

Proposition: 05-15/16

Title: Modification of the University's Viewing a Wider World requirement.

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Proposed Committee:

Assigned Committee:

Prior Approvals:

Proposal: Reduce the University required number of VWW credits hours from 6 to 3. The remaining 3 hour VWW course must be in a different department from their major department and must not be cross-listed with a course in their home department.

Rationale: The state legislature has voiced intent for bachelor's degrees to have a maximum of 120 hours of required coursework with the goal of increasing graduation rates. The faculty senate and the university recently approved the change of the total credit hours to a minimum of 120. Although it is not currently required, many programs are reviewing their curriculum to reduce their total credit hours count to align with the new minimum. This proposition will assist these programs in reaching their goals.

Suggested Catalog Changes:

Prior to graduating, NMSU students are required to take ~~two a~~ courses from separate colleges from the Viewing a Wider World list in the Undergraduate Catalog. These courses are upper-division (300-400 level) General Education courses and should be taken in a student's junior and/or senior year. The ~~other~~ course may be taken within their home college, but must be in a different department from their major department; ~~(2) and~~ must not be cross-listed with a course in their home department; ~~(3) cannot be counted as one of the requirements for the student's major.~~

These courses strongly emphasize the international character and multicultural influences in the fields of study and strengthen information retrieval skills. ~~One of the~~ *The* VWW course (3 credits) can be replaced by study abroad experience, consisting of at least four weeks of a Study Abroad program or university coursework in a foreign country earning 3 credits.