

# MEMORANDUM

TO: University Senate Executive Committee

FR: General Education Committee

DT: April 20, 2007

RE: Agenda Items for Inclusion on May Agenda

The General Education Committee met on Thursday, April 12 at 3:45 in FAC 250 and asks that the following items be placed on the Senate agenda for May:

Proposal for inclusion of course in General Education Category C:

LEAD 200 Introduction to Leadership Studies

Proposal for inclusion of courses in General Education Category D:

ASTR 108	Descriptive Astronomy
PHYS 180	Introduction to Modern Physics
PHYS 181	Lab--Introduction to Modern Physics
PHYS 255	University Physics
PHYS 256	Lab--University Physics

Proposal Date: March 1, 2007

**Gordon Ford College of Business  
Leadership Studies**

**Contact: Cecile Garmon Phone: 745-8973 E-Mail: cecile.garmon@wku.edu**

**General Education Course Proposal**

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Course prefix, number, and title: LEAD 200 Introduction to Leadership Studies

Credit hours: 3

Department: Leadership Studies

College: Gordon Ford College of Business

General Education Category: C: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Academic Year: 2007-2008

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course.

An introduction to the basics of effective leadership including an investigation of leadership theories and assessment of leadership styles.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course. LEAD 200, while encompassing several of the General Educational goals, specifically fulfills the following two:

Goal 1            the capacity for critical and logical thinking;

Goal 9            an understanding of society and human behavior.

3. Proposed category for LEAD 200: Category C: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The following are the course and learning objectives of LEAD 200:

Course objective: Students, at the conclusion of this course, will understand leadership concepts, recognize leadership theory, understand leadership assessment, and understand their own leadership abilities.

Learning Objectives:

- identify basic leadership concepts;
- identify and understand critical behaviors of effective leaders;
- identify, describe, and apply leadership theories;
- understand tools available for measuring and improving leadership effectiveness;

- begin to understand one's own leadership styles and behaviors.

This course encourages students to think critically and logically while focusing on understanding society and human behavior. Students examine theories, practices, and specific behaviors that contribute to influencing others. Experiential learning, through group activities (team building, ROPES exercises, etc), allows students to apply theories and practices as they explore their own and others' behaviors. Self reflection allows critical and logical thinking as students compare the results of group and classroom activities to their own perceptions and ideas regarding leadership theories, practices, and behaviors.

4. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2.

This course helps fulfill the requirements for Category C: Social and Behavioral Sciences in Western Kentucky University's General Education program. It will help students enhance:

- the capacity for critical and logical thinking;
- understanding of society and human behavior.

5. Assessment plan. We will assess student progress in LEAD 200 in the following ways:

- each student participates in our Leadership Assessment Center. The Leadership Assessment Center is a process taking approximately five hours and consists of a series of exercises designed to measure eight leader competencies based on human behaviors. These competencies include: 1) results orientation; 2) team skills; 3) problem solving and innovation; 4) visioning and planning; 5) written communications; 6) leadership theories; 7) verbal and nonverbal communications; and 8) influencing others. This assessment occurs early in the semester and provides instructors and students feedback regarding student behavior which allows critical and logical thinking throughout the semester about behaviors of others in society.
- each student takes a leadership knowledge examination at entry to and exit from the course to measure student understanding of leadership theories which reflect their understanding of human behavior.

6. Other matters. LEAD 200 is an interdisciplinary course managed by the Leadership Studies Program. All colleges at Western presently have faculty who can teach LEAD 200. If approved as a General Education course, the departments providing faculty will receive the student credit hours for LEAD 200.

7. Dates or prior committee approvals:

Department

Gordon Ford Business Curriculum Committee

03/07/2007

University Curriculum Committee

University Senate

Proposal Date: **28 March 2007**

**Ogden College of Science & Engineering  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
Proposal to include a course in General Education**

**Contact: Richard Gelderman Phone: 745-6203 e-Mail:  
richard.gelderman@wku.edu**

**General Education Course Form**

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course. Significant content changes must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee.

Introductory survey of our universe; from observations of the Sun, Moon and stars in the sky to our understanding of planets, stars, galaxies and the overall characteristics of the cosmos.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course.

Category D1: Science

Goal 8: An understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives

3. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2. the syllabus must have an explicit statement of specific course goals and objectives that are linked to the General Education goals.

ASTR-108 is a 3-credit course which may be applied toward the General Education Natural Sciences (D1) requirement. Students successfully completing this course will have obtained an understanding of the scientific method and have demonstrated knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives. This course uses lectures, readings, and interactive class activities to engage students in the scientific method. Specific examples will be presented to demonstrate how topics in astronomy connect with our past, present, and future lives.

4. Assessment plan.

The Physics and Astronomy is administering the "Epistemological Beliefs Assessment for Physical Science"

(<http://www2.physics.umd.edu/~elby/EBAPS/home.htm>) twice during the course, once in the first week of the semester and again in the last week. We track the change in the student responses to evaluate the success of the course in regards to the General Education goals.

**5. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Physics & Astronomy Department 31 Jan 2007

Ogden College Curriculum Committee 01 Feb 2007

University Curriculum Committee 27 Mar 2007

General Education Committee

University Senate

**Ogden College of Science & Engineering  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
Proposal to include a course in General Education**

**Contact: Richard Gelderman   Phone: 745-6203   e-Mail:  
richard.gelderman@wku.edu  
General Education Course Form**

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course. Significant content changes must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee.

