

# **New College of Florida**



## **Guidelines**

2008-09

Office of the Provost  
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# New College Liberal Arts Curriculum Guidelines

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If you have any questions about the Liberal Arts Curriculum that your faculty advisor cannot answer, please contact Kathy Allen, Registrar, at [kallen@ncf.edu](mailto:kallen@ncf.edu) or 941-487-4282.

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## The Liberal Arts Curriculum (LAC)

At almost every college and university, an undergraduate education includes, at the very least, a concentration or “major” field of study in which a student acquires in-depth knowledge of a rather focused academic area, and a program of general education through which the student achieves academic breadth and acquires important intellectual skills.

At New College, the focus of general education is the *Liberal Arts Curriculum (LAC)*. We expect New College graduates to have achieved the following skills, ways of knowing, and basic competencies:

- Communication Skills: Students proficiently express ideas orally and in writing.
- Critical Thinking Skills: Students integrate ideas from various sources; analyze data; apply theory; and synthesize information. By employing these abilities and competencies students see connections and reach defensible new conclusions.
- Ways of Knowing in the Humanities/Fine Arts: Students understand how questions are posed and how insights into those questions, or creative responses to them, are developed in a Humanities or Fine Arts discipline.
- Ways of Knowing in the Social/Behavioral Sciences: Students understand how questions about individuals and social groups are framed and addressed through observational research, experimentation and data analysis.
- Ways of Knowing in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics: Students understand how conclusions are drawn through experimental data and understand mathematical reasoning from starting assumptions.
- Basic Competence in Information Technology: Students master basic word processing, spreadsheet and web-browser functions.

You and your sponsor will need to monitor your progress toward meeting these expectations as you negotiate each semester contract and as you make plans to complete the requirements of your chosen area of concentration.

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## Steps to Fulfilling LAC Requirements

Keep the following four steps in mind as you work with your faculty sponsor to plan to meet the goals of the Liberal Arts Curriculum, *i.e.*, to enhance your ability to communicate, to think critically, and to understand and appreciate different ways of knowing.

1. **Demonstrate basic *proficiency in information technology*.** At the beginning of your time at New College you will be asked to take an on-line test at the Office of the Registrar. When you pass this test you will be deemed to have demonstrated basic proficiency in information technology.
2. **Complete the equivalent of at least eight term-length courses designated as LAC courses** (module-length courses can be counted towards completion of the requirement, with two module-length courses equivalent to one term-length course). **These eight courses must include at least one term-length or two module-length LAC courses from each of the three divisions: Humanities (including art), Social Sciences (including behavioral sciences and history), and Natural Sciences (including mathematics).** Alternatively, you may satisfy all or part of this requirement through eligible transfer course credit or acceptable scores on the CLEP, AP, IB, or AICE examinations to fulfill the LAC requirements. (For more information on these examinations, see pages 3-6.)
3. **Demonstrate *basic competence in mathematics*.** Completing a math course at New College or receiving appropriate transfer credit fulfills this requirement. You may also demonstrate math skills through acceptable scores on the SAT, ACT, or appropriate CLEP, AP, or IB exams. (See page 4.)
4. **Complete the senior thesis project and oral Baccalaureate Exam.** Acceptable performance on these final graduation requirements provide clear evidence that you have acquired ***proficiency in writing and oral communication***.

The yellow worksheet in this booklet outlines the LAC requirements and methods for meeting them. You and your sponsor can use the checklist on the worksheet to track progress toward acquiring these abilities. The Office of the Registrar will also track your progress, and can provide you information on what requirements you may lack.

## Different Ways to Fulfill LAC Requirements

### 1. Eligible New College Courses

The Two-Term Course Syllabus issued each academic year includes a listing of those courses designated by the faculty as Liberal Arts Curriculum courses during that year. A list of all LAC courses to be taught in 2008-2009 is provided on pages 7-8 of this book. (A complete list of all LAC courses that have ever been taught at New College is available in the Office of the Registrar.) You may complete any New College math course to meet math competency expectations.

