

Guidelines
Development of University Studies Courses
(April 15, 2015)

General Policies:

1. Prior to its initial offering, a new UNST course must be approved by the UNST Council and will be periodically evaluated.
2. New instructors for existing UNST courses must also be approved by the UNST Council.
3. UNST theme courses should have a minimum of 8 students to be offered.
4. UNST courses generally should not have pre-requisites. Upper division breadth courses may have pre-requisites, approved on a case-by-case basis.
5. Subjects must be broad in nature and may not be reducible to a narrow or focused topic or skill.
6. Generally, UNST theme courses are team-taught by faculty from two different disciplines.

Course Proposals:

1. For a course to be considered for UNST breadth or theme course designation, the professor should submit a cover sheet with a rationale for how the course fits a specific theme area.
2. Syllabi must follow the UNST Course Template, found on the University Studies website.
3. Each syllabus must address at least three of the five University Studies Student Learning Outcomes (see next page). It should be clear how the course requirements connect to the UNST SLOs and how they will be measured.

University Studies

Student Learning Outcomes*

La Sierra's general education curriculum is rooted in the concept of liberal education as a formative and transformative process. Its goal is to foster an understanding of and appreciation for Seventh-day Adventist Christianity, a commitment to intellectual excellence, and service to the global community.

1. Students will demonstrate competencies essential for informed inquiry across disciplines.
2. Students will demonstrate competency in written and oral communication.
3. Students will recognize, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and ideas from multiple perspectives.
4. Students will demonstrate a commitment to civic engagement and service to their community and the world.
5. Students will demonstrate growth in personal integrity, moral judgment, and religious beliefs as they define their worldviews and academic goals.

*These Student Learning Outcomes are in harmony with La Sierra University SLOs, WASC Core Competencies, and patterned after the AA&U's recommended SLOs for higher education in the 21st Century. <http://www.aacu.org/leap/vision.cfm>