Proposal for Revising Area III Requirements

There are two motivations for the revision.

First, we want to simplify the task of determining when an Area III requirement is satisfied. We propose to do this by eliminating the petition process. Currently a student can formally petition to have a 300 or 400 level course outside Liberal Arts or Science count under Area III. Evaluating the petition requires making judgments about how closely the outside course compares to ones offered inside Liberal Arts or Science. Making these judgments is difficult and costly. In their place, we propose to automatically allow two outside course count toward Area III.

Second, we want to encourage those seeking employment directly after graduation to major in Liberal Arts. We propose to accomplish this by making it easier for students to combine their Liberal Arts major with professional coursework or with concentrated study in a single closely connected area of Liberal Arts that might be marketable.

The Changes

Here is what we suggest should satisfy the Area III requirement.

For those pursuing a minor or major

1. up to four 300-400 level courses in a second degree (i.e. an outside major)
   *previously only courses in second major could be used*

2. up to four 300-400 level courses in a minor degree (inside or outside the School)
   *previously only three courses in a minor within the Liberal Arts or Science or Business could be counted*

For those not pursuing a minor or major

3. up to three courses within a single department in Liberal Arts or Science
   *previously had to spread the five courses over 4 departments*

4. up to two courses outside of Liberal Arts and Science
   *previously there were no courses automatically counted--petitions were required for each course.*

New Wording for the Bulletin

In addition to advanced courses in one's major, the SLA student should conduct in-depth study in other areas. Toward this end, at least 15 credit hours of one's 300 to 400 level courses must be taken outside the primary major department. At most 9 of the 15 hours can come from a single department in Liberal Arts or Science and at most 6 hours can come from 300 or 400 level courses outside of Liberal Arts and Science. If one obtains a second major, degree, or minor in any School, at most 12 of the 15 hours can come from the department granting the degree.