### 2. Transfer and Dual Enrollment Courses

Appropriate courses completed at other colleges or dual enrollment courses (community college courses taken while enrolled in High School) deemed *eligible* for transfer credit by the New College Registrar may be used to satisfy the LAC and math competency requirements. The Registrar will work with you to determine which courses completed at other institutions may be appropriate. Please note that a course that is *eligible* for transfer credit may be used to meet LAC requirements, or it may be awarded as part of a transferred contract of credit. (New College does not transfer individual courses, but equates these courses with the equivalent of contracts. Students may transfer up to three contracts from another institution, but may not transfer individual courses.) Students awarded the AA degree from any Florida community college are deemed to have fulfilled the LAC requirements.

### 3. Scores on Examinations

Satisfactory performance on Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or Advanced Certification of Education (AICE) examinations may be used to meet the LAC math competency requirement. New College does not grant transfer credit for these exams.

#### **International Baccalaureate (IB)**

The International Baccalaureate Organization Diploma Programme is a pre-university course of study that leads to examinations. Scores of 5 or above on **IB** higher level (HL) or standard level (SL) in subject areas listed on page 5 will satisfy corresponding LAC requirements.

#### **College Level Exam Program (CLEP)**

CLEP examinations are administered by the College Board, and cover material taught in courses that most students take in the first two years of college. CLEP scores of 500 or above on general examinations and 50 or above on subject area exams listed on page 5 will satisfy corresponding LAC requirements including the mathematics competency requirement.

**Advanced Placement (AP)**

AP exams are administered by the College Board, and parallel AP courses offered in high schools. AP exam scores of 3 or above on subject area exams listed on page 6 will satisfy corresponding LAC requirements.

**Advanced Certificate of Education (AICE)**

AICE examinations may be offered during grades 11 and 12 in schools worldwide registered as CIE Centers, a nonprofit department of the University of Cambridge in England. AICE A-level examination scores of E or higher in subject areas taught at New College will satisfy corresponding LAC requirements.

***Basic mathematics competency may be demonstrated by completing a math course at New College, earning transfer credit for a math course, or by earning:***

- A minimum of 3 on any Advanced Placement (AP) Test in mathematics.
- A minimum score of 500 on the math section of the Scholastic Assessment Test (**SAT**), or
- A minimum score of 21 on the math portion of the Enhanced American College Test (**ACT**), or
- A passing score on the Mathematical Skills section of the State of Florida College Level Academic Skills Test (**CLAST**), or
- An **IB** higher level Math exam score of 5 or higher, or
- A **CLEP** General Math score of 500 or higher, or
- A **CLEP** Math subject test with a score of 50 or higher.
- An **AICEA-level** math exam score of E or higher.

## Fulfilling the LAC through Examinations

**International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB)** higher-level exams (with a score of 5 or above).

Biology	Math Advanced
Chemistry	Math and Computation
Computer/Computational Studies	Math Studies
Economics	Music
English	Philosophy
Environmental Systems	Physical Science
General Chemistry	Physics
Geography	Psychology
History	Social Anthropology
Math	Theatre Arts
	Art

**College Level Examination Program (CLEP)** exams (with scores of 500 or above on general examinations and 50 or above on subject area exams).

American Government	Human Growth & Development
American Literature	Introductory Psychology
Analyzing & Interpreting Literature	Introductory Sociology
Biology	Principles of Macroeconomics
Calculus	Principles of Microeconomics
Chemistry	Trigonometry
College Algebra	Western Civilization I
College Algebra-Trigonometry	Western Civilization II
College Mathematics	
English Literature	
History of the US I	
History of the US II	

**Advanced Placement (AP)** exam scores of 3 and above in the following subject areas.

Art History	Government and Politics:
Biology	Comparative
Calculus AB	Government and Politics: US
Calculus BC	Human Geography
Chemistry	Music Theory
Computer Science A	Physics B
Computer Science AB	Physics C: Electricity /Magnetism
Economics: Macro	Physics C: Mechanics
Economics: Micro	Psychology
English Language and Composition	Statistics
English Literature and Composition	Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio
Environmental Science	Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio
European History	Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio
	US History
	World History

**Advanced Certificate of Education (AICE)** A-level exam scores of E or higher. In order to be counted as a part of the LAC, the exam must cover a subject that is an area of study at New College.

