

# NORTHERN ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Program Review Year 2012 – 2013**

**Name of Program:**

Liberal Arts

**Program Review Team Members/Contributors/Reviewers**

**Name**

**Title**

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DATE: 9-15-2013

**LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM REVIEW FALL 2013  
SUMMARY – PROGRAM STRENGTHS**

**A. List and describe the program’s major strengths, as detailed at the end of each section of this review, or in the program’s external report (accreditation, approval, or certification).**

SECTION	AREA OF STRENGTH
I	The Liberal Arts program provides students with a broad array of skills and educational opportunities thus affording students the opportunity to pursue further education in various disciplines at the Bachelor Degree level or to pursue a variety of career opportunities requiring an Associate Degree.
II	Current NECC overall policies and procedures provide all of the necessary supports to the Liberal Arts degree.
III	The greatest strengths related to the Liberal Arts curriculum are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transferability to four year institutions and the Mass Transfer.</li> <li>2. Flexibility of curriculum through electives.</li> <li>3. Natural alignment to the six institutional learning outcomes.</li> </ol>
IV	The greatest strength related to the Liberal Arts students is its magnitude and transferability, specifically within the Mass Transfer system. Additionally, the diversity of demographic characteristics exemplifies the program’s strength as serving many students from culturally diverse backgrounds.
V	Each division/department has content expertise faculty members available to provide support to the Liberal Arts program.
VI	The greatest strength is that the Liberal Arts Program Learning Outcomes and Assessment completely align with NECC’s Program Learning Outcomes and Assessment.
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XII	

## SECTION XIV: SUMMARY – PROGRAM CHALLENGES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT – ACTION PLANS

**A. List and describe the program’s major challenges and areas for improvement detailed at the end of each section of this review, or. For each challenge, describe the action recommendation, as well as the individuals responsible for implementation.**

SECTION	CHALLENGE - AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT	ACTION RECOMMENDATION – INDIVIDUAL(S) RESPONSIBLE
I	The Liberal Arts mission, as it has been revised, requires the program to better celebrate the value of a Liberal Arts degree by providing students with <b><u>clear pathways</u></b> to employment and/or a Bachelor Degree program.	The Liberal Arts Program Coordinator with the direction of the Dean of FSLAS. This will be addressed as part of the Liberal Arts program plan to work with career initiatives at the college along with utilizing recent graduate student report on Liberal Arts careers for NECC students. Additional work with the Dean of Academic Advising, Articulation, Testing, Transfer, and TRIO to establish an articulation agreement with UMASS Lowell for Bachelor of Liberal Arts Degree.
II	Through the program review process, it has become glaringly evident that a sense of collegiality, connectedness, and belonging needs to be developed for all Liberal Arts students. Additionally, clear pathways to careers and four year institutions need to be provided to NECC Liberal Arts students.	The Liberal Arts Program Coordinator with the direction of the Dean of FSLAS. The program goals for 2013-14 recommend the development of a general meeting inviting all students studying in the Liberal Arts to build a sense of collegiality and connectedness. This meeting will also serve as a forum to provide students with current information about the program requirements, etc... Guest speakers will be invited, etc...
III	The areas for improvement are building upon the magnitude of the program and creating a greater sense of collegiality among the Liberal Arts majors.	See above.
IV	Initially it will be a challenge to move forward in concert with NECC’s schedule/plan for learning outcomes and assessment, but in the end, it is a natural fit for the Liberal Arts program to operate simultaneously with NECC overall plan.	The Liberal Arts Program Coordinator with the direction of the Dean of FSLAS will work the Dean of Assessment to coordinate the assessment plan.

V	Need for NECC support in collecting more data regarding Liberal Arts degree and career pathways after graduation.	The Liberal Arts Program Coordinator with the direction of the Dean of FSLAS will work with NECC to request greater support from the college for data collection.
VI		
VII		

## SECTION XV: RESOURCES REQUESTED

If any specific resource needs were identified in this program review, and included in SECTION XIV Action Plan(s), please list these resources below, indicating for each whether the type of resource needed is Equipment, Personnel, space, or Other. If applicable and known, provide vendor and estimated cost information.

SECTION	RESOURCE NEED	TYPE OF RESOURCE	VENDOR/ ESTIMATED COST
	Liberal Arts student meetings	Meeting supplies including food, paper products, meeting room, guest speakers, etc...	\$500 has been requested in the LA program plan for 2013-14