

## Dual Degree Programs and Liberal Education

Gerald Pepper <gpepper@d.umn.edu> Thu, Nov 1, 2018 at 10:05 AM

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Deans/Associate Deans, please share with your departments.

At Tuesday's COD meeting final decisions were made concerning the amount of Liberal Education UMD will accept as waived in order to facilitate dual degree programs. Fernando has approved the following for "international affiliations where both institutions are conferring separate degrees on the student(s)."

1. UMD will waive up to 9 credits from the Liberal Education Program (LEP) requirements. In practice, however, because credits often do not articulate to the U.S. in ways that align perfectly with our credit system, this waiver refers to three courses.
2. UMD will not waive an entire LEP category. Recall, our LEP consists of 10 categories: Writing and Information Literacy; Oral Communication and Languages; Logic and Quantitative Reasoning; Natural Sciences; Social Sciences; Humanities; Fine Arts; Global Perspectives; Cultural Diversity in the United States; Sustainability.
3. Three of our LEP categories require two courses with different subject designators: Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities. Thus, the 9 credit (3 course) waiver can come only from these categories, up to one course from each. Concerning Natural Sciences, the agreement allows the waiver of either NS w/lab or NS w/o lab.
4. LEP category Writing and Information Literacy consists of only one course: Writ 1120. Thus, all dual degree students will be required to take this course.
5. While no LEP category will be waived, transfer courses are allowed to fulfill category requirements, just as any transfer course might fulfill a liberal education requirement. Those decisions are made by me. In order to make those decisions I must have English translations of the courses being proposed, as well as the course descriptions in their original languages.
6. Any agreement to waive courses "must be documented in the affiliation document and will come only after the relevant academic dean has affirmed the waiver and this waiver must be approved by the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs or their designee."
7. Before any international agreement moves too far, programs are strongly encouraged to discuss the proposed agreement with the Office of the Registrar (OTR). OTR can advise on logistics, credit transfer, and so forth; however, it is the program's sole responsibility to map curriculum. Additionally, programs should consult with AVC Gerald Pepper about mapping to the Liberal Education Program.
8. Finally, any dual degree program proposal must also document how UMD courses will map onto the international program in order for UMD students to receive their degree.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Thanks, Jerry

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