

**The Higher Learning Commission Action Project Directory**  
**University of St. Francis: General Education Curriculum Revision**

Project Details		
<b>Title</b>	General Education Curriculum Revision	<b>Status</b> ACTIVE
<b>Category</b>	1-Helping Students Learn	<b>Updated</b>
<b>Timeline</b>		<b>Reviewed</b>
<b>Planned Project Kickoff</b>	10-01-2009	<b>Created</b> 03-17-2010
<b>Target Completion</b>	12-16-2011	<b>Last Modified</b> 03-18-2010

**1: Describe this Action Project's goal in 100 words or fewer:**

**A:** The Executive Committee of the Academic Assembly has established an Ad Hoc Committee of the USF Academic Assembly on Liberal Education Curriculum as allowed under section 1.7.2.7.7 in the Policy Manual. This committee will be charged to determine whether general education at USF should be revised. If yes, then determine a tentative time line for revision, investigate general education at other schools, determine a curriculum in the best interest of USF students across the university. We will use the information gathered by USF faculty from previous meetings and conferences, and information submitted by any Academic Assembly member(s) as the committee works and propose a general education curriculum structure. The committee will propose a permanent governance structure for dealing with general education assessment, revision, and approval of new courses. This ad hoc Liberal Education Committee of the USF Academic Assembly would report to the Executive Committee of the Academic Assembly.

**2: Describe briefly your institution's reasons for taking on this Action Project now -- why the project and its goals are high among your current priorities:**

**A:** The General Education program has not been changed in over 25 years with the exception of the Core classes and the Core classes are not fulfilling their original intent.

**3: List the organizational areas -- institutional departments, programs, divisions, or units -- most affected by or involved in this Action Project:**

**A:** This Action Project will affect all colleges, and ultimately all undergraduate students. In addition, it will have impact on Admission, Registrar and Advising.

**4: Name and describe briefly the key organizational process(es) that you expect this Action Project to change or improve:**

**A:** This process change will affect student learning for all undergraduate freshman and transfer students.

Support Area	Department	Key Processes
New Student Enrollment	Undergraduate/ Graduate/ Degree Completion Admissions, Enrollment	Inquiry, application, admission, placement and testing, registration/advising, articulation

	Support Services, Marketing, Academic Advising and Articulation, Student Development	and prior learning, orientation/confirming registration, welcome center, marketing, enrollment communication
Learning Support	Academic Colleges, Academic Resource Center, Academic and Information Support Services, Academic Advising.	Academic advising, online learning, academic information services, tutoring, supplemental instruction, academic coaching, disability accommodations, assessment of student learning
Mission Integration	Mission Integration, University Ministry	Spiritual development and activities, mission/ <u>Ex Corde</u> alignment, mission awareness

**5: Explain the rationale for the length of time planned for this Action Project (from kickoff to target completion):**

**A:** This Action Project will require the committee to study other programs, propose models and acquire feedback from faculty and students. Once this is accomplished we will need to fine tune the model for USF and move the model through University Curriculum Committee.

**6: Describe how you plan to monitor how successfully your efforts on this Action Project are progressing:**

**A:** The committee is responsible for reporting to the Executive Committee and Academic Assembly on a regular basis. The sponsor for this project is the Vice-President of Academic Affairs (Provost).

**7: Describe the overall "outcome" measures or indicators that will tell you whether this Action Project has been a success or failure in achieving its goals:**

**A:** If the new General Education Program is approved by Governance and new courses are in place assessments will be put in place that can determine whether we met the following goals:  
The goals for student learning at USF can be summarized as follows:

1. A sense of ethics and values reflecting the religious foundations of USF and its Franciscan charism
  - Evidence of having embarked on a personal search for truth, meaning, and faith, including an understanding of and respect for Catholic ideals
  - Understanding of and sensitivity to values including: personal integrity, respect for the dignity of others, and reverence for creation, compassion, justice, and peacemaking
2. Mastery of the chosen discipline
  - Clear understanding of key ideas, concepts, and theories of the chosen discipline
  - Proficiency in skills and methodology
3. Active participation as a citizen of a diverse democracy and pluralistic world
  - Deep understanding of oneself and respect for the diverse identities of others, their histories, and their cultures
  - Positive personal and interpersonal skills
  - Capacity for associative living (i.e., living in common with others)

- Potential to contribute to society with leadership through service
4. Ability to communicate complex ideas in written and oral form in various situations and with diverse audiences
  5. Intellectual competencies, curiosity and habits of mind that foster continual pursuit of knowledge and independent thought
    - Facility in quantitative reasoning, as well as scientific and technological literacy
    - Aesthetic awareness and appreciation
    - Ability to analyze and interpret historical data; to understand methods and analyze concepts from philosophy, theology, and the social sciences
    - Read imaginatively and critically
  6. Intellectual agility and ability to adapt and manage change, including the ability to translate knowledge into action and to solve problems.
    - Ability to learn in multiple modes and from different disciplines
    - Ability to find the best available sources of information (electronic and print, questionnaire, interviews, etc.); sift, organize, and evaluate that information, and develop critical analyses