

Memorandum

To: Fort Wayne Senate Executive Committee  
From: Ad-hoc Civics Literacy Requirement Committee  
Date: March 4, 2022  
Re: PFW proposal for Purdue system mandated civics literacy proficiency requirement

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Whereas, the Purdue University Board of Trustees (BoT) has mandated that all students pass a civics literacy exam with an 80% or better; and

Whereas, students in West Lafayette also have to complete one of three-pathways as part of the civics literacy proficiency requirement in West Lafayette; and

Whereas, the Fort Wayne Senate created the Ad-hoc Civics Literacy Requirement Committee (The Committee) with the passage of SD 21-6 which was charged with creating a proposal for how PFW will meet the civics literacy proficiency requirement (The Proposal); and

Whereas, The Committee reviewed the program at WL as well as at universities in other states; and

Whereas, The Committee met with:

- Purdue University West Lafayette Provost Jay Akridge and Purdue University West Lafayette Dean of the College of Liberal Arts David Reingold
- Director of Student Life and Leadership James Velez
- Registrar's Office
  - Registrar Cheryl Hine
  - Associate Registrar Tara Lewis
  - Associate Registrar Kim De Leon
  - Business Analyst Christa Van De Weg
  - Business Analyst Crystal Milton
  - IU Registration System Liaison Kari Smith
- Director of the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Rhonda Meriwether
- Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Carl Drummond

Whereas, The Committee created a draft proposal and held a public hearing on January 31, 2022; and

Whereas, The Committee revised the draft proposal based on feedback from the campus community and held additional public hearings on February 25 and March 1, 2022; and

Whereas, The civics literacy proficiency requirement has to take effect in academic year 2022/23; and

Whereas, The Proposal has to be approved by the BoT; and

Whereas, the document deadline for the April meeting of the BoT is March 23, 2022; and

Whereas, The Committee will attempt to meet with at least one member of the BoT before the April meeting of the BoT;

Be it resolved, the Fort Wayne Senate approve The Proposal.

Part One: The exam

1. All students in the Purdue system must pass the Civics Literacy Proficiency exam with an 80% or better.
2. Students may take the exam as soon as they are students in the Purdue University system.
3. Students may take the exam as many times as necessary to achieve 80% or better.

Part Two: Events/recordings path OR approved course path

1. Students must complete either the events/recordings path OR the approved course path.
2. Events and/or recordings path
  - 2.1. Students choosing this path will have to attend or listen to four (4) approved events and/or recordings. Students can combine events and recordings in any way to meet the requirement of four (4).
  - 2.2. Students may begin attending or listening as soon as they are students at Purdue University Fort Wayne.
3. Approved course
  - 3.1. Students choosing this path will have to pass one of the approved courses with a grade of C- or higher.
  - 3.2. Courses passed as dual credit, collegiate connection, or similar programs will count for completing this path.
  - 3.3. The following courses will meet this requirement for Academic Year 2022/23 with the understanding the list may be modified for future academic years.
    - 3.3.1. COM 21000 Debating Public Issues
    - 3.3.2. COM 31200 Rhetoric in the Western World
    - 3.3.3. HIST 10501 American History 1
    - 3.3.4. HIST 10601 American History 2
    - 3.3.5. POL 10300 Introduction to American Politics
    - 3.3.6. POL 21100 Introduction to Law
    - 3.3.7. POL 21200 Making Democracy Work