

Sent via email

14 February 2013

Dear Colleagues,

In addition to many complex tasks, for the past two years the College's Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising (CUSA) has been working on an important task: the requirements for the **Bachelor of Arts degree (BA)** in the context of the new KU Core. In this memo, I summarize the recommendations from CUSA and the next steps toward implementation, including **information sessions** and an **electronic ballot** open to all members of the College Assembly (tenured and tenure-track faculty plus elected undergraduate and graduate students).

With the establishment of the KU Core, the current system of distribution requirements and principal courses will no longer be effective for new students beginning Fall 2013. (See the policy here: <https://documents.ku.edu/policies/provost/KUCoreCurriculum.htm>)

In addition to the streamlined KU Core, CUSA recommends that the BA degree must include some additional features to maintain its integrity. At the same time, these additional features must be kept to a minimum to respect the goal of flexibility that sustains the KU Core.

CUSA recommends a group of learning goals that expand upon the KU Core for the BA degree: an additional course in quantitative reasoning, a laboratory or field experience, and a foreign language sequence. In addition, CUSA has been addressing the ways that BA students may satisfy the KU Core writing requirement.

These recommendations, together with the KU Core, place the BA degree requirements at a maximum of 56 required credit hours (*see attached document*). Many students will need fewer hours than this because of transfer credit and advanced placement. Almost all students will require fewer hours because courses in the major, such as the capstone course, also satisfy a KU Core requirement.

In future years, CUSA will systematically examine the Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of General Studies, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Bachelor of Art Education Degrees.

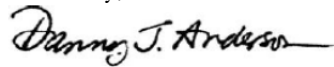
The College Academic Council (CAC) has authority to approve the recommendations from CUSA. However, because our tradition of shared governance is strong, CAC has agreed with my recommendation to hold an electronic ballot to allow the College to ratify its BA degree requirements. To ensure that there is full information about the choices, CUSA is collaborating with me to host two informational sessions so that faculty and student members of the College Assembly can pose questions and discuss the changes that have been under study for two years.

Please attend one of the informational sessions about the new BA degree requirements. Each session will begin with a short overview of the various degrees in the College, the process that has led to the current proposals, and the choices to be presented on the electronic ballot. This presentation will be followed by an open period for question and answer or comment. After these sessions, I will work with CAC to publish an electronic ballot for all eligible voting members. These informational meetings are scheduled for:

- **Wednesday, February 27, from 9:30-11:00 AM, Alderson Auditorium**
- **Thursday, February 28, from 3:30-5:00 PM, Alderson Auditorium**

Thank you for your dedication to the College and to the quality of the educational experience of our students. I look forward to seeing you at these informational sessions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danny J. Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Danny J. Anderson

Dean