

March 7, 2012  
GERC update

GERC is currently discussing the Arts/ Humanities/ Social Sciences portion of the curriculum, weighing the needs to 1) comply with Board of Regents requirements; 2) incorporate some of the approved student learning outcomes into this area; and 3) make the core more flexible for all students, especially transfer students (while ideally cutting the number of required credits).

The Board of Regents require:

Humanities/Social Sciences (15 credits minimum)

at least 3 credits in the arts

at least 3 credits in general humanities

at least 6 credits in the social sciences, from 2  
different disciplines

- We are in agreement to require 3 credits of Arts from approved list that are “an introduction to the visual arts and performing arts as academic disciplines as opposed to those that emphasize acquisition of skills.”
- Most agree to require Ethics (perhaps a choice between Ethics and a course involving community-based learning)- this fulfills the “civic engagement” learning outcome.
- Still to be decided: Social Sciences/ Humanities. Options that have been discussed include allowing any (s) or (h) class to count, or putting courses under different designators or lists like G for global or AK for Alaskan issues. Students would need to choose a certain number of credits from each list to meet both BOR requirements and cover certain learning outcomes. We are not sure how to incorporate languages, other than as an option under general humanities.