



POLICY CHANGE PROPOSAL

Administrative Use Only

Proposal #

Curriculum Committee Use Only

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Faculty Senate determines general policy and which groups can bring forward specific curriculum proposals that cross faculty lines. Once a policy has been approved by Faculty Senate, specific curriculum proposals go to the Curriculum Committee. Policy change items impact more than one faculty group, such as establishing changes to required GERS, or changes to common requirements of the BLA.

Type of proposal:

Course offered by:

Department:

Change Affects:

Existing Description: (include current section in catalog)

Proposed Description:

UAS Academic Catalog 2007-2008 > Undergraduate Studies > Bachelor Degrees

Liberal Arts, B.L.A.

Photocopy of current catalog description (pp. 100-103) attached.

Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA)

Proposed new catalog description attached.

Rationale:

During the 2007-2008 academic year, the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) degree program underwent review. The primary recommendation of the Program Review Self Study and the Institutional Review Committee was that the current BLA degree be restructured. In addition, both of those review committees recommended adoption of the attached proposed BLA degree revision.

The full rationale for this degree revision is provided in the BLA Program Review. The general assessments of the Self Study and the Institutional Review Committee encapsulate the basic rationale:

I. From the Self Study:

7.3 Recommendations for change.

The BLA Work Group recommends that the BLA degree be redesigned with the following particulars in mind:

- Better define the "Liberal Arts" major within the BLA: create a standard set of requirements for the BLA, irrespective of discipline emphasis areas selected.
- Give the BLA a distinct program identity, housed within the Humanities and assisted by Social Science faculty.
- Re-engage A&S faculty in the BLA program by linking participation in and commitment to the degree program according to the disciplinary fields chosen by students.
- Provide the BLA program with its own A&S tenure-track faculty lines and an independent program budget.
- Charge the reconstituted BLA degree program and its program faculty with the task of developing a meaningful program assessment plan.

7.4 Recommendation for continuance or discontinuance.

The BLA is the only baccalaureate program with the School of Arts and Sciences at UAS designed for students seeking a broad-based education. It admits more students to the program than any other BA or BS degree program with A&S (including transfer, non-traditional, and distance students), yet the BLA program is in an extreme state of institutional crisis with no departmental home, few designated faculty, no independently designated institutional resources, and an ill-defined General Studies degree with no assessment plan. The future health of the BLA depends directly upon implementing the recommendations, above. Given the large number of students currently admitted to the BLA degree program, its continuance is imperative.

II. From the Institutional Review Committee:

After careful review of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) Program Review Self Study, the unanimous overall assessment of the Institutional Review Committee (IRC): Continuation of the BLA degree with program revisions.

First Reading:

- Moved to 2nd Reading
- Moved to 2nd w/Revisions
- Referred to:

Second Reading:

- Recommended for Approval
- Recommended w/Revisions
- Tabled Not Approved Withdrawn

Signatures, in order, needed:

Initiating Faculty Member:	<input type="text"/>	Signature:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>
Chair of Faculty Group:	<input type="text"/>	Signature:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>
Dean:	<input type="text"/>	Signature:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>
Faculty Senate Chair:	<input type="text"/>	Signature:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>
Provost:	<input type="text"/>	Signature:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>

