

5/12/2020 – CUSA Meeting

Proposed changes to CLAS BA-specific requirements:

From the 2020-21 KU Catalog:

The Bachelor of Arts degree requires:

- **Quantitative Reasoning.** 3 credits. This course must be approved by CUSA and be offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. The course should enable students to define a problem, analyze numerical or symbolic information, apply mathematical or logical principles, and integrate quantitative or formal methods into problem solving. A single course cannot count for both the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement and the KU Core Goal 1.2 requirement. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).
- **Laboratory or Field Experience.** Variable credits. Students will complete a laboratory or field experience in the natural, social, or behavioral sciences, meeting this requirement by taking either: i) a laboratory course or field experience of at least one credit hour; ii) a combined lecture-laboratory course containing at least one credit-hour of laboratory or field work activity; or iii) an approved independent study of at least one credit hour. A laboratory or field experience should involve: 1) Analysis and interpretation of data obtained through observation and/or measurement using appropriate scientific methods; 2) The use of established scientific theories and models to develop and critically evaluate conclusions drawn from data analysis; 3) Understanding and identifying sources of error and uncertainty in experimental results. Such experiences could be hypothesis-driven, aim to fill a gap in knowledge, or serve to reinforce understanding of a scientific phenomenon or theory in the subject area. Courses that fulfill this requirement will contain the code "LFE" and may be found in the Schedule of Classes.
- **Writing.** 6 credits. Students must complete six credit hours (two courses) of collegiate writing-level instruction. The specific courses depend on initial placement. A student whose initial placement is ENGL 101 (Composition) must take ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 (Critical Reading and Writing). A student whose initial placement is in ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 (and who does not have credit for ENGL 101) must take ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 and an additional Goal 2 Outcome 1 course of the KU Core.
- **Non-English Language Proficiency.** Variable credits. Students must demonstrate fourth semester proficiency in a single non-English language, or third semester proficiency in a first non-English language and first semester proficiency in a second non-English language. This requirement may be met through coursework or examination by the appropriate language department.

Draft of Proposed Language (05-05-2020):

The Bachelor of Arts degree requires:

- **Quantitative Reasoning (BAQR).** 3 credits. This course will enable students to define a problem, analyze numerical or symbolic information, apply mathematical or logical principles, and integrate quantitative or formal methods into problem solving. The course must be approved by CUSA and be offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A single course cannot count for both the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement and the KU Core Goal 1.2 requirement. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).

- **Laboratory or Field Experience (LFE).** Variable credits. Students will complete a laboratory or field experience in the natural, social, or behavioral sciences. The experience should be hypothesis-driven, aim to fill a gap in knowledge, and/or serve to reinforce understanding of a scientific phenomenon or theory in the subject area. This requirement may be satisfied by at least one credit hour of laboratory or field work activity. The experience could be part of a laboratory or combined lecture-laboratory course, or an approved independent study. The course must be approved by CUSA and be offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).
- **Writing (WRIT).** 6 credits. Students must complete two courses of college-level writing. The purpose of these courses is for students to learn to read texts carefully, synthesize and explain information from diverse sources, and formulate effectively written original arguments relating one's own analyses and views to the ideas of others. A student whose initial placement is ENGL 101 must take ENGL 101 and ENGL 102. A student whose initial placement is ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 (and who does not have credit for ENGL 101) must take ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 and an additional writing course approved by CUSA and offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).
- **Non-English Language Proficiency (FL1/FL2/FL3/FL4/FP).** Variable credits. Non-English language proficiency fosters global awareness, respect for human diversity, and understanding of world cultures. Students must demonstrate fourth semester proficiency in a single non-English language, or third semester proficiency in a first non-English language and first semester proficiency in a second non-English language. This requirement may be met through coursework or examination by the appropriate language department(s) within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

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CUSA Supporting Document for CLAS BA-specific requirements:

The Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences is unique among degrees offered at the University of Kansas in its simultaneous commitment to both breadth and depth of knowledge. Students are expected to pursue a plan of study that includes elements from the humanities, fine arts, natural and mathematical sciences, and social sciences, while at the same time developing expertise within the discipline of their major. Students should acquire general knowledge and skills that will enable them to respond to a wide range of demands and responsibilities in their future endeavors.

