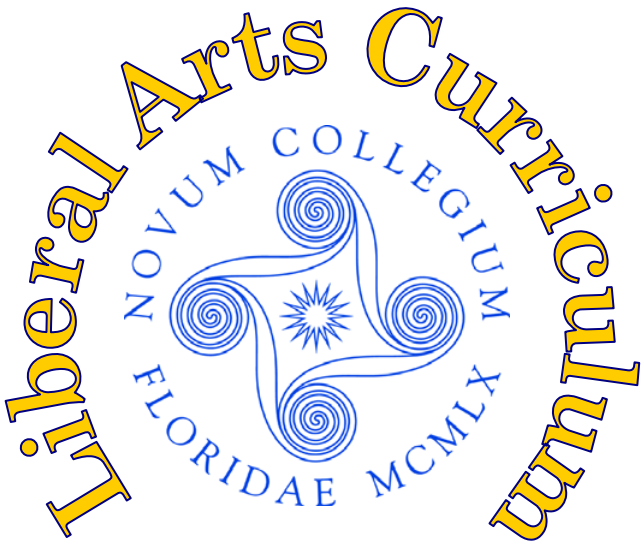
New College of Florida



Guidelines

2014 -15

Office of the Provost
May 2014

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 Marta Moreno, Registrar, at mmoreno@ncf.edu or 941-487-4230.

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.
- Ways of Knowing in Diverse perspectives (starting with students who enter Fall 2013): Students engage in a meaningful way with issues of race, class, gender, and/or religious difference.

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.

Steps to Fulfilling LAC Requirements

The Liberal Arts Curriculum (LAC) requires students to study a broad range of subjects, as well as diverse perspectives, and to demonstrate basic
proficiency in mathematics and advanced proficiency in written and oral English language.

Keep the following 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. **Students must satisfactorily complete at least <u>eight</u> (8) Liberal Arts Curriculum courses, including:**

    a. at least seven courses that expand disciplinary breadth (indicated by an asterisk in the course catalog), with at least one from each of the three Divisions (Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences)
    b. at least one course that addresses issues of race, class, gender, and/or religious difference. This requirement applies only to students entering in or after Fall 2013.

    Alternatively, you may satisfy all or part of this requirement through eligible transfer course credit or acceptable scores on AP, IB, AICE, or CLEP examinations to fulfill the LAC course requirements. (For more information on these examinations, see pages 3-6.) The LAC course requirements may also be met if you have already completed the General Education Requirements at any Florida State University System or Florida College System institution, or completed an AA degree at a Florida State University System or Florida College System institution.

2. **Demonstrate basic competence in mathematics.** Satisfactory completion of 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 AP, IB, AICE, or CLEP exams. (See pages 3-4.)

3. **Complete the senior thesis project and oral Baccalaureate Exam.** Satisfactory performance on these final graduation requirements provides clear evidence that you have acquired ***proficiency in writing and oral communication***.

The 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. You may also check in SES/Student Resources/LAC Requirements.

Different Ways to Fulfill LAC Course and Mathematics Requirements

1. Eligible New College Courses
The Course Schedule issued each semester includes a listing of those courses designated by the faculty as LAC and Diversity courses during that year. A link to all current LAC and Diversity courses is provided on page 7 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. Exemption through Other College Credit
Appropriate courses completed through other colleges (including dual enrollment college courses taken while enrolled in high school) may be used to satisfy the LAC and math competency requirements, so long as they are deemed *eligible* for transfer credit by the New College Registrar. 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 and an Independent Study Project from another institution, but may not transfer individual courses.) Students awarded the AA degree from any Florida State University System or Florida College System institution (including Florida public community colleges) are deemed to have fulfilled the LAC course requirements.

3. Exemption by Examination
Satisfactory performance on Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certification of Education (AICE), or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) examinations may be used to meet LAC requirements including the math competency requirement. New College does not grant transfer credit for these exams. In the event that a student has taken 2 different exams on the same subject (i.e. IB and an AP or AICE and AP), credit for only one satisfactory score may be given toward the corresponding LAC requirement.

Advanced Placement (AP). College Board AP exams parallel the 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.

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) exams in subject areas listed on page 5 will satisfy corresponding LAC requirements.

Advanced International 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 and AS-level examination scores of E or higher in subject areas listed on page 6 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.

Mathematics competency may be demonstrated by the following ways:

- Satisfactory completion of a course in mathematics at New College
- A score of 500 or above on the mathematics section of the SAT Reasoning Test, the re-centered SAT I, or its equivalent
- A score of 21 or above on the mathematics section of the ACT
- A score of 91 or above on the ACCUPLACER Elementary Algebra exam
- A score of 3 on any Advanced Placement (AP) mathematics exam
- A score of 5 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics exam
- A score of E or higher on an Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Mathematics or Further Mathematics exam
- A score of 50 or higher on a College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) mathematics exam
- A passing score on the mathematics section of the College Level Academic Skills Test taken prior to July, 2009
- A passing score on the FTCE General Knowledge Exam mathematics section or a score of 91 or higher on the mathematics portion of the Florida College-Level Entry Placement Test
- A 2.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in traditional postsecondary-level course work identified by the Florida State Board of Education and Florida Board of Governors as meeting the requirement to demonstrate college-level skills in mathematics. (Contact the Office of the Registrar for details.)
- Six semester credit hour equivalents of mathematics course work completed at another accredited college or university, and deemed eligible toward transfer credit. (Contact the Office of the Registrar for details.)

