

## College Assembly Meeting – April 7, 2009

### **Proposal: Add a second non-major degree track to the existing BGS degree AND Allow all departments in CLAS to enforce admissions criteria to their majors**

#### **Component 1: Add a second non-major degree track to the BGS**

- No change to existing BGS degree in which students may complete a major and are required to complete a minor or a second major.
- Proposal is to add the following non-major degree track to the BGS
  - Non-Major Track Degree Requirements
    - 124 credit hours, 45 of which are numbered 300+
    - Common Degree Requirements (unchanged 27 hrs)
      - English (3 courses)
      - Argument & Reason (1 course)
      - Mathematics (2 courses)
      - Western Civilization (2 courses)
      - Non-western Culture (1 course)
    - Principal Course Requirements (at least 18 hrs – same as existing BGS degree track)
      - Humanities (2 courses)
        - Each course must come from a different category: HT, HL, or HR
      - Natural Sciences & Mathematics (2 courses)
        - Each course must come from a different category: NB, NE, NM, or NP
      - Social & Behavioral Sciences (2 courses)
        - Each course must come from a different category: SC, SI, or SF
    - World Language/Culture Requirement
      - Two courses (each 3 credit hrs or higher) in a single world language (Amharic–Yiddish, see Undergraduate Catalog, page 55)  
OR
      - In addition to the Common Degree Requirements (above) the student must complete three courses (each 3 credit hrs or higher) in world or non-western culture (W or NW designated courses)
    - Natural Science & Math Requirement
      - Beyond the *common degree* and *principal course* requirements, students are required to complete two courses in natural science (N, NB, NE, NM, or NP) or math (any combination).
    - Breadth Requirement (as many hours as required to reach 124 credit hrs)
      - At least one course (minimum 2 credit hours) completed in 15 different departments/programs within CLAS (as determined by course prefix). All of the course requirements listed above count toward the breadth requirement.

#### Supplemental Information:

- After students complete 60 credit hours and have not yet obtained admission to a major, an advising hold will be placed on their registration. To lift this hold the student will be required to meet with a non-major BGS advisor every semester until the student either declares a major or declares the non-major BGS option.

#### **Component 2: Allow all departments in CLAS to enforce admissions criteria to their major.**

- Allow all departments/units wishing to do so to propose a set of criteria for admission to their major. CUSA would approve these individually and bring them to CAC for approval.
- CUSA suggests the following criteria (deviations from this criteria will be considered, but must be accompanied by a rationale):
  - Department may use a cumulative GPA achieved in up to four courses that the department identifies as teaching the core skills required to succeed in the major. These

courses should not have more than one prerequisite course and should be chosen to ensure that most students can complete the courses within their first 60 hours.

- If one of these courses is taught by another department, that course should be a prerequisite for one of the “core skills” courses.
- Departments may require that students achieve a criterion GPA in these identified courses (suggested range: 2.2-3.0).
  - KU’s course repeat policy applies to the calculation of this criterion GPA.
  - If a transfer course is judged by the department to be equivalent to a KU course specified in a major-admission criterion, then the grade received in that transfer course will be counted in the admission decision.
- Departments may not base admissions decisions on overall GPA.
- Majors currently enforcing admissions criteria must submit their existing or modified criteria for approval by CUSA/CAC.
- CUSA/CAC-approved admissions criteria will apply to students admitted to KU in the semester after the admissions criteria were approved.
- Departments imposing admissions standards are responsible for determining if students meet the major admissions requirements of their department.
- Three years following the start of this expansion of selective admissions to the majors, CUSA will collect and review the following data for each department using selective admission criteria:
  - Student credit hour production (separated by lower and upper division courses)
  - Number of majors and minors
  - Tenure track faculty to major/minor ratios
  - Time to graduate upon admission and after declaring the major.