A survey of the physics revolution responsible for laptop computers, fiber optics, and nuclear power. Follows the change in physical theory from the 1870's through the 1920's, from geometrical optics and thermodynamics through the theories of relativity and the basic ideas behind quantum mechanics.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course.

Category D1: Science

Goal 8: An understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives

3. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2.

PHYS 180 is a 3-credit course which may be applied toward the General Education Natural Sciences (D1) requirement. Students successfully completing this course will have obtained an understanding of the scientific method. This course strongly emphasizes not only knowledge of natural science but also the relevance of modern physics to our high tech lives. Lectures, readings, and interactive class activities are combined so as to engage students in the scientific method.

4. Assessment plan.

The Physics and Astronomy is administering the "Epistemological Beliefs Assessment for Physical Science" (<http://www2.physics.umd.edu/~elby/EBAPS/home.htm>) twice during the course, once in the first week of the semester and again in the last week. We track the change in the student responses to evaluate the success of the course in regards to the General Education goals.

**5. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Physics & Astronomy Department      31 Jan 2007

Ogden College Curriculum Committee      01 Feb 2007

Professional Education Council      14 Feb 2007

University Curriculum Committee      27 Mar 2007

General Education Committee

University Senate

Proposal Date: **28 March 2007**

**Ogden College of Science & Engineering  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
Proposal to include a course in General Education**

**Contact: Richard Gelderman Phone: 745-6203 e-Mail:  
richard.gelderman@wku.edu  
General Education Course Form**

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course. Significant content changes must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee.

Required for students enrolled in PHYS 180. Laboratory experience focusing on applications of optics, thermodynamics, the structure and behavior of atoms, wavelike properties of particles, and quantization of light, charge and energy.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course.

Category DI-L: Science (Laboratory)

Goal 8: An understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives

3. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2.

PHYS 181 is a 1-credit laboratory course which may be applied toward the General Education Natural Sciences Laboratory (DI-L) requirement. Students successfully completing the laboratories will have obtained an understanding of the scientific method. This lab class strongly emphasizes not only knowledge of natural science but also the relevance of modern physics to our high tech lives.

4. Assessment plan.

The Physics and Astronomy is administering the "Epistemological Beliefs Assessment for Physical Science" (<http://www2.physics.umd.edu/~elby/EBAPS/home.htm>) twice during the course, once in the first week of the semester and again in the last week. We track the change in the student responses to evaluate the success of the course in regards to the General Education goals.

**5. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Physics & Astronomy Department 31 Jan 2007

Ogden College Curriculum Committee 01 Feb 2007

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University Senate

Proposal Date: **28 March 2007**

**Ogden College of Science & Engineering  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
Proposal to include a course in General Education**

**Contact: Doug Harper Phone: 745-6194 e-Mail: [doug.harper@wku.edu](mailto:doug.harper@wku.edu)  
General Education Course Form**

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course. Significant content changes must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee.

This is the first half of a year-long course in calculus-based physics suggested for students in the physical sciences and mathematics. Definitions, concepts, and problem solving will be emphasized. Topics include kinematics, dynamics, energy, conservation laws, rotation, harmonic motion, mechanical waves and thermodynamics.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course.

Category D1: Science

Goal 8: An understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives

3. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2.

PHYS 255 is a 4-credit course which may be applied toward the General Education Natural Sciences (D1) requirement. Students successfully completing this course will have obtained an understanding of the scientific method. This course strongly emphasizes not only knowledge of natural science but also the relevance of classical physics to our everyday lives. Lectures, readings, interactive class activities and problem-solving activities are combined so as to engage students in the scientific method.

4. Assessment plan.

The Physics and Astronomy is administering the "Force Concept Inventory" (<http://modeling.asu.edu/R&E/FCI.PDF>) twice during the course, once in the first week of the semester and again in the last week. We track the change in the student responses to evaluate the success of the course in regards to the General Education goals.

**5. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Physics & Astronomy Department	<u>31 Jan 2007</u>
Ogden College Curriculum Committee	<u>01 Feb 2007</u>
Professional Education Council	<u>14 Feb 2007</u>
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Proposal Date: **28 March 2007**

**Ogden College of Science & Engineering  
Department of Physics & Astronomy  
Proposal to include a course in General Education**

**Contact: Doug Harper Phone: 745-6194 e-Mail: [doug.harper@wku.edu](mailto:doug.harper@wku.edu)  
General Education Course Form**

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1. Current or proposed catalog description of the course. Significant content changes must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee.

Required for students enrolled in PHYS 255. Students perform physics experiments in mechanics and thermodynamics which stress the fundamental definitions and laws developed in the lecture course. Students gain experience in computerized data acquisition and data analysis using modern techniques and equipment.

2. General Education goal(s) met by the course.

Category DI-L: Science (Laboratory)

Goal 8: An understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives

3. Syllabus statement of how the course meets the General Education goals listed in item 2.

PHYS 256 is a 1-credit laboratory course which may be applied toward the General Education Natural Sciences Laboratory (DI-L) requirement. Students successfully completing the laboratory will have obtained an understanding of the scientific method as they learn to acquire and analyze data and relate this data to physical concepts. This lab class strongly emphasizes not only knowledge of natural science but also the relevance of physics to our everyday lives.

4. Assessment plan.

The Physics and Astronomy is administering the "Force Concept Inventory" (<http://modeling.asu.edu/R&E/FCI.PDF>) twice during the course, once in the first week of the semester and again in the last week. We track the change in the student responses to evaluate the success of the course in regards to the General Education goals.

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