General Education Proposal to Replace the INT 300 courses

Upper-Division General Education

Currently upper-division general education courses are located under four areas (humanities, mathematics, science, and social science) and are designated as non-transferrable INT seminars. The INTs also lack assessable outcomes and connection to the general education objectives. We would like to resolve these issues in a simple way that continues to serve our BAS, BA, and BS programs without too much disruption to how programs are currently designed.

To serve these ends, we propose the following plan.

The Plan:

Instead of writing new objectives for an upper-division general education program, which would cause a whole new set of problems, we are proposing that upper-division general education courses be designed to emphasize mastery of the lower-division general education objectives currently listed in the catalog.

To do this, we propose that the academic departments currently overseeing these four INTs take on a supervisory role for the four areas that will be targeted for mastery at the upper division level. Arts and Letters will oversee upper division Humanities courses, Math will oversee Mathematical Reasoning, Science will oversee Scientific Reasoning, and Social Sciences will oversee Structure of Societies. Oversight will include approving courses in these upper-division areas and coordinating an assessment schedule with the Academic Standards Committee.

This change should not dramatically alter any existing programs. BAS programs will still be required to fulfill all four areas and BA and BS degrees will be required to have one of these in their programs. BA and BS degree programs will be free to select whatever other area(s) of mastery they would like for their students.

This plan creates a path forward for replacing INT courses with transferable ones, makes those courses assessable, and connects them to the college's larger general education objectives.