

**Liberal Studies Committee Minutes**

September 6, 2012

3:30 p.m.

Stabley 103

Present:

# Liberal Studies Electives

Syllabi for courses designed to fulfill the Liberal Studies Electives requirement must provide course content that meets each of the three Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes (EUSLOs): Informed Learners; Empowered Learners; and Responsible Learners.

Secondarily, Liberal Studies Electives must also meet the EUSLOs for at least **one** of the **six** competencies of the Liberal Studies Curriculum. The goal of these competencies is to strengthen those aspects of the Liberal Studies Curriculum that ensure our students will become lifelong learners and be able to contribute in an active way to their communities. Remember, the core of the course should be Liberal Studies Elective content and the competencies serve to provide a supporting role to the core.

Liberal Studies Electives will by their nature have a great deal of variety in the ways that they meet the Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes. For example, the Informed Learners EUSLO may list as possibilities various ways of demonstrating knowledge and understanding such as modeling the natural world or the interrelationships within and across disciplines. However, it is understood that an individual course will meet that EUSLO in its own distinctive way. **The bullets listed with any EUSLO are examples of ways to meet the Outcome and no one course is expected to cover all of the bullets/possibilities listed.**

## **Liberal Studies Electives Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes**

**All Liberal Studies Courses must meet the three EUSLOs. Proposals will need to include a justification for the exclusion of any of the three EUSLOs (in whole or in part). Remember that your proposal does not have to meet each of the bulleted items although it may by its nature meet more than one. For example, your**

## Empowered Learners

themselves as citizens of the world and to develop among them an awareness of the problems of social justice and equity. Syllabi for courses must provide course content that enables students to achieve the Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes identified below. Course proposals may identify additional objectives from the list of Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes as appropriate to the course content.

### **Liberal Studies Electives Global Citizenship Expected Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes**

Informed Learners understand nature and society through forms of inquiry fundamental to the sciences, the humanities, and the arts. Learners are informed by knowledge and ways of knowing that extend beyond core concepts enabling them to link theory and practice.

*As Informed Learners* students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:  
the interrelationships within and across cultures and global communities

Empowered Learners are critical thinkers who demonstrate intellectual agility and creativity and the ability to manage or create change. They are able to derive meaning from experience and observation. They communicate well in diverse settings and employ various strategies to solve problems. They are empowered through mastery of intellectual and practical skills.

*As Empowered Learners* students will demonstrate:  
information literacy skills including the ability to access, evaluate, interpret and use information from a variety of sources  
critical thinking skills including analysis, application and evaluation  
reflective thinking and the ability to synthesize information and ideas

Responsible Learners are engaged citizens of a diverse democratic society who have a deep sense of social responsibility and ethical judgment. They are responsible for their personal actions and civic values.

*As Responsible Learners* students will demonstrate:  
intellectual honesty  
concern for social justice  
civic engagement  
an understanding of the ethical and behavioral consequences of decisions and actions on themselves, on society and on the physical world  
an understanding of themselves and a respect for the identities, histories, and cultures of others

**Proposals for courses designed to address global citizenship must include:**

an examination of global issues (such as diversity in gender, religion, politics, ethnicity, economics, or the arts; environmental sustainability in global business, inequities in education, or global literacy)

content that increases student wsb

from experience and observation. They communicate well in diverse settings and employ various strategies to solve problems. They are empowered through mastery of intellectual and practical skills.

As *Empowered Learners* students will demonstrate:

critical thinking skills including analysis, application and evaluation  
reflective thinking and the ability to synthesize information and ideas

Responsible Learners are engaged citizens of a diverse democratic society who have a deep sense of social responsibility and ethical judgment. They are responsible for their personal actions and civic values.

As *Responsible Learners* students will demonstrate

an understanding of themselves and a respect for the identities, histories, and cultures of others

### Global and Multicultural Awareness Required Course Content

Proposals for courses designed to fulfill the Liberal Studies Global and Multicultural Awareness requirement must include:

development of students' understanding of a variety of cultures or global situations;  
primary focus should be on non-dominant cultures  
presentation of cultures on their own terms with an appreciation of their dimensions, going beyond mere description of a culture; those dimensions may include religion, economics, politics, art, language, literature, ethics, as well as other dimensions of the cultural milieu.  
an examination of the ways differing cultures establish and rely on systems of values, norms, and ideals  
content that enables students to gain knowledge of the past and present and interrelations among communities of historical, philosophical, scientific, environmental, or social perspectives.