to simplify requirements
- Communicative Disorders (MS) – curriculum updates and alignment with accreditation requirements
- Hebrew and Semitic Studies (BA/BS) – change in “Biblical Studies” track
- Music – (BM) deletion of required course from track

- Social Work (BSW) – change in requirements for admission
- Scandinavian Studies (PhD) – creation of “Folklore” track
- Statistics (BA/BS) – change in courses required
- Theatre & Drama (BA/BS) – change in core studies required for completion of major

In addition to these substantive changes to existing degree programs, the LSCC ratified decisions recommended by the Faculty Honors Committee regarding the creation of or changes to Honors in the Major. Finally, the LSCC Chair approved several technical corrections to facilitate implementation of substantive changes approved in prior years. Art History, English, French & Italian, Linguistics and Music received permission to adjust *Catalog* language to more clearly communicate with students about their requirements.

Other Curricular Issues

Although most of the LSCC’s energies were focused on implementing changes to the baccalaureate degree requirements, the committee also continued to provide oversight for two key areas.

- The committee accepted the report of the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee, which continues to serve as the body authorized to provide accommodation for students with certain disabilities who seek substitutions to fulfill the L&S foreign language requirement. In April 2006, the DCAC submitted a report indicating that it had made two changes in policy, in response to LSCC suggestions: first, the number of credits required in course substitutions were aligned with the number of credits required for the BA/BS language requirement, and second, the writing requirement was restructured in light of the existence of University General Education Requirements. This report, dated April 17, 2006, is on file with the LSCC, and these changes have been incorporated into the next edition of the *Undergraduate Catalog*.
- On March 26, 2007, the committee accepted the report of L&S/International Academic Programs Study Abroad *Timetable* subject listing (STDYABRD). This “virtual” listing was created for the purpose of facilitating transfer of credits into the UW-Madison transcript from courses taken abroad in UW-Madison-approved programs. (Although the first route for transferring credit is to consult with departments to seek equivalent course credit, the existence of this listing helps to ensure that students get credit for courses that lack equivalents, and that non-UW-Madison students who participate in our study abroad programs earn credit that transfers to their home universities.) In general, this entity is functioning as intended.

Implementing Revisions to the L&S Baccalaureate Degree Requirements

For both 2005-2006 and 2006-2007, the LSCC’s energies focused on implementing changes to the L&S baccalaureate degree requirements. As noted in prior reports to the L&S Senate, these efforts are the result of a long-term project to evaluate and revise the undergraduate degree requirements, which culminated in L&S Senate approval (April 11, 2005).

Since that time, the LSCC has been working to implement the revisions in anticipation of a Fall 2007 implementation of the requirements. (Students admitted after May 21, 2007, are subject to these requirements.) To that end, the committee has:

- Articulated criteria to determine “Liberal Arts and Science” (LAS) credit for non-L&S coursework (attached), developed procedures for review of non-L&S liberal arts and science courses, and has shared those criteria with units across UW-Madison to encourage review of courses appropriate to carry LAS designation;
- Resolved issues raised by the Office of the Registrar regarding implementation of 2007 L&S baccalaureate curriculum, ensured that communications about the L&S and LAS designations are current and accurate, and arranged for courses to be properly designated in future *Timetable* publications;
- With L&S Student Academic Affairs, identified the need for policy to address details related to implementation, developed policy where needed, and communicated with advisors and deans about new and revised policy;
- Revised the *Undergraduate Catalog* discussion of the L&S baccalaureate requirements;
- Established a communication plan and began development of a variety of tools (e.g., presentations, summary documents, DARS degree-level “what if?” capability) to reach out to advisors and students (see www.ls.wisc.edu/curriculum); and
- Overseen efforts to communicate with faculty and staff advisors, both within and external to L&S, regarding the new curriculum, including, when necessary, meeting with other campus units (administrative and school/college) to discuss the curricular changes.

Details about the revisions to the new curriculum can be found in the attached document, entitled “Overview of Curricular Changes”. This overview describes, in detail, differences between the 1971 and 2007 requirements, supplemented by information about how some elements should be interpreted. Because many people affected by the curriculum do not need this level of detail, an additional document, “Five Things L&S Departments and Programs Need to Know...” is also provided. Individuals with questions about the revisions are encouraged to contact L&S Student Academic Affairs (Dial-A-Dean – 262-2644). The committee anticipates that work to implement the revised degree requirements will continue for some time, as students and advisors work with the requirements. Questions and concerns about the requirements should be brought to the attention of the committee, which will work to resolve them.

The L&S Curriculum Committee approved this report on March 26, 2007.

