



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

OFFICE OF GENERAL EDUCATION AND DUAL ENROLLMENT

NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 2016

Last Newsletter Until February

I hope everyone has had a wonderful and productive fall semester. This will be the final newsletter until February 2017. I'm so proud of the great work you have done this year to help our students succeed in their college experience. Next semester will be busy as my office continues to focus on academic quality and student engagement across the general education and dual enrollment programs. One of the biggest challenges, and greatest opportunities, will be addressing the clarified [Higher Learning Commission's \(HLC\) policy](#) related to minimum faculty credentials required to teach undergraduate courses (including dual enrollment). As we continue on this journey together, it will be imperative that we communicate frequently with each other to share ideas and best practices that will help us collectively address these important issues in successful and productive ways. Thanks again for all that you have done, and will certainly do in the future, to help ensure success for all of our students!

Matthew Tracy, Ph.D.

RECENT ARTICLES ABOUT GEN ED AND DUAL ENROLLMENT

1. GEN ED
 - a. [General Education Helps College Students Succeed](#)
 - b. [A Liberal Arts Degree is More Important than Ever](#)
2. DUAL CREDIT
 - a. [How to train 1,000 dual enrollment teachers?](#)
 - b. [Teacher Requirements Found to Vary](#)
 - c. [Faculty Liaison Goes Above & Beyond](#)

UPCOMING DUAL ENROLLMENT EVENTS

Jan 9: Family Information Night
Jan 12: Family Information Night
Feb 25: Basketball Blowout
Apr 6: Calculus: The Musical
Apr 9: AP Biology Study Session
Apr 22: AP US History Academic Bowl
Apr 23: AP Geography Study Session
Apr 29, 2017: AP World History Bowl
Apr 30, 2017: AP Psychology Study Session

UPCOMING DUAL ENROLLMENT SCHOOL REGISTRATION VISITS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan 5: Millard Academy | Jan 23, 24: Omaha Bryan |
| Jan 6: Elkhorn South | Jan 23: Millard South. |
| Jan 9: Millard North, Brownell Talbot | Jan 25: Omaha Northwest |
| Jan 10: Papillion La Vista | Jan 26: Millard West, Omaha North |
| Jan 11: Marion | Jan 27: Elkhorn, Omaha North |
| Jan 12: Omaha South | Jan 30-Feb 3: Westside |
| Jan 12,13: Omaha Burke | Feb 7: Papillion La Vista South |
| Jan 13: Plattsmouth | |
| January 18 – Omaha Central | |
| Jan 19: Bellevue East, Bellevue West | |
| Jan 19,20: Creighton Prep | |

****Note: Visits to other high schools will be scheduled pending response by schools with their desired dates.*

UPCOMING GENERAL EDUCATION EVENTS

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Jan 20 @ 1:00: [Rubrics](#) Review, Roskens 302

Feb 17 @ 9:00: [Grading vs. Assessment](#), CEC 127

March 10@ 11:30: [Strategies](#) for managing assessment data, MBSC Chancellor's Room

Other:

April 21: Gen Ed assessment reports are due for all units offering courses that fulfill [social science](#) or [natural science](#) distribution requirements.

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

IMPACT OF CLARIFIED HLC REQUIREMENTS AND THE WAY-AHEAD

As you know, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has clarified their policy related to minimum faculty credentials required to teach dual enrollment courses. I want to reiterate what this means for our dual enrollment teachers moving forward, and what my office has done, and will do, to address these important changes.

All faculty who teach undergraduate courses (this includes dual enrollment teachers) must either: (1) have at least a master's degree in the discipline (or related field) in which they teach **OR** (2) they must have at least a master's degree in something else, but have a minimum of 18 graduate credits in the discipline (or related field) in which they will teach. In very rare cases, an individual can qualify to teach an undergraduate course via "tested experience" that includes a breadth and depth of unique professional experience outside the classroom relevant to the discipline in which they will teach. This will not apply for most individuals. **These clarified standards apply to ALL institutions of higher education accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and are not unique to UNO, four-year institutions, or the State of Nebraska.**

1. My office recently submitted an extension request to the Higher Learning Commission which will provide UNO's Dual Enrollment program several more years to ensure all teachers are in compliance with HLC requirements.
 - a. UNO has requested the maximum extension offered by HLC (**5 years**).
 - b. During the extension period, all *current* dual enrollment teachers can continue to teach courses even if they do not meet HLC requirements. **NO CURRENT DUAL ENROLLMENT TEACHERS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE PROGRAM DURING THE DURATION OF THE EXTENSION PERIOD.**
 - c. However, at the end of the extension period, no teacher will be permitted to offer UNO dual enrollment courses unless they meet HLC requirements.
2. In partnership with academic units, my office has conducted an initial review of the educational background of current dual enrollment teachers to identify a preliminary list of teachers who do not meet HLC requirements.
3. At the beginning of January, my office will contact all of those dual enrollment teachers partnering with UNO who do not meet HLC requirements and inform them of their status and options to move forward.
 - a. UNO academic units are exploring pathways/options for those dual enrollment teachers who need additional credits to be in compliance with HLC directives
 - b. My office is exploring various funding options to help support dual enrollment teachers in their efforts to complete additional graduate credits

As a reminder, no dual enrollment teacher will be removed from the program during the duration of the extension period.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. *Dual enrollment instructors should have access to, and be familiar with, the master UNO syllabus for the courses they teach. If dual enrollment teachers do not have a copy of the master syllabus, they should contact their UNO departmental coordinator or UNO's Office of General Education and Dual Enrollment.*
2. *Dual enrollment students should be held to the same standards of achievement as those expected of on-campus sections*
3. *Courses that fulfill [UNO general education requirements](#) should [measure](#) student achievement of [general education student learning outcomes \(SLOs\)](#) in addition to any discipline specific objectives. This is also true for dual enrollment courses that count as UNO general education credit.*

SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITES



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