

Questions for Senate discussion of the Revised Drake Curriculum (RDC)

1. The RDC proposes that the Foundation courses may not count towards the major. Cornerstone courses may be applied to the major and may have pre-requisites although pre-requisites are discouraged. The Keystone courses may be applied to the major, but pre-requisites are not allowed. Our rationale for this arrangement was to balance the need to create a curriculum which has space for currently offered courses with the need for updating our curriculum. We hope that faculty can see a role for their courses, even if currently offered to majors only, in this new curriculum. So our question –

Does the RDC have the optimal arrangement for how the general education curriculum and the major programs will interact?

2. Outcome F (Diversity) stipulates that courses place an emphasis on the United States. Our group had some discussion around whether the intent of this stipulation is to exclusively focus on issues of diversity and systems of exclusion within the U.S. So our question –

In order to meet Outcome F, must courses exclusively focus on the U.S. or can an emphasis on the U.S. be accomplished while including other foci?

3. In the interest of fitting the RDC into the disparate demands of the various professional programs, minors, and concentrations available at Drake without significantly disrupting those important offerings, we have reduced the credit hours allotted for general education to 33 (or 34) and the overall credit hours required for graduation to 120. So our question -

Are these credit hour requirements appropriate?