

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I= Information Item¹ R= Advise & Respond²

Course Number _____ or Degree Plan(s) University Requirements
 State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

Change the name of Foreign Language/Cultural Awareness/Fine Arts/Humanities menu to Cultural Awareness.

Adopt the revised Cultural Awareness Menu Criteria (see attached) as the criteria to assess courses for inclusion in the Cultural Awareness menu.

To address the "General Education Assessment Plan," departments with courses in the Cultural Awareness Menu will assess Knowledge, Inquiry, and Intercultural Knowledge (see attached for more detail).

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

		COUNCIL ³								
	Change to a Course	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	A
4.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	A
5.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
6.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	A
7.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
8.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
9.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	A
10.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	A
11.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	A
12.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	A
13.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	A

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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		COUNCIL ³										
	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--

COUNCIL ³										
	Provost-Proposed Change	Provost	Department	Dean	TEC	UUAC	Graduate	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
1.	Major/Graduate Program – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I
2.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			--	A	--
3.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I

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COUNCIL³

	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--		A		A	A	A
5.	Other academic policy changes	--	--	--		A		A	--	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about “Information” items. These items are approved as “Consent Agenda.”

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost’s recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU’s University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and “not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession” (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that “general requirements for graduation” means the enumerated items in the “General Requirements for Bachelor’s Degrees” section of the catalog.

Revised 1-29-16

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)

Signature

Approval date

Signature

Approval date

College Academic Council(s)

Signature

Approval date

Signature

Approval date

Dean(s)

Signature

Approval date

Signature

Approval date

Teacher Education Council

Chair's signature

Approval date

General Education Council

Chair's signature

Approval date

Undergraduate Academic Council

Chair's signature

Approval date

Graduate Council

Chair's signature

Approval date

Provost

Signature

Approval date

Faculty

Chair of faculty senate

Approval date

President

Signature

Approval date

Abilene Christian University
College of Arts and Sciences
Box 29210
Abilene, Texas 79699



To: University General Education Council
From: Greg Straughn, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Date: March 21, 2016
Re: Defining the Cultural Awareness Menu

Proposal

- Change the name of the Foreign Language/Cultural Awareness/Fine Arts/Humanities menu to Cultural Awareness.
- Adopt the Revised Cultural Awareness Menu Criteria (below) as the criteria to assess courses for inclusion in the Cultural Awareness menu.
- For the General Education Assessment, assess Knowledge, Inquiry, and Intercultural Knowledge for courses in the Cultural Awareness menu.

Context

Currently, the catalog includes a menu of courses entitled “Foreign Language and Cultural Awareness” that includes courses in several different areas, including all the Foreign Language courses, plus selected courses in Anthropology, Bible Missions, History and Global Studies, Management, Economics, Finance, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work. With the general education revision that was approved in Fall 2016, Fine Arts and Humanities courses (e.g. Introduction to Art, Survey of Jazz, Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Theatre) were added to the menu.

Referring to the menu as “Cultural Awareness” is a concise and appropriate term that highlights the common element shared by the courses in the menu: comparing and contrasting ideas, practices, or artworks of another culture to better understand one’s own culture.

Following are the current criteria for the Cultural Awareness and Fine Arts/Humanities menus:

CULTURAL AWARENESS

1. [Ability to] reflect on own cultural rules and biases
2. [Ability to] consider experiences and issues from the perspectives of others with differing world views
3. [Ability to] articulate understanding of cultural differences in verbal and nonverbal communication
4. [Ability to] ask complex questions about the beliefs, values, and practices of other cultures and articulate answers to those questions that reflect flexible cultural understanding
5. [Ability to] Initiate and develop interactions with individuals from cultures that differ from that of the student

FINE ARTS/HUMANITIES

1. Introduce students to a spectrum of aesthetically significant works (creative artifacts/processes).
2. Explore how works of human imagination and thought as pathways distinct from the sciences, provide insight into human condition and culture.
3. Analyze the connections between creative artifacts/processes and specific historical and cultural contexts.
4. Think critically about the arts and empower students to articulate an informed reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Cultural Awareness Proposal

Final Version – April 13, 2016

Proposal

- Change the name of the Foreign Language/Cultural Awareness/Fine Arts/Humanities menu to Cultural Awareness.
- Adopt the Revised Cultural Awareness Menu Criteria (below) as the criteria to assess courses for inclusion in the Cultural Awareness menu.
- For the General Education Assessment, assess Intercultural Knowledge for courses in the Cultural Awareness menu.

CULTURAL AWARENESS MENU CRITERIA

Courses satisfying the cultural awareness menu must devote a substantial and meaningful portion of the course to exploring and enhancing intercultural appreciation, knowledge, and/or skills.

International, domestic, contemporary, and/or historical cultures may be considered.

Courses must demonstrate how at least two of the following criteria are met:

1. Compare and contrast experiences and issues from the perspectives of others with differing world views.
2. Explore how works of human imagination and thought, provide insight into human condition and culture.
3. Demonstrate basic competency in the understanding and use of a second modern world language.

Courses must demonstrate how at least one of the following criteria are met:

4. Identify and evaluate the meaning and impact of one's own cultural artifacts, understandings, and biases.
5. Demonstrate the ability to appreciate and appropriately stretch to understand and adapt to a culture different from one's own.
6. Analyze the connections between cultural artifacts and their meaning in specific contexts.

ASSESSMENT PLAN

To address the "General Education Assessment Plan," departments with courses in the Cultural Awareness menu will address the following competency as a course outcome:

- Intercultural Knowledge: Distinguish the elements (thoughts, language, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, or institutions of racial, ethnic, religious, or social groups) important to members of another culture.