

ADDENDUM to Course and Curriculum Changes to be considered at the College of Arts and Sciences faculty meeting on November 1st 2007

CURRICULUM CHANGES

Arts & Sciences, Program Options

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CHANGE:

Certificate in the study of arts and sciences through primary texts
Laurie M. Bagby, Director
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www.k-state.edu/artsci/primary

This program provides an opportunity to take part in a conversation with some of the best thinkers humankind has produced. The study of primary texts or original works in philosophy, politics, literature, and the sciences encourages critical thinking, and there is a growing acknowledgment among employers that this type of training develops lifelong learners and future leaders. This program also gives students who want to pursue graduate education early experience in grappling with original works such as they will inevitable encounter in graduate school.

The certificate is an 18 hour program of study that students can tailor to their needs. At least nine hours must be at the 500 level or above. Selected courses must cover at least three academic disciplines. Transfer courses that can be documented to have substantial primary text content may be accepted, but at least half of the courses must be completed at K-State.

~~Students must submit to the director an essay on a question listed on the certificate website and/or approved by a participating professor. This essay will be kept on file until students are taking or have completed their final course in the program, whereupon they will be asked to revisit the question and improve the essay as a capstone assignment.~~ To receive the certificate, students must have a minimum 2.75 GPA in the program at the time they graduate.

Students can count certificate courses toward the fulfillment of other College of Arts and Sciences requirements. As long as they are also designated as university general education in the line schedule, courses taken for the certificate can also be counted toward the 18 hours of UGE needed to graduate. Certificate courses that also fit the basic or distribution requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences can be used to fulfill those requirements. Certificate courses that also happen to be part of a student's major or minor can be counted for fulfillment of the requirements of both the certificate and the major or minor.

~~Since many courses that can be used to fulfill the certificate requirements are already being offered, some students may have already made progress toward fulfilling the requirements before the program was formally approved in spring 2001. If they are currently enrolled at K-State, such students will be given full credit for those courses.~~ Students who think they have fulfilled part or all of the requirements should contact the director.

Students should notify the director of their interest in the program as soon as possible in their college career. ~~The director will provide advising and information on scholarships, groups, and activities and events of interest. The director and participating faculty will keep a list of courses for the next semester available for students. Students will also be able to find a list of applicable courses and other information on the certificate website.~~

TO:

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The certificate is an 18 hour program of study that students can tailor to their needs. Students must take DAS 300: The Great Conversation: Primary Texts Core Course, preferably early in the Primary Texts coursework. At least nine hours must be at the 400 level or above. Selected courses must cover at least two academic disciplines. Transfer courses that can be documented to have substantial primary text content may be accepted, but at least half of the courses must be completed at K-State. To receive the certificate, students must complete a capstone paper and have a minimum 2.75 GPA in the program at the time they graduate.

Students can count certificate courses toward the fulfillment of other College of Arts and Sciences requirements. As long as they are also designated as university general education in the line schedule, courses taken for the certificate can also be counted toward the 18 hours of UGE needed to graduate. Certificate courses that also fit the basic or distribution requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences can be used to fulfill those requirements. Certificate courses that also happen to be a part of a student's major or minor can be counted for fulfillment of the requirements of both the certificate and the major or minor. DAS 300 can be taken by Honor students for Honors credit. Consult with the directors of the Primary Texts and Honors programs on additional courses that may count in both programs.

Students who think they have fulfilled part or all of the requirements before enrolling in the program should contact the director. Students should notify the director of their interest in the program as soon as possible in their college career. The director will assist them with enrollment. Students can find a description of the program, a list of Primary Texts courses, and information on the capstone paper requirement on the certificate website.

RATIONALE: A donor pledged \$11,000 per year to support a new core course for the Primary Texts Certificate program. This course has been needed to provide more cohesion to the program, and better preparation for other Primary Texts courses. The addition of this course necessitated a catalog change. Requiring the core course further necessitated changing the distribution requirements. Students will now be required to take courses in at least two disciplines instead of three, since the core course itself will provide material from at least five disciplines. Having to take the required course and still distribute their 18 hours over three disciplines seemed like an unnecessary burden on the students. Upper level courses in many departments start at the 400 level, so this description is more accurate than what was in the previous copy. The capstone paper requirement has changed so that students do not have to submit an initial paper, which proved difficult for them to conceive early in their Primary Texts courses. Many students were wanting to change their paper completely at the end of their experience, making it clear that the initial paper had not had much pedagogical use. Students are now advised to keep their papers and notes from all classes and begin to develop a theme for their paper early in their senior year. The Honors program has approved the use of DAS 300 as an Honors course, and there has been a standing agreement that Honors Introduction to the Humanities and similar courses can apply to the Primary Texts program when they meet with Primary Texts requirements so that Honors students can more easily participate in both programs. The enrollment language at the end is meant to deal with the few students who do not realize that they need to contact the director and enroll early in the program, instead of waiting until their last semester. While not that many students do this, we have had a few. Overall, the text has been shortened to make it easier to read and understand.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2008