

ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

Criteria and Process for Full Membership Application

<p><i>Substantive Criteria for Full Membership (Constitution)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The applying institution will give evidence that the institution has taken steps to establish clear administrative responsibility for the program in the form of an appointment of a dean, director or other administrator to conduct the program. The administrator of the program must have adequate and on-going voice in the decision-making process of the institution and appropriate autonomy for program-specific decisions, especially concerning program structure and methods of delivery.(2) The program of the applicant must indicate incorporation of graduate liberal studies philosophy and avoid a narrowly professional or technical orientation. The description should include the student population to be served and the appropriateness of the curriculum, including delivery modes, to that population. In all cases, the curriculum will be based on thoughtful interaction with texts and exchange of ideas with other students and faculty. For all modes of learning, from campus classrooms to courses by internet or independent study, it is the responsibility of the degree granting institution to monitor and review all the learning that its students undertake and to guarantee program quality. An institution applying for membership in AGLSP should be able to show what method or process is in place to guarantee that quality.(3) Programs must require some inter- or multi-disciplinary core course(s) or special liberal studies seminar(s) created specially for the program. Such courses must be delivered in ways that require and promote student interaction and discussion. Resources of faculty, facilities, equipment, and materials required for such delivery must be in place.(4) Programs should explicitly address the needs of adult students, e.g., academic counseling, flexible scheduling and/or other procedures that recognize the special circumstances of adult students. Applicants must ensure student access to all materials, printed and electronic, needed to complete a rigorous graduate curriculum.
<p><i>Technical Criteria for Full Membership (Constitution)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(5) The institution shall have been an Associate Member of the Association for a minimum of one year and have been represented at a minimum of one meeting.(6) The institution shall have made an oral presentation of its institutional Graduate Liberal Studies Program to an Association meeting or a meeting of the Board of Directors.(7) The institution shall make formal application for Full Membership by letter addressed to the President.(8) The institution shall have received a favorable review of its materials and program and be recommended for Full Membership by a majority of the Membership Committee.(9) The institution shall have had a Graduate Liberal Studies Program in operation for at least one year and will supply documentation in the form of a program description, as well as catalogs, brochures, evaluation reports, or other illustrative material.(10) A report to the Association of a site visit to the institution by a full member of the Association is required following the procedures outlined by the Association.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="389 189 1477 472">(1) Submission of an application for Full Membership, along with a program self-study to include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="535 220 1201 252">program description (requirements for admission/completion)<li data-bbox="535 252 1055 283">descriptions/syllabi of interdisciplinary courses<li data-bbox="535 283 1120 315">delivery methods used (traditional classes, electronic)<li data-bbox="535 315 1136 346">assessment tools (exams, portfolios, final projects, etc.)<li data-bbox="535 346 893 378">faculty associated with program<li data-bbox="535 378 893 409">description of student population<li data-bbox="535 409 1282 441">evidence of institutional support and program quality (reports, letters)<li data-bbox="535 441 1006 472">promotional materials (brochures, catalogs)<li data-bbox="389 493 1071 525">(2) Site visit (contact National Office to arrange for reviewer)<li data-bbox="389 556 1461 619">(3) Membership Committee considers application materials and report of site visitor and forwards decision to President of AGLSP.<li data-bbox="389 651 1485 714">(4) Final step following approval is a presentation by the program director at an Association meeting and a vote by the Full Members of AGLSP.
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