BA degree-specific requirements provide core learning experiences and breadth of training in key areas. Courses that satisfy the BA requirements must be approved by CUSA, and be offered by departments or programs within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences in order to ensure curricular oversight of these core competencies. Recognizing the need for flexibility under certain circumstances, specific exceptions to the CLAS-only policy are possible by petition on an individual basis. The BA degree-specific requirements are intentionally separated from the KU Core requirements, although some overlap in courses may occur except where stated otherwise.

The following descriptions for each of the four BA degree-specific requirements include the KU Catalog entry (proposed for AY 2021-22), followed by a brief rationale. The rationale statements are adapted from earlier documentation associated with each of the requirements. This document is meant to provide context and guidance for course developers, and also for the evaluation of proposed course endorsements by CUSA.

1) Quantitative Reasoning (BAQR)

Quantitative Reasoning (BAQR). 3 credits. This course will enable students to define a problem, analyze numerical or symbolic information, apply mathematical or logical principles, and integrate quantitative or formal methods into problem solving. The course must be approved by CUSA and be offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A single course cannot count for both the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement and the KU Core Goal 1.2 requirement. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).

Rationale: The BA degree is intended to give graduates flexibility and choice in future study or career. Successful graduates need to develop quantitative reasoning skills that will allow them to make decisions based on the evaluation of data, to grasp quantitative relationships in economic and political discourse, and to think abstractly in order to understand the uses and implications of new technology. Additionally, many students who begin in the Liberal Arts and Sciences go on to professional schools at the undergraduate, graduate, or certificate level. In many cases, these programs require specific preparation in quantitative subjects. To meet these needs, courses that satisfy the quantitative reasoning requirement should prepare students to integrate knowledge and use it to think critically about a variety of issues.

The quantitative reasoning requirement is meant to give students in the BA degree additional training beyond the KU Core Goal 1.2 requirement in quantitative literacy. Courses in disciplines other than mathematics can satisfy the quantitative reasoning requirement. MATH 101 need not be a prerequisite

for a course in quantitative reasoning, but approved courses should presume a competency equivalent to successful completion of MATH 002, an equivalent ACT/SAT score, or an equivalent performance on a placement test.

2) Writing (WRIT)

Writing (WRIT). 6 credits. Students must complete two courses of college-level writing. The purpose of these courses is for students to learn to read texts carefully, synthesize and explain information from diverse sources, and formulate effectively written original arguments relating one's own analyses and views to the ideas of others. A student whose initial placement is ENGL 101 must take ENGL 101 and ENGL 102. A student whose initial placement is ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 (and who does not have credit for ENGL 101) must take ENGL 102 or ENGL 105 and an additional course approved by CUSA and offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).

Rationale: Providing students with extensive and intellectually challenging writing activities encourages deeper learning through analysis, synthesis, and the integration of ideas from various sources. The BA degree-specific writing requirement emphasizes rhetorical awareness and flexibility; critical thinking, reading, and writing; and effective writing strategies both within and beyond the academic environment. Courses that meet this requirement should prepare students for writing assignments at later stages of their degree plan, and beyond. Critical reading and clear, disciplined, inventive and effective writing are essential building blocks not only for a University degree but more generally for success after graduation.

Specific goals of the writing requirement include: analysis of language and rhetorical variations in different contexts; demonstration of rhetorical flexibility within and beyond academic writing; writing and reading for inquiry, thinking, learning, and communicating; appropriate use of academic rhetorical contexts; and improvement of writing through revision. The ENGL 101 and 102 sequence is designed to meet these needs for most students, whereas the additional approved courses within CLAS provide instruction for students with initial placement above ENGL 101. Courses in professional writing do not generally satisfy the BA writing requirement.

3) Non-English Language Proficiency (FL1/FL2/FL3/FL4/FP)

Non-English Language Proficiency (FL1/FL2/FL3/FL4/FP). Variable credits. Non-English language proficiency fosters global awareness, respect for human diversity, and understanding of world cultures. Students must demonstrate fourth semester proficiency in a single non-English language, or third semester proficiency in a first non-English language and first semester proficiency in a second non-English language. This requirement may be met through coursework or examination by the appropriate language department(s) within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Rationale: The BA degree requires four semesters of exposure to non-English language and culture in order to foster global awareness, respect for human diversity, and understanding of the world beyond one's own experience and culture. The purpose of this requirement is to produce graduates who are broadly informed and capable of critical inquiry and appraisal of cultural issues. Courses that meet this

requirement should provide fundamental knowledge and understanding of human complexities, enable students to communicate effectively in a global economy by means of at least one language other than English, and ensure that students have the cross-cultural linguistic tools that are necessary to succeed in an interconnected and multilingual world.

