Proposed Change to the B.A. Degree  
Liberal Studies  

To be adopted:  

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| 2. Upper division requirements (40-unit minimum)  
By the beginning of the sixth quarter after 76 units of credit have been accumulated choose two areas of concentration.  
First Area of Concentration  
Minimum of 24 upper-division units from one of the departments or programs in the following list A:  
List A: Anthropology, Art History, Biology, Chemistry, Classical Studies, Comparative Literature, Computer Science, Dance, Earth Science (Geography, Geology, Geophysics), Economics, English, Entomology, Environmental Sciences, French, German, History, Mathematics, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Russian Studies, Sociology, Spanish, Statistics, Theatre  
Second Area of Concentration  
Sixteen (16) complementary upper-division units chosen from one subject area from List A cited previously or from the following List B. No overlap between major and minor concentrations allowed.  
List B: Administrative Studies, Asian Studies, Biochemistry, Creative Writing, Education, Human Development, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Performing Arts (Art, Dance, Music, Theatre), Soil Sciences, Urban Studies, Women’s Studies  |
| 2. Upper division requirements (40-unit minimum)  
By the junior year (90 units) two areas of concentration must be selected.  
First Area of Concentration: Minimum of 24 upper-division units chosen from one subject area in the following list.  
Second Area of Concentration: Minimum of 16 upper-division units chosen from a different subject area in the following list.  
American Studies, Anthropology, Art History, Asian Studies, Biological Sciences, Business Administration, Chemistry, Classical Studies, Comparative Literature, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Dance, Earth Science (Geography, Geology, Geophysics), Economics, Education (minor area only); English, Environmental Sciences, Ethnic Studies, European Studies, Film and Visual Culture, Hispanic Studies, History, Human Development, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Soil Sciences, Statistics, Theatre, Urban Studies, Visual and Performing Arts, Women’s Studies  |
**Studies**

**Justification:** Liberal Studies majors select two areas of concentration, referred to as a major area and a minor area. As presently listed, areas of concentration in List A may be either a major or a minor area, while those in List B may be the student’s minor area only. This restriction, which we wish to eliminate, dates from the original concept of the major as proposed by the Division of Undergraduate Studies and approved in 1973. Departments in the (then) four colleges made up List A; students were thus obliged to pick one of the “traditional disciplines” as their major area of concentration. List B was innovated by adding interdisciplinary programs, housed in the Division, some of them quite new, along with Education and (if memory serves) Physical Education, but all of these as options for the student’s minor area only. Over time, most of those interdisciplinary programs as well as newer ones have developed full majors in well-accepted fields of study, and some are departments. In addition we propose options for concentrations in subject areas available only through the Liberal Studies major – American Studies and European Studies. These are majors and departments on other campuses but not yet at UCR. In the past several years, UCR has hired a number of faculty whose training, research, and teaching is in the area of American Studies. This core faculty is very enthusiastic about offering a major concentration that reflects their research interests and allows them to teach collaboratively. Similarly, there are many possibilities for multidisciplinary work in European Studies at UCR, across the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

As a further note, Liberal Studies students who plan to teach in the elementary school regularly select Education as their minor area. (Education is the one area that will remain limited to the minor area.) As their major subject area (or alternatively, as their major) the state is now urging prospective teachers to consider “integrative study” in an interdisciplinary program. These new concentrations along with Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, Business Administration (formerly called Administrative Studies), or Visual and Performing Arts (formerly called Performing Arts) speak to the state’s request.

Approved by the Liberal Studies Committee on Dec. 7, 2001
Approved by the Executive Committee, College of Humanities & Social Sciences: 2/6/02
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: April 17, 2002