Diversification Requirements

A "two-thirds guideline" is used to determine if a course meets a specific diversification category. For a course to be designated in a particular area, approximately two thirds of the content of its governing syllabus and approximately two thirds of the required class meetings must demonstrate the Hallmarks. (Thus, a course in psychology that is two-thirds social sciences and one-third humanities will count toward the social sciences area only.)

**Arts (DA), Humanities (DH), and Literatures (DL): 6 credits, from 2 of these areas**

To satisfy the **Arts (DA)** area requirement, at least two thirds of a course

- uses the definitions, descriptions, and terminology of the visual arts, performing arts, or other creative arts;

- emphasizes the acquisition of practical and theoretical skills necessary to produce visual, performing, or other creative arts for primarily aesthetic purposes;

- develops creative abilities in which artistic conventions are applied and originality is sought.

**Explanatory Notes: DA Hallmarks**

- *It is the practice of various forms of the arts that distinguishes the Diversification Arts category from the categories involving Humanities (DH) and Literatures (DL). Practice implies making, doing, or inventing; practice implies personal involvement in the production or replication of traditional and experimental art forms. It is a student’s practice which is evaluated.*

- *Practice may be supported by historical and theoretical study and by analyses relevant to the critical evaluation of the subject and of students’ creative endeavors.*

- *Arts courses sometimes involve both lecture and practice. For instance, a course may include a lecture component and a separate laboratory, studio, workshop, or practicum. Such courses may earn the DA designation if two-thirds of the combined lecture + practice components demonstrate the hallmarks.*

To satisfy the **Humanities (DH)** area requirement, at least two thirds of a course

$\$ uses the terminology of a humanities discipline
$ involves texts, artifacts, concepts, processes, theories, or issues of concern in these studies;

$ demonstrates inquiry that involves the methods of study, reflection, evidence-gathering, and argumentation that are employed in these studies.

Explanatory Notes: DH Hallmarks

• The Humanities category covers a broad range of disciplines and styles of inquiry. Courses that focus on the study of culture, history, or ethics typically qualify for the DH designation.

• Occasionally, overlaps can be problematic. A literature studies course, for example, may be DH or DL. Courses that study film as a representation of culture typically qualify as DH; courses that study film as text typically qualify as DL; courses in which film production and creation are goals typically qualify as DA.

To satisfy the Literatures (DL) area requirement, at least two thirds of a course

$ uses the terminology of literary and/or cultural representations;

$ involves the study of texts, concepts, forms, figures, styles, tonalities, processes, theories, or issues relating to literary and/or cultural representations;

$ demonstrates inquiry that is guided by qualitative, argumentative, and/or quantitative methods employed in literary and/or cultural representations.

Explanatory Notes: DL Hallmarks

• The focus of the Literatures (DL) category is the reading, study, and examination of all types of literary works as text. Often the word “literature” is included in the course title.

• Departments should consider whether the Arts (DA) category is more appropriate if the course focus involves creative writing. Departments should consider the Humanities (DH) category if two thirds of the course content focuses on analyses of cultures, or consider the Social Sciences (DS) category if two thirds of the course focuses on societal analysis or impact. Courses that study film as text typically qualify as DL; courses that study film as a representation of culture typically qualify as DH; courses in which film production and creation are goals typically qualify as DA.

Social Sciences:  (6 credits, from 2 different departments)
To satisfy the **Social Sciences (DS)** requirement, at least two thirds of a course

- uses the terminology of theories, structures, or processes in the social or psychological sciences;
- involves concepts, models, practices, or issues of concern in the scientific study of these theories, structures, or processes;
- demonstrates inquiry that is guided by quantitative and/or qualitative methods employed in the scientific study of structures or processes of these sciences.

**Explanatory Notes: DS Hallmarks**

- Courses in the Social Sciences (DS) category examine the behavior and interactions of people within societies and interactions between societies. Students in DS courses are introduced to social science concepts and theories that explain such behavior and interactions at levels that range from the individual to the social structure. DS courses introduce students to methods such as interviews, observation, surveys, experiments, and literature reviews.

- Courses that study culture by examining existing texts, documents, or film may better fit in the Humanities category (DH); a historical survey of societal development is typically classified as DH; courses that focus on, e.g., poems, speeches, songs may better fit in the Literatures category (DL).

**Natural Sciences:** 7 credits (3 credits biological, 3 credits physical, plus 1 lab credit)

To satisfy the **Biological Science (DB)** requirement, at least two thirds of a course

- uses the terminology of the biological sciences;
- involves knowledge and theories relating to processes in the biological sciences;
- demonstrates inquiry that is guided by observation/experiment and reasoning/mathematics.

To satisfy the **Physical Science (DP)** requirement, at least two thirds of a course

- uses the terminology of the physical sciences;
- involves knowledge and theories relating to processes in the physical sciences;
- demonstrates inquiry that involves observation/experiment and reasoning and mathematics.

To satisfy the **Laboratory (DY)** requirement, at least two thirds of a course
• uses the laboratory methods of the biological or physical sciences;

• involves processes and issues of design, testing, and measurement;

• demonstrates the strengths and limitations of the scientific method.

Explanatory Notes: DB, DP, DY Hallmarks

• Although the Hallmarks of Diversification courses in the Natural Sciences (DB, DP, DY) are relatively unambiguous, those who determine classification should pay particular attention to the two-thirds rule (under “Diversification Designation Criterion”).

• For courses that are multidisciplinary (e.g., “Biochemistry”), an instructor must ensure that two thirds of the course content covers either one or the other discipline if the course merits either DP or DB.

• In order to design laboratory courses for Diversification (DY) designation, the course must employ laboratory methods of the biological or physical sciences and ensure that students are introduced to a variety of quantitative approaches as well as to processes and issues of design, testing, and measurement.

• Courses offering students the opportunity to learn the use of a single software program or analytical instrument are considered practica and thus are not eligible for DY designation, even though the instructor envisions application of this software/instrument to the solution of a variety of problems. Such course content is not sufficient for DY designation.