



NOTRE DAME  
UNIVERSITY  
— LOUAIZE —  
جامعة سيدة  
اللويزة

Accredited by



NECHE

New England Commission  
of Higher Education

# LIBERAL ARTS CURRI- CULUM HANDBOOK

# **LIBERAL ARTS CURRICULUM**

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Approved by the COD on October 18, 2022

## Liberal Arts Curriculum Guidelines

As an institution adopting the American liberal arts model, NDU has always included in all its programs selected general education courses aiming at fulfilling the University requirements related to its Mission and Values. The courses are grouped under the Liberal Arts Curriculum (LAC) program with six categories covering a wide spectrum of topics from basic sciences to ethics and communication as well as a large pool of social sciences. All students are required to complete the LAC program involving 30 credits in order to graduate. Programs of a professional nature have a lighter LAC curriculum depending on the requirements set by the bodies governing the corresponding professions or the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

The LAC program is used to support the degree programs in order to meet their own graduation requirements and program learning outcomes.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Upon graduation, the student will be able to:

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 lifelong learning;
5. Demonstrate multi-dimensional knowledge, a cultivated mind, and an appreciation of aesthetics.

## Steps to Take as an Instructor

Before the beginning of the semester

- Request the course template and the approved syllabus from the concerned Chairperson. All syllabi should be approved by the LAC Committee.

- Note the emphasis on alignment between the course outcomes, course activities, and varied means of student assessment.

## **Tips to Keep in Mind as an Instructor**

- Liberal Arts courses are typically general reading, writing, and discussion-intensive courses, which provide students with multiple 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.
- Through their class participation, which is evidence-based, students should not only increase their knowledge, but 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, and short papers 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 CURRICULUM COURSES**

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The LAC program is distributed as follows:

## Category I \_\_\_\_\_

### English & Arabic Communication 9 Cr.

#### A. English Communication 6 cr.

ENL 213 Sophomore Rhetoric 3 cr.

And

ENL 223 Communication Arts 3 cr.

Or

ENL 230 English in the Workplace 3 cr.

Or

ENL 231 Work Ready Now 3 cr.

#### B. Arabic Communication (One course from the following pool) 3 cr.

ARB 211 Appreciation of Arabic Literature 3 cr.

ARB 212 Advanced Arabic Grammar 3 cr.

ARB 224 Arabic Literature and Human Thought 3 cr.

ARB 231 Technical Arabic 3 cr.

ARB 306 The Modern Arabic Novel and Short Story 3 cr.

ARB 310 Arabic Theater 3 cr.

## Category II \_\_\_\_\_

### Religion 3 Cr.

REG 212 Religion and Social Issues 3 cr.

REG 213 Catholicism 3 cr.

REG 215 World Religions 3 cr.

REG 313 The Maronites: Faith and Cultural Heritage 3 cr.

REG 314 Marriage and Family in the Catholic Church 3 cr.

## Category III

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### Ethics (Faculty-Dependent) 3 Cr.

ARP 329	Ethics in Architecture and Design	3 cr.
CSC 203	Information Age and Ethics	3 cr.
COA 360	Media Ethics	3 cr.
ENG 310	Ethics in Engineering	3 cr.
ENS 205	Environment, Society, and Ethics	3 cr.
MGT 301	Ethics and Responsible Business	3 cr.
NUR 203	Introduction to Bioethics	3 cr.
PHL 311	Ethics and the Modern World	3 cr.
POS 345	Ethics and Leadership	3 cr.

## Category IV

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### Citizenship 3 Cr.

ENS 202	The Environment and Sustainable Development	3 cr.
FQM 200	Food Security and Sustainability	3 cr.
POS 201	Introduction to Political Science	3 cr.
POS 209	Citizenship	3 cr.
POS 210	Government and Politics of Lebanon	3 cr.
POS 240	Law and Society	3 cr.
POS 319	Democracy and Human Rights	3 cr.

## Category V

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### Cultural Studies & Social Science 6 Cr.

