



Liberal Arts Council

Liberal Arts Curriculum Updates for the 2021-2022 Catalog

In Fall 2019 the faculty of UNC approved the Liberal Arts Curriculum to replace the Liberal Arts Core. The curriculum streamlines the requirements in order to improve student retention and graduation rates and improve the Liberal Arts experience for all students. This curriculum accommodates CDHE requirements and maintains UNC's commitment to Multicultural and International Studies and the Liberal Arts. The Liberal Arts Curriculum will be effective starting Fall 2021.

As you may recall, the new curriculum reduced the number of required credits from 40 to 31, in alignment with the statewide guidelines, while also requiring students to take one course from the International Studies designation and one course from the Multicultural Studies designation as part of the UNC curriculum.

Every undergraduate degree program and four-year plan needs to be updated to include the new Liberal Arts Curriculum for implementation in Fall 2021. Specifically, the number of credits in the LAC is reduced from 40 to 31. In most cases, this will mean redistributing 9 credits elsewhere in the program.

For inclusion in the 2021-2022 catalog, all degree program adjustments must be completely processed via the Revised Program form through the Curriculum Workflow. Due to the large number of changes, the Curriculum Workflow will be open April 22, 2020. Please be aware of the deadlines for your college curriculum committee; it will help everyone if programs can submit their revisions as soon as possible.

If the only changes made to the degree program are to the Liberal Arts courses, no impact statement is required; the rationale is "alignment with the updated LAC structure." Programs that wish to make additional changes to the Required Major section (section 2) at the same time are welcome to do so but must include impact statements from all affected departments as well as a more detailed rationale. Impact statements must address resources (e.g., effects on faculty teaching loads; frequency of course offerings, availability of sufficient student seats, etc.) as well as curriculum contents.

The Liberal Arts Council is aware that it takes time to re-evaluate degree programs with this adjustment in credit hours, thus the friendly reminder to begin the process. You are welcome to reach out to members of the [Liberal Arts Council](#) or [Core Curriculum Committees](#) with any questions.

Helpful links:

- [Liberal Arts Curriculum Structure Effective Fall 2021](#)
- [Liberal Arts Checklist \(Fall 2021 Draft\)](#)

For questions about the Curriculum Workflow process, contact Meagan.Crews@unco.edu.
For questions about the Liberal Arts Curriculum, contact LAC@unco.edu.

Sincerely,
Nancy Geisendorfer, Liberal Arts Council Chair
Nancy Matchett, Interim Associate Provost