**LAC Courses  
Academic Year 2008-2009**

**HUMANITIES**

**Fall 2008**

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Advanced Greek I  
Advanced Latin: Petronius, Satyrca  
American Fiction  
Buddhism  
Classical Chinese Literature  
Criminal Narratives and Narrating Crime  
Intermediate Chinese I  
Intermediate French I  
Intermediate German I  
Intermediate Russian I  
Introduction to the Study of Religion  
Jewish Scriptures  
Masterpieces: Renaissance to Rococo  
Medieval Women: Art, Gender and  
    Spirituality  
Metaphysics Survey  
Music Theory I  
Music, Language, and Metaphor  
Reading Poetry  
Religions of South Asia  
Revolution, Love and Modern Chinese Fiction  
Sculpture I  
The Age of Goethe  
The Canon of British Literature  
Twentieth Century African American Drama  
Twentieth Century Painting

**Spring 2009**

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Advanced Latin: Juvenal, *Satires*  
American Painting of the Twentieth Century  
Drawing I  
Intermediate French II  
Intermediate German II  
Intermediate Russian II  
Masterpieces: Rococo to Modernism  
Modern Philosophy  
Music Theory II  
Orientalism  
Religious Themes in Literature  
Sculpture I  
Spanish Conversation and Composition  
The Gothic Cathedral  
The Lyric Tradition  
Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka Arthur Schnitzler,  
    and Robert Musil and the Crisis of Identity  
    in early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Central Europe

**INTERDISCIPLINARY**

**Fall 2008**

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Introduction to Environmental Studies

**Spring 2009**

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None

## NATURAL SCIENCES

### Fall 2008

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Calculus I  
Chemistry and Society  
Descriptive Astronomy  
General Biology in a Cultural Context  
General Biology: Vertebrates  
General Chemistry I  
Introduction to Entomology  
Introduction to Programming Using Java  
Physics I  
Physics I Laboratory

### Spring 2009

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Conservation Biology: Climate Change  
Coral Reef Ecology  
Current Issues in Human Genetics  
Introduction to Computer Science  
Linear Algebra  
Structure of Nature

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

### Fall 2008

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Comparative Politics  
Heritage: History and the Past Today  
Introduction to American Politics  
Introduction to Economic Analysis  
Introduction to Sociology  
Introduction to Statistics  
Introduction to World Politics  
Introductory Macroeconomics  
Modern European History I (1648-1870)  
Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East  
Social Theory  
Survey of Archaeology

### Spring 2009

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A Culture and Historical Examination of Colonial Latin America  
Human Origins and Evolution  
Introduction to Sociology through Social Psychology  
Introduction to Statistics  
Introductory Macroeconomics  
Mathematical Tools for Economists and Other Social Scientists  
Modern European History II (1870-present)

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**New College of Florida  
Liberal Arts Curriculum Guidelines  
Worksheet  
2008-09**

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Use this worksheet to track your progress toward fulfilling the Liberal Arts curriculum-related expectations.  
Each of the five expectations listed below must be met prior to graduation.

**Computer Literacy      Demonstrate Basic Computer Proficiency.**

- Complete online quiz in the Office of the Registrar.

**Math Literacy      Complete one of the requirements below:**

**Complete One**

- Satisfactory completion of NC math course.
- SAT minimum score of 500.
- ACT minimum score of 21.
- 3 on an Advanced Placement (AP) Math Test.
- Satisfactory CLAST math section.
- IB higher-level math exam minimum score of 5.
- CLEP General math exam minimum score of 500.
- CLEP Math subject exam minimum score of 50.

**The equivalent of one term-length LAC course from each Academic Division.\*      Complete the three requirements below, or appropriate AP, CLEP, or IB exams.      List Course or Exam**

**Complete Three**

- Humanities/Art LAC course. \_\_\_\_\_
- Natural Sciences/Math LAC course. \_\_\_\_\_
- Social/Behavioral Sciences/History LAC course. \_\_\_\_\_

**Five term-length LAC Courses.\*      Complete the equivalent of five term-length courses. (or appropriate AP, CLEP, or IB exams)      List Course or Exam**

**Complete five additional LAC courses from any Division for a total of eight.**

- 1. Course from LAC list. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Course from LAC list. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Course from LAC list. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Course from LAC list. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Course from LAC list. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Students may complete two module-length LAC courses in place of one term-length course.

**Proficiency in written and oral Communication.      Complete the thesis project and oral baccalaureate exam.**