Submitted by

John Coleman, Chair, L&S Curriculum Committee
Professor of Political Science

Elaine M. Klein, Assistant Dean
Director, L&S Academic Planning, Program Review and Assessment

Attachments:

- A. Criteria for Liberal Arts and Science Courses
- B. Overview of Curricular Changes

Criteria for Liberal Arts and Science Courses

Approved by L&S Curriculum Committee December 5, 2005

Courses requested for Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) credit should encourage students in one or more of the three “habits of the mind” of liberal arts education, as specified by the College of Letters and Science. These include:

1. Skilled written and verbal communication, excelling in formulating and expressing a point of view, reflecting and questioning current knowledge through reading, research and consideration of the views of others.

This criterion includes:

- a. fluency in reading, writing, and oral communication
 - b. ability to understand and use prose, analyze documents
 - c. ability to use quantitative information to understand, develop and respond to arguments
 - d. critical and reflective quantitative, reading, and communication skills
 - e. reasoned, well-organized, and sustained discussions of important issues or questions, including the ability to explain and evaluate different or opposing perspectives evenhandedly and dispassionately
2. The ability to draw flexibly upon and apply the modes of thought of the major areas of knowledge.

This criterion includes:

- a. understanding and application of the fundamental theory, methods of inquiry, and patterns of reasoning that characterize fields of knowledge within the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences, including the basic principles of logical, mathematical, and scientific reasoning
- b. recognizing and evaluating new information, integrating that information into existing frameworks of knowledge, and adapting those frameworks as necessary or appropriate, using standards of intellectual rigor or precision appropriate to different subject areas
- c. posing meaningful questions that advance knowledge and understanding
- d. analyzing arguments, evaluating the evidence supporting them, and framing reasonable and persuasive counter-arguments; similarly, constructing arguments, supporting them with relevant evidence, and anticipating likely counter-arguments
- e. connecting theory and application through analysis of research or conducting research
- f. making connections among diverse subject areas and modes of thinking
- g. applying the major areas of knowledge to the solution of individual and community problems

3. Knowledge of our basic cultural heritage as a multifaceted and often contested history.

This criterion includes:

- a. the ability to place key decisions and developments in broader social, cultural, and historical context
- b. self-critical appreciation of cultural and personal values.

Proposed courses, including those designed to convey technical skills or specialized pre-professional training, must have extensive coverage of these aspects of the liberal arts and sciences. Although no single course will cover all of these aspects, the Curriculum Committee will look for evidence that liberal arts aspects are woven throughout a course. Course design must clearly encourage and emphasize analytical, conceptual, and creative thinking. Liberal arts learning should be heavily represented in the course objectives, list of topics covered, requirements, and assessment. The syllabus must indicate in detail how and where the liberal arts aspects of the course are integrated into the course and specify how the assessment of students incorporates the liberal arts features of the course.

*L&S Faculty Document 270 Appendix B: Overview of Changes to L&S Degree Requirements, Fall 2007
L&S Senate, April 23, 2007*

General Considerations		Details	Refer to:
Students affected	Students who matriculate to any post-secondary institution on or after May 22, 2007.	<p>Students matriculate to any post-secondary institution prior to May 22, 2007 will be allowed to "opt into" the new curriculum. A system will be set up to facilitate this by simple selection on a website.</p> <p>Students matriculate to any post-secondary institution prior to May 22, 2007, who opt in and later decide to revert to previous rules must seek a dean's exception</p> <p>To facilitate student choice, both curricula will be available to students in DARS.</p>	Memo#4: Fall 2007 Implementation of Revisions to the L&S Baccalaureate Degree Requirements
Requirement	2007 Curriculum	Changes from Previous Curriculum:	Refer to:
Minimum Credits for Degree	A <i>minimum</i> of 120 degree credits is required for L&S baccalaureate degrees. Please note that credit requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. The college allows some degree and placement credit as demonstrated by appropriate tests.	No change from previous requirements. However, more course options are available to achieve the 120 credit minimum.	Faculty Document 264a (final)
Liberal Arts and Sciences Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 108 credits in courses approved by the college as liberal arts and science courses. Liberal Arts and Science courses may satisfy breadth and level requirements, and where appropriate, may count as part of the major. • Up to 12 credits from any other UW-Madison Divisional Executive Committee approved coursework may be counted as "free electives in the degree". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name change (formerly "100 credit rule") • All Liberal Arts and Science courses will be designated in the Timetable. "C" courses "<u>C</u>ount" as "Liberal Arts and Science" (or, LAS) courses. • Most L&S courses will be designated LAS courses; however, since some will not be so designated, it will be possible for departments to create credit-bearing L&S courses that don't count toward the LAS degree requirement (e.g., Internship courses) • 20-credit rule eliminated. "T" courses will be reviewed on request of offering department for consideration of conversion to LAS courses with "C" designation. • Required LAS credits increased to 108 with more options for achieving the minimum 	<p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p> <p>Memo#4: Fall 2007 Implementation of Revisions to the L&S Baccalaureate Degree Requirements</p>
	<p>Implementation Details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free electives in the degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Up to 12 credits may be counted toward the degree. Courses must be approved by UW-Madison Divisional Executive Committee. ○ Free electives may not be used to satisfy level requirements. ○ Free electives may not be used to satisfy breadth requirements. • Transition period to accommodate students in 1971 curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "T" designation will be retained for a five-year transition period to serve students in 1971 and prior curricula. ○ When "T" course designations are eliminated, related breadth designations will be eliminated. 		<p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p> <p>Level restriction: Memo#4: Breadth restriction: Memo#5</p> <p>Memo #4 Memo #5</p>

