

**LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM PROPOSAL: *Integrative Literacies for a Global Society***  
**Offered by the General Education Committee**

The GE Committee was charged with determining a core curriculum of courses that would be required of all University students, in all degree programs, at all Campus Centers and Online. The following Liberal Arts Program requirements apply to all BA, BS, and BSW (Bachelor of Social Work, currently only available at the Parkville campus) degree seeking students at all Campus Centers and Online who have not already earned an Associates degree.

The Committee requests a Faculty Senate discussion and vote for:

- 1) Approval of a new interdisciplinary and integrative thinking literacy
- 2) Approval of a new core curriculum.

**Interdisciplinary and Integrative Thinking Literacy—PASSED, October 10, 2007**

**Interdisciplinary and Integrative Thinking**

- Understanding of disciplinary content in its own context and in relationship to the issues, questions, and positions of other disciplines.
- Recognition of the differences and similarities among the disciplines in terms of central concerns, values, methodologies, and relationship to public life.
- Synthesis of diverse perspectives to achieve an interdisciplinary understanding
- Appreciation of the relationship among academic knowledge, professional work, and the responsibilities of local and global citizenship.
- Acquisition of multiple perspectives, modes of inquiry and expression, and processes for decision-making.

The student with interdisciplinary and integrative literacy will possess the ability to make connections across courses and connect coursework to his/her academic, professional, and civic lives. The student will be able to consider problems from several different perspectives and develop and test his/her holistic understanding of an issue, evaluate how various disciplines would conceive of solutions, and relate his/her learning to issues outside of academia.

**New Core Curriculum—PASSED, October 10, 2007**

*Each Liberal Arts course must have learning outcomes directly related to at least four of the Park University Literacies.*

<b>Course</b>	<b>Hours</b>
EN 105	3
EN 106	3
W.C.T.	0
EN 306 or departmental equivalent	3
MA131 or higher	3
CA103 or CA hybrid or TH105	3
CS140 or higher or departmental equivalent	3
PO 2XX course – in development	3
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>21</b>

<b>Liberal Arts</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	

At least 6 hours social sciences  
 At least 6 hours humanities  
 At least 7 hours natural and applied sciences

Of this 19 hours, nine hours of coursework must be fulfilled in classes that reflect a new “interdisciplinary and integrative learning” literacy, if this new literacy is approved by faculty.

**TOTAL 40**

*All Liberal Arts Program courses must be approved by the Committee and must meet the following criteria:*

1. *Nine credit hours of the 19 Liberal Arts course credit hours required will be fulfilled by courses that integrate a new “interdisciplinary and integrative thinking” literacy. Faculty will be encouraged to explore a variety of means for developing and offering these courses based on departmental interest and Campus Center resources, from discrete courses to linked courses (learning communities), to team-taught courses. Team-teaching is not a requirement of this proposal.*
2. *Each Liberal Arts course (all 19 hours) must meet the requirements for an LL course; that is, an LL course “focuses on a contemporary problem(s) or theme, gives consideration to a multi-disciplinary perception of the issue or theme, and aims to stimulate the intellectual life of the student. Each course requires completion of a t least one major assignment (research, journalistic, or creative writing), or an art work or an artistic performance” (p. 208, 2007-2008 Park University Undergraduate Catalog). All existing LL courses will be re-evaluated by a standing Liberal Arts Committee.*
3. *Each discipline can propose a limited number of Liberal Arts credits. The Committee does not have to accept any such proposals. The Provost can make exceptions.*
4. *Some approved courses can be team-taught and interdisciplinary, thus could be cross listed in two of the three areas (HU, NS, SS). Each team-taught course counts as half a course for each discipline for purposes of #4 above.*
5. *At least ten percent of approved Liberal Arts courses must be at the 300-level.*
6. *The Committee will make sure that at least 25 percent of all approved Liberal Arts courses meet each Literacy.*
7. *The Committee will work with the major programs in developing (or redeveloping) capstones to serve as liberal arts assessment tools.*