To: UGCC Core Curriculum Subcommittee  
From: Clayton Baum  
Date: April 12, 2004  
Re: Proposal for communications/humanities core curriculum

1. Continue to require COM 1101 and COM 1102. We all agree on COM 1101. I think there is a convincing argument that students will best develop additional writing skills by writing about literature (COM 1102), which draws from a wide variety of writing types, as opposed to other areas of humanities.

2. Require a choice of two HUM2xxx courses, all of which have COM 1102 as the prerequisite. All of these HUM2xxx courses would have the same writing component as HUM 2051 and 2052, which would continue to be offered. The selection could be similar to the ones offered by Florida Tech during the 1982-83 academic year (Art and Architecture, Understanding Music, Approaches to the Present, History of World Civilization, Philosophy) and would include non-Western civilization. Some of these courses could be courses that are currently taught at the 3000 level. These courses could be phased in over several years, one section at a time to gauge student interest. Recognizing the impact on the Humanities Department, most sections would continue to be in HUM 2051 and 2052, initially. We could require students to take non-Western civilization as one of the HUM2xxx courses but then how do we treat transfer students that come in with plenty of humanities credits but no courses in that area?

3. Continue to require an additional 3 credits of communication and an additional 3 credits of humanities.

4. The remaining HUM3xxx courses should list specific 2000-level courses as prerequisites if they really are required for the subject matter. If the intent is to have more advanced writing/analysis in a 3000-level course then the course could require any one (or two) HUM2xxx courses as a prerequisite.

5. To avoid confusion, humanities courses that have no prerequisites (e.g., HUM 2480, 2510, 2540, 2570) could be renumbered as 1000-level.

I believe this proposal would address all of the concerns in the Gabrenya/Pierce memo except for number 4. COM 1102 should remain as a required course. Students still would have the opportunity to write about other areas in the other courses they take.