To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to the Liberal Studies Major

**PRESENT:**

University Requirements
See Undergraduate Studies Section

College Requirements
See College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Colleges and Programs Section

**PROPOSED:**

1. Lower-division requirements (12 courses [at least 48 units]). Courses can be used to fulfill college breadth requirements.

   a) Science and Mathematics (4 courses [at least 16 units]) from: BIOL, CHEM, CS, GEO, MATH, or PHYS.

   b) Humanities and Fine Arts (4 courses [at least 16 units]) from: ART, AHS, CPLT, CRWT, DNCE, ENGL, LING, MUS, PHIL, or THEA.

   c) History and Social Science (4 courses [at least 16 units]) from: ANTH, ECON, ETST, GBST, GSST, MCS, POSC, PSYC, RLST, or SOC.

2. Upper-division requirements: 10 courses (at least 40 units).

   a) One writing course from: ENGL 103 or
ENGL 130, ENGL 131, ENGL 132, ENGL 133, ENGL 134, ENGL 136T, ENGL 137T, ENGL 138A, ENGL 138B, ENGL 138T

b) One course in Ethnicity or Gender from: ETST 100, ETST 101A, ETST 102, ETST 111, ETST 121, ETST 131, WMST 100, WMST 101, WMST 108/PHIL 108, WMST 126/ANTH 177/MUS 126, WMST 132/HISA 132, WMST 149/ANTH 149, WMST 161

c) One course in United States History or United States Government from: HISA 110A, HISA 110B, HISA 110C, HISA 113, HISA 114, HISA 115, HISA 116, HISA 117A, HISA 117B, HISA 120A, HISA 120B, HISA 135/ETST 112, POSC 100, POSC 101, POSC 113

d) One course in Communication Studies from: ANTH 113, ANTH 120, ANTH 123, ANTH 131, ANTH 165, ANTH 177/MUS 126/WMST 126, ART 131/MCS 131, ART 135/MCS 135, ART 139, ART 140, ART 145, ART 150/MCS 150, ART 155, ART 167, ART 168, ART 169 (E-Z), AHS 182 AHS 186/MCS 186, CRWT 130, CRWT 165, CRWT 174, CRWT 176 (E-Z), AHS 182; AHS 186/MCS 186, CRWT 130, CRWT 165, CRWT 174, CRWT 176 (E-Z), ECON 111, ECON 116, ECON 117/PHIL 119, ECON 119, ECON 123/HISA 123, ENGL 103, ENGL 144 (E-Z)/MCS 144 (E-Z), ENGL 145 (E-Z)/MCS 145 (E-Z), ENGL 146 (E-Z)/MCS 146 (E-Z), MCS 110 (E-Z), MCS 114/CPLT 134/GER 134/JPN 134, MCS 121 (E-Z)/CPLT 171 (E-Z), MCS 125 (E-Z)/LNST 125 (E-Z)/SPN 125 (E-Z), MCS 131/ART 131, MCS 133/SOC 138, MCS 136/ART 136, MCS 137/AHS 136, MCS 150/ART 150, MCS 172, MCS 173 (E-Z)/CPLT 173 (E-Z)/MUS 126/ANTH 177/WMST 126, MUS 140/HISA 139, PHIL 108/WMST 108, PHIL 111, PHIL 112, PHIL 116, POSC 146, PSYC 124, PSYC 150, SOC 120, SOC 121, SOC 122, SOC 133, SOC 134, SOC 139/MCS 139, SOC 140, SOC 141, SOC 143/URST 143, SOC 156, SOC 157, SOC 173, SOC 174, SOC 175, THEA 110A, THEA 110B,

b) One course in American/European Literature or Arts, not to include language study, from: ART, AHS, CLA, CPAC, CPLT, DNCE, ENGL, EUR, FREN, GER, ITAL, LATN, LNST, MUS, MCS, PHIL, PORT, RUSN, SPN, or THEA.

c) One course in Nonwestern Literature or Arts or Gender Studies, not to include language study, from: AHS, ART, ARLC, AST, CHN, CPLT, DNCE, ETST, GSST, JPN, KOR, MCS, MUS, PHIL, SEAS, THEA, or VNM.

d) One course in U.S. History or Government/Politics, Economics, or Society from: ANTH, ECON, POSC, or SOC.


f) One course with a Global Perspective from: AHS, ANTH, ECON, ETST, GBST, GSST, LNST, PHIL, POSC, RLST, or SOC

e) One course in Communications or Technology from: ANTH, AHS, ART, CPLT, CS, ECON, ENGL, ETST, GSST, MCS, PHIL, SOC, or THEA.

f) Three additional courses from the areas above.
g) Three Additional upper-division courses offered in the College of Arts and Social Sciences OR for pre-teaching credential students, three from the following: EDUC 109/S, EDUC 110/S, EDUC 116/S, EDUC 172/S, EDUC 174/S, EDUC 175/S.

h) Liberal Studies Capstone Course: LBST 191 or LBST 190

3. Education Component: 5 courses (at least 18 units): EDUC 001, EDUC 002, EDUC 044, EDUC 100A, EDUC 109, EDUC 110, EDUC 173

3. E-exit Portfolio: Students will compile at least three pieces of written work from upper-division courses, one of which must specifically address research methodology, broadly understood and evidence of applied research or work experience – e.g., a fourth paper, journal/report from an internship or experiential learning exercise, or, for pre-teaching credential students, a record of classroom experience.

