

University Liberal Education Committee
History of Courses/Experiences Approval History
As of 11/16/2015

Two of the many charges of the University Liberal Education Committee (ULEC) are: 1) The development of the criteria (and application process) used to determine whether a course and/or learning experience qualifies for inclusion in the Liberal Education Core; and, 2) Applying that criteria to determine whether or not a course and/or learning experience qualifies for inclusion in the Core.

That process started back in 2013, with the first applications being reviewed and approved in November. A great deal has happened since the first applications were reviewed, including: finalization of LE outcomes and associated rubrics; modification of LE framework (2014); modification of the LE applications; sharing of 'exemplar' LE applications by outcome; and, the facilitation of LE informational meetings across campus.

ULEC is very pleased with how much has been completed in such a short period of time and wants to thank all those involved in bringing our campus commitment to outcomes-based liberal education for incoming freshman in the fall of 2016 a reality. Since November 2013:

- ULEC has approved 385 of 400 submitted applications for LE designation--a 96.25% approval rate
 - Ten of the 385 approved applications were originally sent back for revision, placing the first-time approval rate at 93.75% (375 of the 400 passed on first review)
 - The ten applications which were subsequently revised, resubmitted, and approved by ULEC fell into the following outcomes: 1-K2, 7-K3, 1-K4, and 1-R3
 - 246 courses have been approved (+ Study Abroad, Bundles, Ensembles and Faculty-Student Research), many meeting two outcomes
- ULEC LE application approval statistics by outcome (385 approved out of 400 submitted):
 - K1 – 29 of 30 or 96.67% (1 ENPH course returned for revision and withdrawn by dept.)¹
 - K2 – 37 of 37 or 100%
 - K3 – 57 of 58 or 98.28% (1 ENGL course sought both K3 and K4 – approved for K4 only)¹
 - K4 – 27 of 31 or 87.10% (4 ENGL courses sought both K3 and K4 – approved as K3 only)¹
 - S1 – 25 of 27 or 92.59% (SPAN 201 & 202 withdrawn, not discussed as not needed as S1)
 - S2 – 12 of 12 or 100%
 - S3 – 72 of 72 or 100%
 - R1 – 36 of 36 or 100%
 - R2 – 41 of 41 or 100%
 - R3 – 24 of 24 or 100%
 - I1 – 25 of 32 or 78.13% (7 applications returned to depts. for revision and withdrawn: 1-CJ; 1-ENPH; 1-IDIS; 1-LAS; and 3-PHYS)²

Notes:

¹ On 9/29/2014 the English Department requested that five courses (ENGL 150, 244, 245, 252, & 257) be approved for both K3 and K4. ULEC denied the request and sent them back to the department for revision. This was the first and only request of that nature to come in front of ULEC--the meeting of two Knowledge-Based Outcomes for one course. Generally speaking, courses seeking a Knowledge outcome devote most of their course content to that outcome. ULEC members recently discussed this concept (Fall 2015) and want to encourage faculty who feel their courses meet the requirements of two Ks to bring them forward. The members are not opposed to approving such courses.

² I1 – Integrative Learning has the lowest application approval rate at 78.13%. The Integrative Learning Outcome is arguably the most unique of all eleven LE Outcomes. As such, it has taken time for the campus community (ULEC members and faculty alike) to reach a common understanding of it. The historical approval rate reflects a learning curve that we have all gone through. 100% of the applications for I1 submitted this semester (Fall 2015) have been approved by ULEC. ULEC members want to encourage faculty members to put their courses and/or experiences forward for LE I1 designation.