Exemptions through Examination

Advanced Placement (AP) exams (with scores of 3 and above)

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

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB) standard and higher-level exams (with scores of 5 or above)

Biology
Chemistry
Economics
Ecosystems and Society
English A1
Environmental Systems
General Chemistry
Geography
History
Islamic History
Marine Science
Math Advanced
Math and Computation
Math Studies
Music
Philosophy
Physics
Psychology
Social and Cultural Anthropology
Theatre Arts
Visual Arts

Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) A-level and AS-level exams (with scores of E or above)

Art & Design
Biology
Chemistry
Classical Studies
Computer/Computational Studies
Economics
English
English Literature
Further Mathematics
Geography
History
Marine Science
Mathematics
Music
Physics
Psychology
Sociology
Thinking Skills
All languages

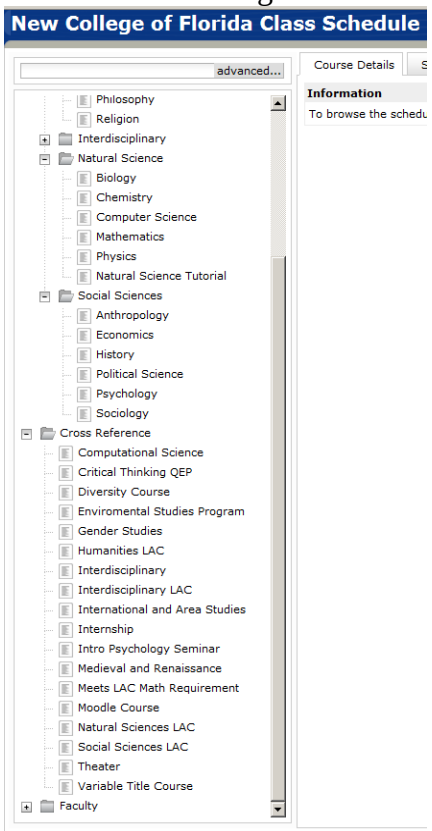
College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams (with scores of 50 or above on computer-based exams)

American Government
American Literature
Analyzing & Interpreting Literature
Biology
Calculus
Chemistry
College Composition
English Literature
History of the US I
History of the US II
Human Growth & Development
Introductory Psychology
Introductory Sociology
Natural Science
Precalculus
Principles of Macroeconomics
Principles of Microeconomics
Social Science and History
Trigonometry
Western Civilization I
Western Civilization II

New College of Florida LAC Courses: Divisional Breadth, Disciplinary Breadth, and Diversity

For a current list of LAC and Diversity courses offered, please see the course schedules listed in the NCF portal, on the Office of the Registrar page: https://myncf.ncf.edu/group/ncf-registrar-office/home.

All LAC courses meeting the Divisional and disciplinary breadth requirements are indicated with an asterisk (*). These and all LAC Diversity courses are listed together in the *Cross Reference* folder:



If you have any questions about the Liberal Arts Curriculum that your faculty advisor cannot answer, please contact Marta Moreno, Registrar, at mmoreno@ncf.edu or 941-487-4465.

New College of Florida
Liberal Arts Curriculum Worksheet
for Students Entering in 2014-2015

Student_____ **Faculty Sponsor**_____

Use this worksheet to track your progress toward fulfilling your Liberal Arts Curriculum. Each of the 5 requirements must be met prior to graduation. *(If you entered prior to Fall 2013, you may have the option to use an LAC Diversity course as one of your 8 LAC course requirements; please consult with your Faculty Sponsor and with the Registrar.)*

1) Math Literacy. At least one of these requirements:

- Satisfactory completion of a New College math course
- A score of 500 or higher on the mathematics section of the SAT Reasoning Test, the re-centered SAT I, or its equivalent
- A score of 21 or higher on the mathematics section of the ACT
- A score of 3 on any Advanced Placement (AP) mathematics exam
- A score of 5 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics exam
- A score of E or higher on an Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Mathematics or Further Mathematics exam
- A score of 50 or higher on a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) mathematics exam
- A passing score on the FTCE General Knowledge Exam mathematics section or a score of 91 or higher on the mathematics portion of the Florida College-Level Entry Placement Test
- A 2.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in traditional postsecondary-level course work identified by the Florida State Board of Education and Florida Board of Governors as meeting the requirement to demonstrate college-level skills in mathematics. (Contact the Office of the Registrar for details.)
- Six semester credit hour equivalents of mathematics course work completed at another accredited college or university, and deemed eligible toward transfer credit. (Contact the Office of the Registrar for details.)

2) LAC Diversity. One full term course identified by the College as a Diversity course, engaging the student with issues of race, class, gender, and/or religious difference.

3) LAC Divisional Distribution. One full term LAC course, indicated with an asterisk in the course schedule, in each Division:

- Humanities/Art
- Social/Behavioral Sciences/History
- Natural Sciences/Math

4) LAC Disciplinary Breadth. Additional full term LAC courses indicated with an asterisk in the course schedule, to bring the total number of unduplicated LAC courses to at least eight individual full term courses. (For example, if your Diversity course also meets your LAC Divisional Distribution requirement, then you will need five additional full term courses for LAC Disciplinary Breadth.)

Please note: two modular courses may be combined to total one full term course.

LAC course type	**NCF course (or approved exemption by other college course or exam)**
Diversity	
Humanities*	
Social Sciences*	
Natural Sciences*	
Additional Disciplinary Breadth*	
Satisfactory completion of 8 full term LAC courses (no duplication)	

5) Proficiency in English (written and oral). Satisfactory completion of your senior thesis project and oral baccalaureate exam.