

To: Faculty

From: The Liberal Arts & Sciences Council

Re: Tips on Advising Current Students about the new LA&S Curriculum

1. Our assumption is that pretty much all current freshmen, and many sophomores, will be interested in switching to the new LA&S curriculum. Students currently in their junior year may switch, but we doubt it will be worthwhile for many.
2. When you meet this spring with your advisees, look at the LAS courses the student has already taken, and then check to see if those courses have already received cluster designation. If so, they can be used towards fulfilling the required 36 credits in the 3 clusters.
3. Check to see what other requirements a student might have met. For example, if the student took a course in Literature, but that course has not yet received cluster designation, encourage them to take a course to fulfill a requirement that they have not yet met. So, if they have not yet taken a course in History, look at the list of courses in History that have received cluster designation and have them take one of those.
4. Make sure the student has completed Writing 1 & Writing 2.
5. If the student has not yet taken Health & Fitness, that would be a good course to take as the new LAS curriculum requires a course in Health & Fitness also.
6. Similarly, if a student has not yet taken a Lab Science course, encourage them to take one of those that has already received cluster designation.
7. Check to see if any of the courses the student has already taken, and which has received cluster designation, has also received Global Diversity designation. If so, did it get Global Diversity/Non-Western designation as well? If it seems like none of the courses the student has taken so far have addressed Global Diversity, encourage him/her to take one from the list of courses that has received cluster designation and Global Diversity designation. (If you think they already have one, and they pick a new one, just be sure it falls into a different cluster and at least one addresses a non-western region.)
8. Discuss options A-C with the student. Decide on the best option for the student. Have them select a course to start meeting the requirements for their selected option. If they select Option C, you and the student will need to write up a special plan of study listing the 4 courses the student will take, and explaining the goals of this special program. The student cannot have completed more than 60 credits, nor can they have already taken more than 1 of the 4 courses listed. (Please note: These 4 courses must be in LAS disciplines, and at least 2 of the courses must be at or above the 2000 level.)
9. You will be able to run CAPPs for the old curriculum and the new curriculum to help students decide if they want to switch to the new curriculum. They will have until 12/31/08 to decide, but can only switch once.
10. If they opt to switch to the new curriculum, they will need to fill out a "Request to Change Liberal Arts & Sciences Requirements" form. The form asks them to decide whether they want to fulfill the new LAS program but still fulfill the requirements of their major that were in place when they enrolled at the College, or if they want to fulfill the new LAS program and have the

requirements for their major switch to those for academic year 2008-2009. This is the case because some majors have changed their requirements in the past year or two. Thus, a student will have the following options:

- a) Remain under the current LAS curriculum and the requirements for their major. (No form is needed)
- b) Switch to the new LAS curriculum, but use the requirements for their major that were in effect when they enrolled at the College. (Form must be filled out, 1st box is checked off.)
- c) Switch to the new curriculum for LAS, and switch to the new requirements for their major. (Form must be filled out, 2nd box checked off.)