



**NDU**  
GAUDIUM DE VERITATE

NOTRE DAME  
UNIVERSITY  
— LOUAIZE —  
جامعة السيدة  
اللويزة

# LIBERAL ARTS CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

# **INTRODUCTION**

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## LIBERAL ARTS CURRICULUM (LAC) FACULTY GUIDELINES

Congratulations. You have been assigned to teach a LAC course. These guidelines will help you and your students have a productive semester.

### I. BACKGROUND

The LAC courses ( Liberal Arts Curriculum) is the new name for NDU's GER ( General Education Requirements). As of Fall 2016, new students are required to complete 27 or 30 credits from the attached list. See Appendix I. This course list, though quite similar to the former GER courses, has undergone some reorganization. The largest change is in the Ethics category. All NDU students will take an Ethics course designed in collaboration with the FH and which fits the particular demands of each Faculty. All Ethics courses in the pool will have 15 hours common to all courses; the remaining 30 hours will be tailored to the needs of each faculty.

The reorganization of the LAC came about as a result of university-wide reflection on the means to ensure that the NDU Mission statement (see Appendix II) is meaningful for the graduating students. The GEEC committee, formed of one representative from each faculty, met for two years in regular meetings during which the LAC were re-visited, problems ironed out, a template for LAC courses developed and finally a re-organized list of courses was presented to the chairs, deans, COD and the UC.

## **PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR LAC COURSES**

1. Communicate effectively in various settings
2. Recognize Catholic values, pluralism, human dignity and rights
3. Demonstrate the ability to identify and make ethical choices in all aspects of one's life
4. Apply analytical and critical thinking skills to enhance life-long learning
5. Demonstrate multi-dimensional knowledge, a cultivated mind and an appreciation of aesthetics.

## **II. STEPS TO TAKE ONCE YOU ARE ASSIGNED A LAC COURSE**

Before you begin to prepare your semester,

- Request the course template and the sample syllabus which were submitted to the GEEC committee. Your Chairperson should have this on file as most LAC courses have been given previously.
- Review the template and syllabus. Note the emphasis on alignment between the course outcomes, course activities, and a varied means of student assessment.
- Adapt your syllabus.

## **III. TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND AS YOU TEACH A LAC**

- Liberal Arts courses are typically general reading, writing, discussion-intensive courses which provide students opportunities to improve upon their general knowledge.
- Reading, writing, listening and speaking activities should all be offered throughout the semester.
- LAC courses are intended to provide students a basis on which to make decisions in their student lives, as well as in their careers. They are closely aligned to the NDU Mission Statement.
- Through their class participation which is evidence-based, students should increase their knowledge, but should also improve on their ability to reflect, think critically and present their findings in both written and oral formats.
- Varied methods of teaching are encouraged in a LAC course. Required readings, collaborative discussions, debates, panel discussions, guest speakers, field trips, short documented papers (APA style, for further info, see OWL Purdue Writing Center) are encouraged to ensure student participation and success for all types of learners.
- LAC courses may also offer students ideas on choice of minors and concentrations.

# **LIBERAL ARTS CORE CURRICULUM**

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## **CATEGORY I**

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### **ENGLISH AND ARABIC COMMUNICATION (9 CREDITS)**

- A. English Communication** **6 credits**  
ENL 213 Sophomore Rhetoric **3 credits**  
And  
ENL 230 English in the Workplace **3 credits**  
Or  
ENL 223 Communication Arts **3 credits**
- B. Arabic Communication - 3 credits (One from the following pool)**  
ARB 211 Appreciation of Arabic Literature  
ARB 212 Applied Arabic Grammar  
ARB 224 Arabic Literature and Human Thought  
ARB 231 Technical Arabic  
ARB 306 The Modern Arabic Novel and Short Story  
ARB 310 Arabic Theater

## **CATEGORY II**

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### **RELIGION (3 CREDITS)**

