

Item "A"

After receiving comments from the Senate and the Senate Council the USP committee withdrew the proposal to amend the cross-cultural requirement, and amended the proposal to drop the cross-disciplinary requirement to require three of the "freed" hours to be fulfilled by a course outside the major. The Senate Council recommends approval of this proposal.

University Studies Committee Recommendations April 6, 2001 for consideration by the University Senate on 23 April

Cross-Disciplinary Requirement

- a. Proposal: Eliminate the Cross Disciplinary requirement and allow students to complete electives in order to complete the required 48-credit hours of general education with the constraint that at least 3 credit hours must be taken outside of the major. Implement this recommendation Fall 2002.
- b. Assess the impact of the change on the quality of general education and consider further changes as needed.
- c. Rationale
 - i. Survey results indicate overwhelming faculty support for the elimination of the Cross Disciplinary requirement.
 - ii. Most of the current paired offerings lack the curricular and pedagogical connections originally intended and in many cases represent arbitrary pairings that offer no opportunity for students to experience a cross-disciplinary perspective.
 - iii. Courses are not offered regularly, which disrupts student scheduling and progress to degree.
 - iv. Paired courses are often taken out of sequence or with significant delays between courses, contrary to the intent of the requirement.
 - v. Many of the course options consist of courses also listed under the disciplinary course options

Implementation Date: Fall Semester, 2002

Note: If approved the proposal will be forwarded to the Rules Committee for codification