Liberal Studies Course Proposal

The First-Year Seminar

Each proposal will consist of an AA-5 form, a syllabus, any suitable supporting materials, and clear, concise responses to the following items. Proposers are encouraged to consult with the Liberal Studies Committee early in proposal preparation.

The Liberal Studies Committee will review each proposal for suitability in the Liberal Studies Program. Proposals will be evaluated not only on individual course characteristics but also on how courses contribute to the overall objectives of the Liberal Studies Program.

- the goals to promote a love of learning and an active curiosity for knowledge
- the Fundamental Principles of the Program (student sense of place, liberal arts and sciences emphasis, fundamental skills, integration of knowledge, moral reflection and criticism, and
- the stated learning goals of the Liberal Studies Program (see III. Learning Goals of the Program, in the Program’s document.)

Faculty should keep these overall objectives in mind as they prepare proposals, referring as necessary to the Liberal Studies document.

First Year Seminar Prefix and Number: 

First-Year Seminar Proposer(s): 

Department: 

First-Year Seminar Title: 

First-Year Seminar Catalog Description (copy from front of AA-5): 

Indicate how this First-Year Seminar-limited to 30 students—will:

1. Offer an intensive exploration and application of selected concepts, principles, theories, and modes of inquiry.
2. Include a significant writing component incorporating rigorous reading and information use.
3. Promote seminar-format discussions, including critical analysis of arguments.
4. Assess student accomplishment with examinations, projects, and/or presentations.
5. Address the overall objectives of the Liberal Studies Program.
6. Encourage students to develop rigorous intellectual habits as they begin their university studies.