- REG 212 Religion and Social Issues  
REG 213 Catholicism  
REG 215 World Religions  
REG 313 Maronite Faith and Cultural Heritage  
REG 314 Marriage and Family in the Catholic Church

## **CATEGORY III**

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### **ETHICS (3 CREDITS)**

- COA 360 Media Ethics  
ENG 310 Ethics in Engineering  
BAD 301 Ethics and Responsible Business  
CSC 203 Information Age and Ethics  
ENS 205 Environment, Society and Ethics  
PHL 311 Ethics and the Modern World  
POS 345 Ethics and Leadership  
NUR 203 Introduction to Bioethics

## **CATEGORY IV**

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### **CITIZENSHIP (3 CREDITS)**

- POS 201 Introduction to Political Science
- POS 209 Citizenship
- POS 210 Government and Politics of Lebanon
- POS 319 Democracy and Human Rights
- POS 240 Law and Society
- FQM 200 Food Security and Sustainability

## **CATEGORY V**

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### **CULTURAL STUDIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (6 CREDITS) - FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS**

#### **A. Cultural Studies**

- PHL 211 Logic and the Scientific Method
- PHL 232 Ancient World Philosophy
- PHL 333 Medieval World Philosophy
- PHL 334 Modern and Contemporary World Philosophy
- LIR 214 Introduction to Literary Genres
- LIR 217 American Literature to the End of the 19th Century
- LIR 305 Novel to the End of the 19th Century
- ARP 215 Cultural Themes in Lebanese Architecture
- FAP 215 Art and Culture
- MUS 210 Music Appreciation
- HIT 211 History of Lebanon
- POS 225 Politics of Catholic Social Theory
- TTM 326 Domestic Travel and Tourism Development
- TTM 201 Introduction to Tourism & Hospitality Management
- NTR 215 Foods and Nutrition of World Cultures
- COA 315 World Cinema Survey
- COA 350 Current Issues

#### **B. Social Science**

- SOL 201 Introduction to Sociology
- SOL 316 Society and Women
- SOL 322 Family: Sociological Perspectives
- SOL 323 Society and Role of Global Intercultural Communication
- PSL 201 Introduction to Psychology
- BAD 201 Fundamentals of Management
- MRK 201 Fundamentals of Marketing
- ECN 211 Principles of Microeconomics

- ECN 212 Principles of Macroeconomics
- ENG 220 Engineering Innovation
- ENG 210 Introduction to Engineering Economy
- CSC 206 Games and Society

## **CATEGORY VI**

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### **APPLIED AND LIFE SCIENCES (6 CREDITS)**

#### **- FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS**

##### **A. Applied Science**

- CSC201 Computers and Their Use
- CSC202 Computers for Visual Arts
- GIS 211 Principles of Geographical Information Sciences
- MIS 201 Management Information Systems
- MAT 202 Mathematics for Arts

##### **B. Life and Natural Sciences**

- BIO 201 Your Body in Action
- HEA 201 Health Awareness
- HEA 204 Contemporary Health Issues
- NTR 201 Basic Human Nutrition
- CHM 211 Principles of Chemistry
- AST 201 Discovering Astronomy
- ENS 201 Introduction to Environmental Science
- ENS 202 The Environment and Sustainable Development



# NDU MISSION STATEMENT

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As a Catholic institution inspired by the cultural and spiritual heritage of the Maronite Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary, NDU seeks to provide comprehensive quality education that fosters excellence in scholarship, lifelong learning, enlightened citizenship, human solidarity, moral integrity, and belief in God. In designing its curricula, NDU is committed to the philosophy and standards of the American model of liberal arts education. Conceiving itself as an authentic academic community, NDU promotes diversity, respect for human dignity and rights, and concern for the common good. Its profound aspiration is to prepare its students to be future leaders who can exercise reason upon knowledge and shape a world of truth, justice, love, and freedom.

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