Justification:

1. Major Requirements
   a) Lower Division: Major was initially designed for students seeking to become teachers, and a very specific set of lower division courses was included to insure preparation for credential programs and passing the CBEST. Today, most Liberal Studies Majors do not pursue a teaching credential. In addition, all undergraduates who are interested in a teaching credential are encouraged to complete the Education Minor. The overall number of lower division courses has been reduced to increase the flexibility necessary for students to specialize in one or another area of the liberal arts by taking additional upper division courses.
      1) Science and Mathematics courses reduced in number and greater room for choice supported.
      2) Humanities and Fine Arts courses reduced in number and greater room for choice supported.
      3) History and Social Science courses reduced in number and greater room for choice supported.
   b) Upper Division: Given that Liberal Arts majors are divided between those who desire a broadly bases liberal arts degree and those who intend to pursue a teaching credential, revisions create a two track – general liberal arts and pre-teaching credential – distinguished by students’ selection of elective courses. The overall number of upper division courses has been increased to increase the flexibility necessary for students to specialize in one or another area of the liberal arts.
      1) Members of the Liberal Studies Steering Committee from CHASS and the School of Education agreed strongly that any student graduating with a liberal arts degree must take writing course work beyond the freshman composition series. The English and Creative Writing departments are willing to offer additional sections of appropriate courses to facilitate the addition of this requirement.
      2) “American Literature” has been modified to the more inclusive
“American/European” Literature or Arts with the intention to capture “Western” culture. Specific courses have been replaced by a set of majors that routinely offer courses that would fulfill the requirement to facilitate students’ desire to specialize and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

3) “Ethnicity or Gender” requirement has been replaced by the more inclusive “Nonwestern” Literature or Arts or Gender Studies with the intention to exposes students to nonwestern culture, broadly understood. Specific courses have been replaced by a set of majors that routinely offer courses that would fulfill the requirement to facilitate students’ desire to specialize and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

4) “U.S. History or Government” has been changed to “U.S. History, Government/Politics, Economics or Sociology” to provide students with the option of studying U.S. history and government or its broader economic and social foundations. Specific courses have been replaced by a set of majors that routinely offer courses that would fulfill the requirement to facilitate students’ desire to specialize and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

5) “Communications Studies” has been replaced by “Communications and Technology,” which better reflects the nature of actual communications studies and accommodates the possibility that pre-teaching credential track students will want to take more computing oriented coursework in preparation for the electronic bases for teaching and record keeping in public schools today. Again, specific courses have been replaced by a set of majors that routinely offer courses that would fulfill the requirement to facilitate students’ desire to specialize and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

6) Specific courses needed to complete the “Global Perspectives” requirement have been replaced by a set of majors that routinely offer courses that would fulfill the requirement to facilitate students’ desire to specialize and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

7) Instead of requiring all Liberal Studies Students to take Education courses that would prepare them for a teaching credential program after graduating, only Pre-credential students will take a subset of courses in the School of Education. Other students will select electives from among the offerings in CHASS.

8) We have added a Liberal Studies Capstone Course intended to transition students from coursework to the working world. A Capstone Course will include instruction in completing and submitting the e-exit Portfolio, and the presentation of print/display board versions of the portfolio. The Director may approve the following alternatives to the Capstone Course (LBST 191): completion of a an honors thesis consistent with UHP requirements; individual paper or project via enrolling and completing LBST 190 (Special Studies). Course proposals for all of these new LBST offerings have been drafted for submission by the end of May 2014.

Note: LBST 190 and LBST 191 (Capstone) will be the first Liberal Studies courses to the program, and will facilitate student-led organization of their academic achievements in the interest of completing the required e-portfolio and preparing to move onto careers or graduate study. These courses and the completed e-portfolios will, furthermore, permit assessment of our majors’ learning while at UCR.

c) E-exit Portfolio. The Liberal Studies major currently offers no courses of its own and has never been able to pull student work for evaluation or required students to develop a portfolio for evaluation per the demands of its learning outcomes and assessment plan. In
combination with the Capstone Experience, development of the e-exit portfolio will provide a consistent means of reflecting on the overall outcome of their UCR education and translating that experience into the first steps toward professional success.

**Approvals:**

Approved by the faculty of the Department of Liberal Studies: May 21, 2014
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences: January 7, 2015
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: February 9, 2015