

## **Curriculum Committee Resolution 18/19-20**

May 1, 2019

To: St. Olaf Faculty  
From: Curriculum Committee  
Re: Maximum Size of GE Curriculum

### **RESOLUTION:**

Resolved, that the General Education Task Force propose to the faculty a general education curriculum that requires that a student successfully complete no more than sixteen courses.

### **RATIONALE:**

This resolution gives the GE Task Force a concrete upper limit on the number of courses that an individual student must take in order to complete his or her general education requirements. It does not stipulate that this upper limit must be sixteen courses; it merely states that the maximum number of courses cannot be more than sixteen. With this upper limit in place, the St. Olaf faculty would be free to vote to approve a general education curriculum that requires a maximum of any number of courses from zero through sixteen.

This resolution takes no position on the content of the general education curriculum, nor does it take a position on general education requirements that are not attached to courses. For instance, this resolution should not be interpreted as preventing a general education curriculum from requiring sixteen courses as well as additional, non-course based requirements such as a series of swipes-based activities and/or the compilation of an electronic portfolio. However, the sixteen-course limit should be understood as applying to requirements that can be fulfilled either through coursework or by some other means. For instance, if students are permitted to fulfill a foreign language requirement either by taking four courses or by taking a proficiency test, the four courses of the four-course option should be understood as counting towards the sixteen-course limit.

Establishing this upper limit will provide clarity to the ongoing deliberations of the St. Olaf faculty about the structure and specific requirements of the general education curriculum.