

ACE Proposal 3 – The initial set of courses and activities for a General Education program at UNL

Undergraduate curricular offerings at UNL address a very wide array of skills and subject areas, many of which are appropriate for demonstrating Learning Outcomes provided the departments choose to conduct those courses in a manner consistent with the Departmental Agreement. Departments are the units most qualified to determine the resources available for their courses and to decide whether to execute a Departmental Agreement accordingly. Thus departments will be asked to designate which of their existing UNL courses will be a part of the initial ACE program. Such designation must be accompanied by an ACE Course Proposal form and a Departmental Agreement. The initial set of ACE courses will be certified for five years, after which time the departments offering those courses must decide whether to propose re-certification.

I. Request of deans and department chairs

Through their respective curriculum committees, departments are requested to provide a list of their courses they consider appropriate for ACE certification by October 1, 2007, along with a statement of the Outcome to be satisfied and the Outcome to be reinforced by the course. If a course is cross-listed, then all departments involved must agree to the certification. Once the ACE program is installed, these courses must be taught in a manner consistent with the Departmental Agreement. Department course lists will be forwarded to the ACE Committee through the college and university curriculum committees; it is understood that courses forwarded to the ACE Committee are endorsed as appropriate ACE offerings by the respective college curriculum committees. The lists of courses for all departments will be posted and college curriculum committees will have until the end of the fall semester to request special review for particular courses.

II. New courses

Any new course proposed for offering at UNL may also be submitted for ACE certification, but the ACE Committee will not consider certification until the course has been approved by all existing and necessary curriculum committees and is accompanied by the ACE Certification Proposal and Departmental Agreement.

III. ACE Co-curricular activities:

Any co-curricular activity that is submitted for ACE credit must fulfill the following criteria:

- A. The activity will be one for which the student can and does receive academic credit under existing UNL independent study or internship opportunities.

- B. Forty-five hours of ACE co-curricular activity will be equivalent to one credit of coursework. ACE co-curricular activity is thus the equivalent of regularly scheduled laboratories in terms of time spent on the task and credit hours awarded.
- C. A UNL faculty member will supervise, direct, or oversee the activity.
- D. There will be an assessable product resulting from the co-curricular activity. This product will include, or be accompanied by, at least two type-written, single-spaced, pages of the student's own reflection on the extent to which the co-curricular activity fulfilled a Learning Outcome intent, and no more than a single such page of evaluation by the supervising faculty member. The product, with accompanying reflection and evaluation, will be kept on file and available for review by an assessment committee for two years.

IV. Transfer

- A. Although ACE courses satisfy ACE Outcomes for all colleges, they may not always satisfy college or major requirements for a college or major into which a student transfers.
- B. Students must satisfy Outcome 10 by coursework at UNL. (*Motion passed by GEAC on April 12, 2007.*)
- C. Through established review of articulation agreements, the office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies will begin providing schools from which most students transfer credit to UNL with information regarding ACE expectations and will encourage those schools to develop course syllabi and requirements consistent with those of equivalent ACE courses.
- D. When a course from another institution is established as equivalent to a UNL course through articulation agreements, then that course will fulfill the same ACE Outcome as the equivalent UNL course.
- E. The ACE Committee will work with the Office of Undergraduate Studies to develop a mechanism for tracking transfer students so that their work can be assessed, as a group, and a comparative evaluation of transfer student performance relative to ACE Outcomes, can be made some time in the future. (*Motion passed by GEAC on April 12, 2007.*)