A very wide range of languages is offered at KU. Students seeking the BA may satisfy the non-English language requirement by taking four semesters of one non-English language, or may take three semesters in one non-English language and one semester of another non-English language. Students who have studied a non-English language in high school may seek to place out of one or more semesters of that language. If they place out of one semester of the non-English language that they studied in high school, for instance, they will only need to complete three semesters of that language or three semesters of a different non-English language in order to satisfy the non-English language requirement. Completing at least four semesters in one non-English language leads to higher competency in that language and greater depth of knowledge of its culture; on the other hand, studying two different non-English languages fosters breadth of knowledge. In recognition of programmatic needs of some students, American Sign Language courses (SPED 501-504) may be used to meet the non-English language requirement, even though these courses are offered outside of CLAS. Students taking sign language courses are strongly encouraged to take additional non-English language courses for exposure to outside cultures and global perspectives.

4) Laboratory or Field Experience (LFE)

Laboratory or Field Experience (LFE). Variable credits. Students will complete a laboratory or field experience in the natural, social, or behavioral sciences. The experience should be hypothesis-driven, aim to fill a gap in knowledge, and/or serve to reinforce understanding of a scientific phenomenon or theory in the subject area. This requirement may be satisfied by at least one credit hour of laboratory or field work activity. The experience could be part of a laboratory or combined lecture-laboratory course, or an approved independent study. The course must be approved by CUSA and be offered by a department/program within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. A list of currently approved courses can be found [here](#).

Rationale:

An understanding of experimentation and observation as the basis of scientific knowledge is a critical component of basic scientific literacy. Therefore, laboratory and field experiences should engage students in active inquiry using experimental and observational methods. These experiences place the acquisition of scientific knowledge in a new, active context and develop a conceptual understanding of the experimental process and its central role in the sciences. Successful laboratory and field experiences also teach students to analyze data and formulate scientific knowledge. Unlike traditional classroom settings where learning is typically developed, demonstrated, and assessed via tests, papers, or presentations, the laboratory and field experience emphasizes the importance of applying knowledge in professional contexts, developing empirical skills, and understanding the foundation on which scientific knowledge rests.

A laboratory or field experience should involve: 1) Analysis and interpretation of data obtained through observation and/or measurement using appropriate scientific methods; 2) The use of established

scientific theories and models to develop and critically evaluate conclusions drawn from data analysis; 3) Understanding and identifying sources of error and uncertainty in experimental results. As part of the laboratory and field experience, students should submit written documents appropriate to the area of study to demonstrate the knowledge they acquire. In this way, the LFE requirement offers students a distinct method of developing, organizing, and implementing various concepts and methodologies.

Appendix: (This list of courses is provided for informational purposes only. An updated list including all approved course is under development and will be linked to the KU catalog.)

BAQR Approved Courses (as of 4/24/2019): ASTR 391, CHEM 130, CHEM 135, CHEM 150, CHEM 170, CHEM 190, CHEM 195, COMS 356, GEOL 190, MATH 101, MATH 104, MATH 105, MATH 115, MATH 121, MATH 125, MATH 141, MATH 145, MATH 365, PHSX 114, PHSX 211, PHSX 213, POLS 306, PUAD 332, SOC 380

WRIT Approved Courses (as of 4/24/2019): ENGL 101, ENGL 102, ENGL 105; for students who place in ENGL 102 or 105, second course options include: ANTH 389, CLSX 178, ENGL 203, ENGL 205, ENGL 209, ENGL 210, ENGL 211, ENGL 220, HIST 120, HIST 201, HIST 202, HUM 110, HUM 111, HUM 114, HUM 140, HUM 204, HUM 364, SLAV 320, WGSS 364, WGSS 389

FL/FP Approved Courses (as of 4/24/2019):

