CORNELL UNIVERSITY · COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
PETITION FOR LIBERAL STUDIES COURSE SUBSTITUTION

Student Name ___________________________ CUID# ___________________________
Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Course Department and Number ___________________________

Credits ________ Semester and Year Course is/will be taken ___________________________

Course Title ___________________________

Liberal Studies Category: To be completed by the course instructor

This course should be classified as (select up to two categories):

_____ Cultural Analysis (CA)  _____ Foreign Language (FL)

_____ Historical Analysis (HA)  _____ Knowledge, Cognition, and Moral Reasoning (KCM)

_____ Literature and the Arts (LA)  _____ Social and Behavioral Analysis (SBA)

Justification: To be completed by the course instructor

• Please explain why the course should be classified under the categories indicated above. The descriptions of the categories are on the back of this form.

• Please attach your explanation to the form and return it to the student, and also e-mail it to adv_engineering@cornell.edu

• If approved, this petition will affect only the Engineering College’s liberal studies list.

Instructor Approval: To be completed by the course instructor

Instructor Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

College Action (for Engineering Advising Office use only)

_____ Request Approved  _____ Request Denied

Comments:

___________________________ Signature, date

(See instructions on reverse side)
Instructions To Student

A petition is the formal and official way for a student to request specific action on academic matters. This petition serves as the formal request for and the written record of the action taken on a request to allow a course not classified as an approved Liberal Studies course to count as a substitution course for a specified Liberal Studies category (see below), for the purpose of fulfilling graduation requirements for students in the college of engineering. Before filling out this petition, check the engineering college website to see whether the course has already been reviewed, at http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/programs/undergraduate-education/degree-requirements/liberal-studies.cfm

- The student is responsible for asking the course instructor to complete the appropriate sections on the petition.

- The student is also responsible for returning the completed form to Engineering Advising, 167 Olin Hall, and for requesting that the course instructor provide an electronic copy of the justification to Engineering Advising as per the instructions on the form.

- Instructor approval does not necessarily guarantee course substitution approval; the final decision lies with the College of Engineering.

Descriptions of Liberal Studies Categories

Group 1. Cultural Analysis (CA)

Courses in this area study human life in particular cultural contexts through interpretive analysis of individual behavior, discourse, and social practice. Topics include belief systems (science, medicine, and religion), expressive arts and symbolic behavior (visual arts, performance, poetry, myth, narrative, and ritual), identity (nationality, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality), social groups and institutions (family, market, and community), power and politics (states, colonialism, and inequality).

Group 2. Historical Analysis (HA)

Courses in this area interpret continuities and changes—political, social, economic, diplomatic, religious, intellectual, artistic, and scientific through time. The focus may be on groups of people, dominant or subaltern, a specific country or region, an event, a process, or a time period.

Group 3. Literature and the Arts (LA)

Offerings in this area explore literature and the arts in two different but related ways. Some courses focus on the critical study of artworks and on their history, aesthetics, and theory. These courses develop skills of reading, observing, and hearing and encourage reflection on such experiences; many investigate the inter-play among individual achievement, artistic tradition, and historical context. Other courses are devoted to the production and performance of artworks (in creative writing, performing arts, and media such as film and video). These courses emphasize the interaction among technical mastery, cognitive knowledge, and creative imagination.


Offerings in this area investigate the bases of human knowledge in its broadest sense, ranging from cognitive faculties (such as perception) shared by humans and animals, to abstract reasoning, to the ability to form and justify moral judgments. Courses investigating the sources, structure, and limits of cognition may use the methodologies of science, cognitive psychology, linguistics, or philosophy. Courses focusing on moral reasoning explore ways of reflecting on ethical questions that concern the nature of justice, the good life, or human values in general.

Group 5. Social and Behavioral Analysis (SBA)

Courses in this area examine human life in its social context through the use of social-scientific methods, often including hypothesis testing, scientific sampling techniques, and statistical analysis. Topics studied range from the thoughts, feelings, beliefs, and attitudes of individuals to interpersonal relations between individuals (e.g., in friendship, love, conflict) to larger social organizations (e.g., the family, society, religious or educational or civic institutions, the economy, government) to the relationships and conflicts among groups or individuals (e.g., discrimination, inequality, prejudice, stigmas, conflict resolution).

Group 6. Foreign Languages
(not literature courses)

Courses in this area teach language skills, including reading, writing, listening, and spoken non-English languages, at beginning to advanced levels.