

Proposed Waiver for Liberal Arts Advantage Dual Degree

SLA will waive the requirements of the SLA Baccalaureate Competencies for dual degree undergraduate students whose secondary major is in SLA but whose primary degree is in another School.

Rationale: Currently, students who wish to add a second major in Liberal Arts face a number of curricular and financial constraints that make the pursuit of two degrees unfeasible for most students. The School's Baccalaureate Competencies (see p. 2) includes a number of courses (especially in languages and writing) that are not part of other schools' general education requirements. By waiving the general requirements for the Baccalaureate Competencies for all second degree majors, the School will facilitate dual degrees and see an increase in dual degree students and hence an increase in credit hours.

Here are some data that give a sense of the scope of the issue and the potential to increase SLA majors. As of Fall 2018, we have:

- 193 double major students
- 113 have both majors in Liberal Arts
- 17 have their primary major in Liberal Arts
- 62 have their secondary major in Liberal Arts

For minors:

- 479 students have a minor in Liberal Arts and major in another school
- 500 students have a minor in Liberal Arts AND major in Liberal Arts

The goal of this curricular change would be to add credit hours both by converting some of the 479 minors into dual degree students and by recruiting new dual degree students by way of specific partnerships, for example Finance (Kelley School of Business) and Economics (SLA) or Psychology (School of Science) and Sociology (SLA). A partnership of this kind is already in the works between Kelley and WLAC, but so far our Baccalaureate Competencies have been the sticking point.

The campus's recent statement about its support for the role of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, <https://academicaffairs.iupui.edu/AAContent/Html/Media/AAContent/StrategicInitiatives/UpdatedCampus%20Statement%20on%20the%20Role%20of%20the%20Liberal%20Arts%20at%20IUPUI.pdf>, unanimously approved by the IUPUI Faculty Council at its September 2019 meeting, as well as the Executive Vice Chancellor's public support of that statement, <https://academicaffairs.iupui.edu/Academic-Affairs-Newsletter-Archive/2019/22>, provides a unique opportunity to move an ambitious idea like this one forward.

It's worth noting that we already have a number of dual degrees on the books that waive most of the SLA requirements (except 9 credits), and departments and programs have been contemplating adding several more. Passing something along these lines would allow departments and programs to pursue partnerships across schools without having to push the specifics of the curriculum through school and campus-level curriculum committees.

We propose calling this dual degree program the Liberal Arts Advantage and making it central to the School's marketing. Here's the appeal: "At IUPUI, students can complete a professional or STEM degree and easily fit well-rounded training in the Liberal Arts, all for \$10,000 a year. That's the Liberal Arts Advantage." We can make this appeal to students from other schools, prospective students, and residents throughout Indiana.

Following last year's revisions to the SLA curriculum, the SLA Baccalaureate Competency requirements include:

- First-Year Experience (1-3 cr.)
- Second Writing Proficiency (3 cr.)
- Analytical Proficiency (3 cr.)
- Life & Physical Science Lab (1-2 cr.)
- World Language and Perspectives (0-14 cr.)
- Advanced Courses (42 cr.)
- Arts & Humanities (3 cr.)
- 1 Social Sciences (3 cr.)