



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Michael K. Young
President

October 30, 2013

Dean Robert C. Stacey
College of Arts and Sciences
Box 353765

Dear Bob:

Based on the recommendation of its Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs, the Faculty Council on Academic Standards has recommended approval of the suspended admissions requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities. A copy of the change is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the Evening Degree Program is authorized to specify this suspension from autumn quarter 2013 to spring quarter 2014.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. Young".

Michael K. Young
President

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Kevin Mihata (with enclosure)
Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)
Ms. Virjean Edwards (with enclosure)



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

**CREATING AND CHANGING UNDERGRADUATE
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

OCT 16 2013

OFFICE USE ONLY

Control #

Hum-2013/014

After college/school/campus review, send a signed original and 1 copy to the Curriculum Office/FCAS, Box 355850.
For information about when and how to use this form: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwcr/1503instructions.pdf>

College/Campus Arts and Sciences (Seattle)**Department/Unit** Evening Degree Program**Date** Oct.14, 2013**New Programs**

- ☐ Leading to a Bachelor of _____ in _____ degree.
- ☐ Leading to a Bachelor of _____ degree with a major in _____.
- ☐ Leading to a _____ Option within the existing major in _____.
- ☐ Leading to a minor in _____.

Changes to Existing Programs

- ☐ New Admission Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____.
- ☒ Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Humanities within the Bachelor of Arts.
- ☐ Revised Program Requirements for the Major in _____ within the Bachelor of _____.
- ☐ Revised Requirements for the Option in _____ within the major in _____.
- ☐ Revised Requirements for the Minor in _____.

Other Changes

- ☐ Change name of program from _____ to _____.
- ☐ Change delivery method or location of program.
- ☐ New or Revised Continuation Policy for _____.
- ☐ New Honors Requirements for _____.
- ☐ Eliminate program in _____.

Proposed Effective Date: **Quarter:** ☒ Autumn ☐ Winter ☐ Spring ☐ Summer **Year: 20 13**

Contact Person: Kevin Mihata**Phone:** 1-0856**Email:** kmihata@uw.edu**Box:** 353765**EXPLANATION OF AND RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

For new program, please include any relevant supporting documentation such as student learning outcomes, projected enrollments, letters of support and departmental handouts. (Use additional pages if necessary).

We propose a temporary suspension of admission to the Humanities BA in the Evening Degree program.
See attached.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED

List all departments/units/ or co-accredited programs affected by your new program or changes to your existing program and acquire the signature of the chair/director of each department/unit listed. Attach additional page(s) if necessary. *See online instructions.

Department/Unit:**Chair/Program Director:****Date:****Department/Unit:****Chair/Program Director:****Date:**

CATALOG COPY

Catalog Copy as currently written. Include only sections/paragraphs that would be changed if your request is approved. Please cross out or otherwise highlight any deletions.

PROPOSED CATALOG COPY

Reflecting requested changes (Include exact wording as you wish it to be shown in the printed catalog. Please underline or otherwise highlight any additions. If needed, attach a separate, expanded version of the changes that might appear in department publications).
Please note: all copy will be edited to reflect uniform style in the General Catalog.

No proposed permanent changes.

APPROVALS

Chair/Program Director:

Michael C. Sligoin

Date:

10-15-13

College/School/Campus Curriculum Committee:

[Signature]

Date:

10-15-13

Dean/Vice-Chancellor:

Robert C. Stacey

Date:

10-15-13

Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair:

Pat Ann Kramer

Date:

10/25/13

POST TRI-CAMPUS APPROVAL (when needed)

Faculty Council on Academic Standards/ General Faculty Organization/Faculty Assembly Chair:

Date:

RATIONALE FOR TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ADMISSION TO HUMANITIES BA, EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

Recent discussion in the development of the online degree completion program has made clear that A&S needs a relatively comprehensive review of the Evening Degree program – in particular, the interdisciplinary majors in Social Sciences and Humanities. Neither degree currently has an active steering committee or other oversight body, and the curriculum, especially in the Humanities degree, lacks intellectual focus and rigor. (This is not an issue for the other two Evening Degree majors, in English and Communication, which are managed like any other departmental major.) As a result of these conversations, A&S and FCAS will undertake a review of the Evening Degree program during the 13-14 academic year.

In the absence of a steering committee, oversight of these interdisciplinary programs falls to the relevant Divisional Deans. In the Social Sciences, the work on the Integrated Social Sciences degree completion program has included the appointment of a faculty director and a steering committee selected by the social science departments. The significant collaborative work across departments to draft a new program will provide a foundation for potential curriculum changes to the Evening Degree social science program, as well as a benchmark for governance in that program.

A similar effort is underway in the Humanities, with departments in ongoing discussion of a potential integrated Humanities major (in this case, for regular matriculated students, unlike the online degree completion program). These conversations are very preliminary, however, and unlikely to produce any formal curriculum proposal in the near future. At the same time, the curriculum itself, in the view of the Deans (the current oversight body), does not meet the standards of rigor we would apply to any A&S degree. There is no formal intellectual structure to the program, other than limits to the number of lower division credits, and many of the courses are actually in the social sciences.

Given this situation, we propose a temporary suspension of new admissions to the Humanities degree in the Evening Degree program, through the end of the 2013-14 academic year. While the FCAS review will not necessarily produce a new curriculum in itself, it should lead to a process and structure for a systematic curriculum review and modification by the appropriate faculty. After review, we can reopen admission, either to the existing or a modified program. All current Humanities majors will continue as such, and any who had already indicated an intention to become a Humanities major will be added. But given that we now recognize significant flaws in the current program, it seems irresponsible to continue simply because we know it will take time to revise it.