

**University College (UC)
Western Kentucky University
745-4231**

REPORT TO THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Date: October 9, 2015

University College submits the following items for consideration:

Type of Action	Description of Item and Contact Information
Consent	Proposal to Revise Course Prerequisites Item: HON 251 Contact Person: Clay Motley Email: clay.motley@wku.edu Phone: 745-2093

Proposal Date: March 4, 2015

**University College
Honors Academy
Proposal to Revise Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
(Consent Item)**

Contact Person: Dr. Clay Motley, Associate Professor, Honors Academy

- 1. Identification of course:**
 - 1.1 Course prefix (subject area) and number: **Honors 251**
 - 1.2 Course title: **Citizen and Self**

- 2. Current prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements:** 3.2 GPA, Honors standing, or permission of instructor.

- 3. Proposed prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements:** We propose to eliminate all prerequisites for this course.

- 4. Rationale for the revision of prerequisites/corequisites/special requirements:** Based on feedback from students and faculty deliberation, we believe that eliminating prerequisites for Honors 251 would strengthen its learning outcomes. The course offers a rigorous introduction to the public humanities and requires that students conduct group research projects. We have found—and students have independently observed—that the group project would be improved if the class included a wider and more diverse cross-section of the student population rather than exclusively honors students. In addition, as the single required course in the Honors curriculum, Honors 251 is well-positioned to serve as the "front porch" of the Honors College by giving any interested students a chance to see if Honors is something they would like to pursue. Eliminating prerequisites will allow for Honors 251 to serve this function. In short, we believe all students can thrive in Honors 251 since our philosophy is that an Honors education means greater engagement in one's own education, not simply greater difficulty.

- 5. Effect on completion of major/minor sequence:** N/A

- 6. Proposed term for implementation:** Spring 2016

- 7. Dates of prior committee approvals:**

Department/ Unit: Honors Academy	<u>February 25, 2015</u> _____
University College Curriculum Committee	<u>March 5, 2015</u> _____
Professional Education Council (if applicable)	_____
General Education Committee (if applicable)	_____
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	_____
University Senate	_____