Level 1: AMHR 110, ARAB 110, BCRS 104, BCRS 105, CHIN 104, CHIN 148, CZCH 104, FREN 110, GERM 104, GRK 104, GRK 105, HAIT 110, HAUS 110, HEBR 110, HNDI 110, ITAL 110, ITAL 155, JPN 104, KICH 110, KISW 110, KOR 104, KQKL 110, LA&S 110, LAT 104, LAT 105, PERS 110, PLSH 104, PORT 104, PORT 106, RUSS 104, RUSS 110, SLAV 104, SOMI 110, SPAN 104, SPAN 111, SPED 501, TIB 101, TURK 104, UKRA 104, UYGR 101, WOLO 110, YDSH 104

Level 2: AMRH 120, ARAB 120, BCRS 108, BCRS 109, CHIN 108, CHIN 148, CZCH 108, FREN 120, GERM 108, GRK 108, GRK 109, HAIT 120, HAUS 120, HEBR 120, HNDI 120, ITAL 120, ITAL 156, JPN 108, KICH 114, KISW 120, KOR 108, KQKL 114, LA&S 120, LAT 108, LAT 109, PERS 120, PLSH 108, PORT 108, PORT 110, RUSS 108, RUSS 110, SLAV 108, SOMI 120, SPAN 108, SPAN 111, SPED 502, TIB 102, TURK 108, UKRA 108, UYGR 102, WOLO 120, YDSH 108

Level 3: AMHR 210, ARAB 210, BCRS 204, BCRS 205, CHIN 204, CZCH 204, FREN 230, FREN 231, GERM 201, GRK 301, GRK 302, GRK 303, GRK 375, HAIT 230, HAUS 210, HEBR 210, HNDI 210, ITAL 230, JPN 204, KICH 230, KISW 210, KOR 204, KQKL 230, LA&S 230, LAT 112, LAT 113, PERS 210, PLSH 204, PORT212, PORT 220, RUSS 204, RUSS 212, SLAV 204, SOMI 210, SPAN 212, SPAN 213, SPAN 220, SPED 503, TIB 201, TURK 204, UKRA 204, UYGR 201, WOLO 210, IDSH 212

Level 4:

LFE Approved Courses (as of 4/24/2019): ANTH 406, ANTH 441, ANTH 449, ANTH 462, ANTH 648, ASTR 196, ATMO 105, ATMO 106, BIOL 102, BIOL 103, BIOL 116, BIOL 150, BIOL 151, BIOL 152, BIOL 153, BIOL 155, BIOL 203, BIOL 241, BIOL 247, BIOL 402, BIOL 405, BIOL 413, BIOL 418, BIOL 419, BIOL 426, BIOL 430, BIOL 440, BIOL 449, BIOL 481, BIOL 494, BIOL 502, BIOL 504, BIOL 507, BIOL 510, BIOL 511, BIOL

513, BIOL 519, BIOL 533, BIOL 540, BIOL 547, BIOL 570, BIOL 571, BIOL 592, BIOL 593, BIOL 598, BIOL 603, BIOL 607, BIOL 623, BIOL 637, BIOL 639, BIOL 641, BIOL 654, BIOL 662, CHEM 110, CHEM 130, CHEM 135, CHEM 150, CHEM 170, CHEM 175, CHEM 190, CHEM 191, CHEM 195, CHEM 196, CHEM 331, CHEM 336, CHEM 537, CHEM 598, CHEM 636, CHEM 661, EPHX 516, EPHX 536, EPHX 601, EVRN 140, EVRN 144, EVRN 149, EVRN 335, EVRN 420, EVRN 460, EVRN 535, EVRN 538, GEOG 105, GEOG 111, GEOG 140, GEOG 144, GEOG 311, GEOG 316, GEOG 334, GEOG 358, GEOG 526, GEOG 535, GEOG 538, GEOG 541, GEOG 558, GEOG 658, GEOL 103, GEOL 122, GOEL 302, GEOL 311, GEOL 312, GEOL 331, GEOL 513, GEOL 529, GEOL 532, GEOL 535, GEOL 541, GEOL 562, GIST 111, LING 435, LING 707, LING 735, PHSX 114, PHSX 115, PHSX 116, PHSX 211, PHSX 212, PHSX 213, PHSX 214, PHSX 216, PHSX 236, PHSX 313, PHSX 316, PHSX 516, PHSX 536, PHSX 601, PSYC 449, SPLH 449