

EDUCATION REFORM

What mean for students? Take a look at the plan that will shape Meredith's future...

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL:

Global Connections

FOCAL POINT:

Cultural/Societal

3-credit course

Taken during soph/junior year

Context of Culture class

Other than the USA as a focal point of study.

Study cultural values of people from different parts of the world and will complete a research project.

and individuals of other societies fit together in the global framework.

In the Global Perspectives class--open only to students with at least 75 hours of course work--a student will have taken enough courses in her major to bring a certain amount of

expertise to the class discussions.

This fall the task force will pilot four sections of The Context of Culture course.

Colwell-Waber said that an entering freshman may take this class simply because she is "interested in the material;" however, her general education curriculum will be the same one that Meredith students currently follow. The class will count as an elective but will "position her to follow the new general education curriculum."

Among other new elements to the curriculum are a foreign language competency exam, an English course called Intertextuality that will replace the current Major British Authors and several new classes that will fulfill a quantitative requirement in the mathematics section.

Under the new curriculum, science and mathematics are in separate categories, while in the current curriculum, they share a category.

A student is required to take three hours of mathematics as part of a 13-hour core from the current curriculum's math and natural science category.

Under the new curriculum, students are required to take 3 hours of math in addition to a quantitative course chosen from a new list of electives.

Many of the quantitative courses on the elective list are related to a student's major such as Managerial Accounting, Computer Science with Java or Music Theory and Composition.

The English department is working on the new English course that will replace Major British Authors.

Webb said that this class will take "the best of what British Authors provides" and will focus on authors such as Chaucer, Milton, Shakespeare and Austen.

Finally, students who prove

competency on a foreign language exam developed by the department with criteria from the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) may graduate Meredith without ever taking a foreign language course.

Webb and Colwell-Waber are looking forward to the next few years as the general education curriculum takes shape.

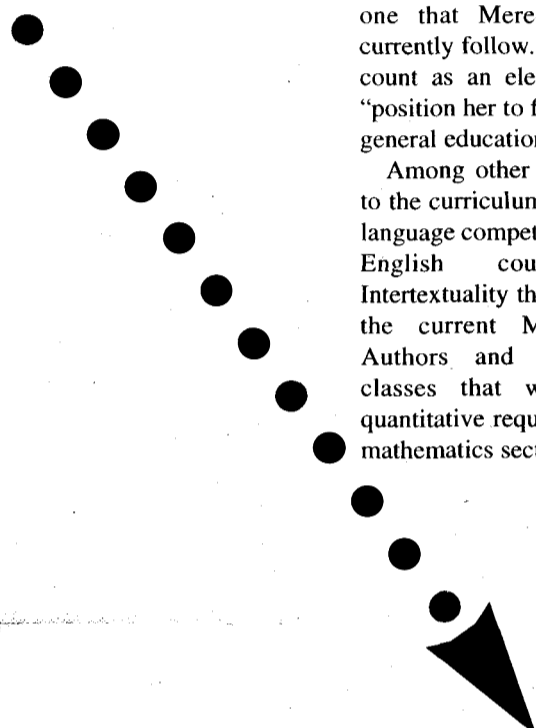
They hope it will provide students with a framework beyond the one of their individual environments to think about issues and connect principles

"The whole world is not divided into 3-hour courses, fifteen hours a semester," said Webb.

Both are also looking forward to working with faculty of different expertise to shape the new courses and to expand the program's goal to intertwine multiple disciplines.

"We have more in common..." said Colwell-Waber. "Than less," finished Webb.

The new general education curriculum will not effect current Meredith students.



making connections, building a "global perspective"

women to make a difference in the world

THE CULMINATING LEVEL:

Global Perspectives

FOCAL POINT: WORLD

3-credit course

Taken during senior year

Builds on the two prior courses.

Students will use the world as a focal point and will work together on a research project that will have an impact on society.