<b>A. Cultural Studies</b>		<b>3 cr.</b>
ARP 215	Cultural Themes in Lebanese Architecture	3 cr.
AVF 315	World Cinema Survey	3 cr.
COA 350	Current Issues	3 cr.
FAP 215	Art and Culture	3 cr.

HIT 211	History of Lebanon and the Middle East	3 cr.
HTM 201	Fundamentals of Hospitality and Cultural Tourism	3 cr.
HTM 326	Lebanon's Cultural Heritage and Nature Tourism	3 cr.
LIR 214	Introduction to Literary Genres	3 cr.
LIR 217	American Literature to the End of the 19th Century	3 cr.
LIR 305	Novel to the End of the 19th Century	3 cr.
MUS 210	Music Appreciation	3 cr.
NTR 215	Foods and Nutrition of World Cultures	3 cr.
PHL 211	Logic and the Scientific Method	3 cr.
PHL 232	Ancient World Philosophy	3 cr.
PHL 333	Medieval World Philosophy	3 cr.
PHL 334	Modern and Contemporary World Philosophy	3 cr.
POS 225	Politics of Catholic Social Theory	3 cr.

**B. Social Science** **3 cr.**

CSC 206	Games and Society	3 cr.
ECN 211	Principles of Microeconomics	3 cr.
ECN 212	Principles of Macroeconomics	3 cr.
ENG 210	Introduction to Engineering Economy	3 cr.
ENG 220	Engineering Innovation	3 cr.
MGT 201	Fundamentals of Management	3 cr.
MRK 201	Fundamentals of Marketing	3 cr.
PSL 201	Introduction to Psychology	3 cr.
SOL 201	Introduction to Sociology	3 cr.
SOL 316	Society and Women	3 cr.
SOL 322	Family: Sociological Perspectives	3 cr.
SOL 323	Society and Role of Global Intercultural Communication	3 cr.

## Category VI ---

### Applied & Life Sciences 6 Cr.

**A. Applied Science** **3 cr.**

CSC 201	Introduction to Computers	3 cr.
CSC 202	Computers for Visual Arts	3 cr.



CSC 207	Navigating the Age of Artificial Intelligence	3 cr.
ENG 250	Robotics and Society	3 cr.
GIS 211	Principles of Geographical Information Sciences	3 cr.
MAT 202	Mathematics for Arts	3 cr.
MIS 201	Management Information Systems	3 cr.

**B. Life and Natural Sciences** **3 cr.**

AST 201	Discovering Astronomy	3 cr.
BIO 201	Your Body in Action	3 cr.
CHM 201	Chemistry in Everyday Life	3 cr.
CHM 211	Principles of Chemistry	3 cr.
ENS 201	Introduction to Environmental Science	3 cr.
HEA 201	Health Awareness	3 cr.
HEA 204	Contemporary Health Issues	3 cr.
NTR 201	Basic Human Nutrition	3 cr.

## Faculty-Dependent Exclusions

Some programs of a professional nature involve 27 credits of LAC instead of 30 credits. The following exclusions indicate the pools to be waived for the corresponding Faculty/Program(s) as well as additional restrictions mandated by licensing/accreditation requirements.

- FAAD, Architecture & Graphic Design Programs (27 credits): Category VI.A (3 credits) excluded.
- FBAE, All Programs (27 credits): Category V.B (3 credits) excluded.
- FE, All Programs (27 credits): Category VI.A (3 credits) excluded.
- FLPS, Law Program (12 credits): Categories III, IV, V, and VI (18 credits) excluded.
- FNAS, All Programs (27 credits): Category VI.B (3 credits) excluded for DS (Department of Sciences) programs and Category VI.A (3 credits) excluded for all other programs (Department of Computer Science, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Department of Physics and Astronomy).

Furthermore, the course, AST 201, cannot be taken by students majoring in Physics.

- FNHS, All Programs (27 credits): Category VI.B (3 credits) excluded except for the BS in Nursing and the BS in Food safety & Quality Management for which Category VI.A (3 credits) is excluded. For the BS in Nutrition and Dietetics, the 6 credits of Category V are to be selected from V.B only as per the Faculty requirements.

The present guidelines are effective starting Fall 2023 (applicable to ID# 2023XXXX and onward).

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