<p>Tools for Learning and Communication</p>	<p>General Education Requirements <u>Communication A and B:</u> students may satisfy Part A by achieving appropriate scores on the English placement exam, English AP test or by passing a designated Comm A course. Comm B is satisfied by passing a Comm B course only. <u>Quantitative Reasoning:</u> QRA: May be exempted by approved college work while in high school, AP scores, or placement testing. QRB: 3 credits of more advanced course work for students who have completed or are exempt from QRA. <u>Ethnic Studies:</u> one 3 credit course required (many Ethnic Studies courses also carry breadth designations)</p> <p>Additional L&S Requirements <u>Foreign Language:</u> completion (by course or exam) of third unit (BS), or of fourth unit of one language or third unit and second unit of two languages (BA). High school and college work may be combined. <u>Mathematics:</u> For BA, QRA & QRB satisfy Math requirements. The L&S BS requirements require two 3 credit intermediate level MATH, COMP SCI or STAT courses. At most, only one course in Comp Sci and Stat may be counted for this requirement.</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p> <p>QR-A and B satisfy L&S BA Math requirements.</p>	<p>University Gen Ed Requirements are set by University Faculty Document 1065a. See www.ls.wisc.edu/gened for more information on background policies.</p> <p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p>
<p>Breadth: Exploring the Liberal Arts and Sciences</p>	<p>The L&S breadth requirements exceed (and therefore satisfy) the campus-wide Gen Ed Breadth Requirements. A minimum of 36 credits required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanities: 12 cr. minimum, with at least 6 cr. in Literature • Social Science: 12 cr. minimum • Natural Science: 12 cr. minimum: for the BA, at least one course of at least three credits must be taken in each of the biological and physical sciences; for the BS, at least 6 credits must be taken in the biological and in the physical sciences. 	<p>Name change BA and BS breadth requirements aligned (BA and BS both call for a minimum of 36 credits). Rule changes related to breadth credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 credit rule deleted (which limited amount of breadth credits earned in any one department) ▪ 80 credit rule deleted (which limited total number of credits earned in any one department) <p>NOTE: To address concerns regarding enrollment pressure in particular departments, departments may, in consultation with the L&S CC as part of a request to change the major, impose department-level limits on the number of credits earned in the department.</p>	<p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p>
	<p>Implementation issues: Several policies persist from previous curriculum, as they relate to <i>Breadth: Exploring the Liberal Arts and Sciences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in the major counts toward breadth requirements. • Courses that do <u>not</u> meet breadth requirements include: pre-calculus mathematics; elementary, intermediate, conversation, and language composition courses; English composition; practical and skill courses in journalism, public speaking, acting, theatre production; art courses; applied music courses. • Students are encouraged to exceed the 36 credit minimum. • If a course is approved by more than one division, DARS selects which breadth requirement student needs to satisfy, according to type of breadth student needs. • Cross-listed courses may only be counted once. 		

