



Liberal Studies Petition

Please read the instructions on the back of this document AND the following information before filling out this form:

The College of Engineering recommends students enroll in courses identified as fulfilling the Liberal Studies categories as listed in the current *University Courses of Study and Class Roster*; however, students may petition additional courses not identified in some cases. To petition a course, it must meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

- 1. The course must be below 3 credits if in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S), the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning (AAP), and the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management (AEM). The exception to this is for foreign language courses from A&S and some graduate level courses, and these will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.**
- 2. The course is not from the College of Human Ecology, the Brooks School of Public Policy, or the Nolan School of Hotel Administration. These courses will already have a liberal studies category assigned when appropriate.**
- 3. The course was not previously petitioned for liberal studies credit. Previously petitioned courses will appear in the respective petitions list available on the Liberal Studies Database at liberal-studies.engineering.cornell.edu/.**

Any petitions which do not meet the requirements listed above will not be accepted. If you believe you have enrolled in a course that should have an approved liberal studies category designation (i.e., CA, LA/LAD, ALC, SCD, HA, HST, KCM, ETM, SBA, SSC, GLC) but does not, then you should contact the instructor of the course to request that they submit the class for review to the Registrar's office of the college offering the course.

Section A: To be completed by Student

Name: _____ NetID: _____ Date: _____

Course Number and Name: _____

Semester and Year Course was/will be taken: _____

Section B: To be completed by Student (if applicable)

If petitioning a foreign language course, check this box. You do not need to complete Sections C or D. **NOTE: Please check the course description in the courses of study, class roster, and/or college liberal studies database to see if the course already has an approved liberal studies designation. If it does, then a petition is not needed.**

Section C: To be completed by Student

I am petitioning this course to be classified in the following liberal studies category (select all that apply). The descriptions of the categories are on the back of this form. Please note: The Communications in Engineering (CE) category is not petitionable.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics and the Mind (ETM) | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts, Literature, and Culture (ALC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Analysis (CA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge, Cognition & Moral Reasoning (KCM) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Analysis (HA or HST) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social & Behavioral Analysis (SBA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literature and the Arts (LA/LAD) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Difference (SCD) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global Citizenship (GLC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences (SSC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diversity (D) | |

Please check this box to confirm that you have attached to this petition a course syllabus and short statement indicating why you believe this class should be classified under one (or more) of the liberal studies categories listed above.

Section D: To be completed by Course Instructor

Instructor Endorsement: Please check one of the following boxes. Please note that instructor approval does not guarantee petition approval as final decision lies with the College of Engineering.

NOTE: At least 67% of the work/material in the class should directly relate to one of the liberal studies categories.

I support this petition and the course's approval in the _____ category(ies) (see back of form for category information)

Instructor Name (please print) _____ Email address _____

Instructor Signature _____ Date _____

College Action (For Engineering Advising Office Use Only):

Request Approved Approval category(ies) _____

Request Denied Office Signature, Date _____

Return completed form, course syllabus, and rationale statement for petition approval to adv_eng_forms@cornell.edu or to 180 Rhodes Hall

Descriptions of Liberal Studies Categories

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), and/or power and politics (states, colonialism, and inequality).

Literature and the Arts/Literature, the Arts and Design (LA/LAD) 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.

Arts, Literature, and Culture (ALC) Courses in this area examine arts, literature, and culture in various contexts. Students gain insights into the interplay of individual or collaborative creativity and social practice, and understand the complexities of the expression of the human condition. Topics include the analysis of artworks and literary texts, and the belief systems of social groups, cultures, and civilizations; they also focus on artistic expression itself (in creative writing, performing arts, and media such as film and video).

Social Difference (SCD) Courses in this area examine social differences relevant to the human experience. Social categories include class, race, ethnicity, indigeneity, nationality, language, religion, gender, sexuality, and ability as objects of study. Students develop a deeper understanding of these categories and their intersections. Topics may include: how hierarchies in power and status shape social differences; how social, economic and political systems can impact the interpretation of social differences; and how differences attributed to various groups are explained

Historical Analysis (HA/HST) Courses in this area train students in the analysis of documentary, material, and oral evidence about social phenomena, institutions, events and ideas of the past. Students learn to evaluate and critically assess differing analyses and interpretations of former times so that they may acquire a better understanding of the origins and evolution of the present. Questions addressed in HA courses include why and under what circumstances changes have occurred in how people have interacted with one another and with the environments in which they live.

Knowledge, Cognition, and Moral Reasoning (KCM) 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.

Ethics and the Mind (ETM) Courses in this area investigate the human mind and its capacities, ranging from cognitive faculties shared by humans and animals such as perception, to language and abstract reasoning, to the ability to form and justify ethical values. Courses investigating the mind may use the methodologies of psychology, linguistics, or philosophy. Those focusing on ethics explore ways of reflecting on questions that concern the nature of justice, the good life, or human values in general. Many courses combine these topics and methodologies.

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).

Social Sciences (SSC) Courses in this area examine social, economic, political, psychological, demographic, linguistic, and relational processes. Topics include understanding how different social contexts, for example neighborhoods, families, markets, networks, or political organizations, shape social life. Students learn to identify, describe, and explain the causes and consequences of social phenomena using quantitative and/or qualitative evidence based on systematic observation of the social world. They also learn to link evidence to theory through rigorous and transparent reasoning, and/or reflect critically on the concepts through which people make sense of the social world.

Global Citizenship (GLC) Courses in this area examine the history, culture, politics, religion, and social relations of peoples in different parts of the world, as well as their interactions. They encourage students to think broadly about the global community and their place within it, beyond the boundaries of their particular national or cultural group, and cultivate skills of intercultural engagement that are vital to their role as global citizens. These courses introduce students to global challenges such as war and peace, social and economic inequalities, international migration, and environmental sustainability, and encourage students to think critically about international responses to these challenges.

Foreign Languages (not literature courses) (FL) Courses in this area teach language skills, inclusive of reading, writing, listening, and spoken non-English languages, at beginning to advanced levels.

Diversity (D-AG only. D-HE not allowed in this group) Courses in this area include critical analysis of historically or contemporary marginalized communities and the culturally specific contexts that produce unequal power relations in terms of race, nationality, ethnicity, indigeneity, sexuality, disability, religion, gender, or economic status. Upon completion of a course in this area, students should be able to: a) Demonstrate knowledge and awareness of the cultural practices, values, and beliefs of diverse groups of individuals, b) Demonstrate understanding of systemic oppression at multiple levels, and c) Assess one's own cultural perspective and the potential for associated biases.

Communications in Engineering (CE) This category is not petitionable.