

The Approved New General Education Curriculum

I. Simpson Seminar (1 Course)

Simpson Seminar is an autonomous seminar for all students that is focused on a big question and in the interest area of the instructor. As the purpose of the Simpson Seminar course is to help new students adjust to the academy, all entering students will take a Simpson Seminar organized to meet their needs (i.e. separate sections for new freshmen, EWG undergraduates, education transfers and fulltime transfers.) The course will meet the criteria for the following embedded skills: Critical Thinking and Written Communication. A structure will be developed to accommodate students who, upon completion of the Simpson Seminar, do not meet the minimum standards for college-level writing.

II. OURSELVES, CIVILIZATION, AND THE WORLD (7 courses)

Purpose: To prepare students to be engaged citizens by exploring enduring questions about ourselves, civilization, and the world. Students will take at least one course in each of the following areas.

- The Arts (AR)
- Civic Engagement (CE)
- Diversity and Power in the U.S. (DP)
- Ethics and Values Inquiry (EV)
- Global Perspectives (GP)
- Historical Perspectives (HP)
- Scientific Reasoning (SR)

III. EMBEDDED SKILLS

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for students to work on important life and professional skills throughout their college experience.

- **Two** Collaborative Leadership experiences (CL).
 - **Three** Critical Thinking experiences (CT)
 - **Two** Information Literacy experiences (IL)
 - **One** Intercultural Communication experience (IC)
 - **Two** Oral Communication experiences (OC)
 - **Two** Quantitative Reasoning experiences (QR)
 - **Four** Written Communication experiences (WC)
- In areas where more than one Embedded Skill is required, an approved outside of class experience may substitute for one of the Embedded Skills. No more than one of the Embedded Skills in each area can be fulfilled by an outside of the classroom experience and only if it meets the established criteria for the class-based Embedded Skill as approved by the appropriate faculty committee before the experience begins.

IV. SENIOR CAPSTONE IN THE MAJOR (1 Course)

Purpose: The purpose of the Capstone is to help students integrate advanced, field-specific learning with the knowledge and skills of a liberal education. All departments will be asked to provide information on how the important issues and skills present in the general education program are addressed within the senior major capstone.

(A graphic representation of the curriculum can be found in Addendum E.)

Notes

- **Faculty are being asked to approve the framework for general education outlined in this document. This includes the overarching concept of engaged citizenship, the criteria-based series of courses and the embedded skills. Faculty are not being asked to approve the criteria for each course and embedded skill.**
- If the vote is positive, it is understood that the criteria for the above courses will be created and submitted to the faculty for review and approval in the fall of 2009. The criteria circulated previously as part of the proposal will form the basis of the discussion for each of the drafting committees. In addition, the plan for the assessment of the new curriculum will be brought to the faculty in the fall of 2009 for review and approval.
- If the vote is positive, the faculty will be asked to approve the plan for implementation which will be presented in the fall of 2009.
- Any of the Component II (Ourselves, Civilization and the World) courses may carry up to two Embedded Skills designations from any area.