PACE/PROGRAM FOR ADULT COLLEGE EDUCATION

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Program Description
The Program for Adult College Education (PACE) provides an alternative for students who have difficulty pursuing a bachelor's degree due to employment, family responsibilities or other obligations. PACE provides nontraditional course offerings and comprehensive student services support; tailored to the needs of adult students. Many PACE courses are presented in blocks, arranged by theme or issue. These courses are offered in a special weeknight, weekend and independent study format. There are also numerous Internet, web-assisted, first and second eight week courses.

PACE Academic Advising
The PACE program takes a highly personalized and comprehensive approach to the needs of nontraditional students. Students will work with a student services coordinator who will assist them from admissions, through the academic process, to graduation. Students can consult the Student Services Coordinator from the PACE Office, on nearly any issue which might impact their academic success. Students wishing to combine PACE coursework with other academic programs and degrees should consult the major field advisor as well as a PACE Student Services Coordinator/Advisor.

Undergraduate
Bachelor of Liberal Arts Degree (B.L.A.) with a Minor
The B.L.A. with a minor is the most popular degree offered through PACE. This degree program allows enhanced flexibility in selection of academic areas of study for students whose aspirations are not served by a traditional major. Research has shown that individuals with the breadth of knowledge and skills provided by a liberal arts education are in demand by employers. The B.L.A. provides:

- Broad knowledge and understanding of the natural sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities.
- Maximum flexibility in course selection.
- Critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.
- Personal satisfaction and self-esteem.
- Multicultural issues awareness.
- Ability to adapt and work as a team.
- Increased awareness of values and ethical questions.
- Interpersonal skills.
- Written and oral communication skills.

The B.L.A. with a minor is designed to allow all the advantages of a liberal arts education while providing students with an academic specialization. Minors earned in conjunction with the B.L.A. are reflected on official transcripts. Typically it is necessary for students pursuing a minor to take a required course outside of the PACE curriculum. However, select academic departments within the College of Arts and Sciences endeavor to offer their Minor requirements through PACE or as regular evening/online courses. Generally, 18 to 24 credit hours are required for a Minor. Before embarking on a BLA with a Minor through this program; students should consult with both a PACE and the respective departmental academic advisor. The following minors are recommended in conjunction with PACE course offerings:

- Black Studies
- Chemistry
- Commercial Economics
- Communication Studies
• Criminal Justice and Criminology
• Economics
• English
• Environmental Studies
• Family Studies
• Gerontology
• History
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Sociology
• Spanish
• Studio Art

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science Majors in Conjunction with PACE
Students can meet many of the B.A./B.S. general degree requirements through the PACE program and, in conjunction with designated disciplines, pursue a major. Degrees associated with an academic unit’s evening division or online courses are also recommended for this process. Students should refer to the requisite departmental requirements in the UMKC undergraduate catalog and consult a Department Advisor as well as a PACE Student Services Coordinator or Academic Advisor.

Graduate
Entry into Graduate/Professional Degree Programs and PACE
The PACE Program provides to students the ability to achieve rigorous academic preparation for graduate and professional degree programs. The B.L.A. is recognized as an appropriate degree for a number of graduate/professional programs at UMKC and elsewhere (e.g., Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, Accounting, Law, Education, Public Administration, Business Administration (MBA), Medicine and Health degrees). Many PACE students continue their studies in graduate degree programs.