Depth: Understanding a Field of Study (Major)	<p>Every candidate for an L&S Baccalaureate degree must satisfy a depth requirement in a specified and approved major field of study. A student may elect a department major, or a major in a recognized interdisciplinary program, or may develop an Individual Major (see below). Every major should include a sequential requirement of work moving from the elementary level through the intermediate level to advanced work in a pattern appropriate to the major. Students may satisfy the requirements for more than one major (either departmental, interdisciplinary, or Individual) and it will be noted on their transcripts. No student may satisfy more than one Individual Major.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major should be declared and an advisor assigned at the beginning of the junior year. • Departments may specify prerequisites for acceptance in a major, such as GPA or completion of a particular course with a minimum grade. • No more than 40 credits in the major can be in the major department. 	<p>No change; students <u>must</u> complete a major.</p> <p>No change to existing rules governing L&S Major requirements. Departments continue to be restricted as to the number of credits that may be required in the major department (40), and the number of credits a major can dictate via required courses or prerequisites (60).</p>	<p>Faculty Document 264a (final) L&S Catalog, Policy Book</p>
Mastery of Intermediate and Advanced Work	<p>A minimum of 60 credits must be earned in courses designated as intermediate, advanced or intermediate/advanced, with a GPA of 2.0 on all courses carried whether passed or not. May include P/F courses.</p>	<p>Name change</p>	<p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p>
Residency	<p>In order to receive a degree from L&S, all students must earn a minimum number of credits (30) in residence as they near completion of their UW-Madison degrees. Credits are "in residence" if they are earned in UW-Madison course work, including courses taken on study abroad programs administered by UW-Madison. Courses that do not count as "in residence" include: UW-Extension and other transfer courses, AP credit, credit by examination, and retroactive credits.</p> <p>Two general cases apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Students whose first ninety credits are earned entirely in residence must complete a minimum of 22 additional degree credits in residence. (2) Students whose first ninety credits are not earned entirely in residence must complete a minimum of 30 additional degree credits in residence. In the latter case, students who are making satisfactory progress may seek a dean's exception to this rule. <p><i>Students are encouraged to seek advising about the selection of courses to be transferred, since UW-Madison does not accept all courses transferred for degree credit, nor do all credits transferred meet specific requirements.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (3) At least 15 credits at any level in the major or major department in courses completed on the UW-Madison campus (not abroad). (4) At least 15 credits of upper-level work in the major or major department must be completed in residence. Credits earned in UW-Madison study abroad programs count as credits earned in residence. 	<p>Proposed change informs students meeting certain conditions that flexibility in the Residence Requirement may be "automatically" available to them.</p> <p>No change to the current rule, which allows all students to seek exceptions to the 30 credit residency requirement. SAA deans will continue to grant exceptions.</p> <p>All students should consult the dean's office about whether transfer courses will count for degree credit. Distinction is drawn between "the Residency Rule" (minimum of 30 credits in residence) and the "Senior Residency Rule" (minimum number of credits earned in residence after first 90).</p> <p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>	<p>Faculty Document 264a (final)</p> <p>Memo#3</p> <p>Memo#1</p> <p>Memo#2 (clarifies that there is no change to study abroad stipulation)</p>
	<p>Note: For purposes of residency, not more than 72 credits may be carried at 2-year degree-granting accredited institutions</p>	<p>No change</p>	
Study Load	<p>The usual study load should be 15 credits per semester, within a range from 12 – 18. Students who want to take 19-20 credits may do so if they either earned a 3.0 in a preceding semester of at least 12 credits or are in the honors program.</p>	<p>No change</p>	

Quality of Work	Students must earn a minimum 2.0 GPA on all courses carried at UW-Madison on a graded basis (A, AB, B, BC, C, D, F) whether passed or not, in four areas: 1. All courses in each major; 2. All upper-level courses in each major, as designated by the department(s) for the 15 credit rule; 3. All courses marked intermediate, advanced or intermediate/advanced; and 4. All courses carried for a grade at UW-Madison. Refresher courses are excluded from 1-3; repeating failed courses does not remove the failure from the record or the GPA.	No change	
Additional Changes			
Undergraduates in Graduate-level courses	Undergraduate students who receive passing grades in graduate courses may be awarded undergraduate degree credit. Implementation issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses numbered 700 and above are graduate courses and considered to be advanced (A). • Grades earned by undergraduates who complete graduate courses will be included in all relevant grade point average calculations (see "Quality of Work Requirements" for the list of areas in which these averages are calculated). • Graduate courses taken in other schools/colleges may be taken as "free electives in the degree". • Graduate courses do not carry breadth. 	Undergraduates formerly could not receive credit for graduate courses unless certain requirements were met. Departments wishing to restrict access should enforce "Grad only" enrollment controls. No change No change Extension of policy, per L&S CC Extension of policy, per L&S CC	Policy change approved by L&S CC, Feb 13, 2006 L&S Catalog

For more information:

- L&S Section of the *2007-2009 Undergraduate Catalog*
- www.ls.wisc.edu/curriculum
- L&S Student Academic Affairs Dial-a-Dean: 262-2644
- L&S Student Academic Affairs General Dean's Staff e-mail: gdsinfo@lssaa.wisc.edu