

CLAS STRATEGIC PLAN *THROUGH 2022*

Mission: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is committed to the transformation of our students through education and engagement in the classroom and community to enrich their personal, public, and professional lives.



RIDER
UNIVERSITY

College of Liberal Arts
and Sciences

This plan moves from four Focal Points to Alignment with the *Path Forward* to Priorities to Actions.

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Focal Point I. Curricula: CLAS will continue to support and promote study in the traditional disciplines of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences while exploring opportunities to enrich our programmatic offerings.

*Focusing on students first: Our unwavering focus on student growth and development
Always improving: Our commitment to planning, implementation and continuous improvement*

Priorities

Actions

A. General Education

Continue annual implementation and course approval process
Work with Director of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness on assessment plan
Create communication (e.g., a web page) resources for students and faculty to navigate the model
Revise new student course registration process to allow for choice
Lead the effort to establish a university core based on the CLAS model

B. New Programs

Encourage faculty to work collaboratively, across divisions to explore new programs of study
Maximize opportunities for interdisciplinary approaches to contemporary issues
Monitor impact and growth of newly created programs
Use data for continuous planning

C. Program Review

Reestablish calendar for external review
Update program review criteria
Include robust assessment of undergraduate and graduate program-level student learning

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Focal Point II. Engaged Learning Program: CLAS will be a model of engagement for the entire Rider community.

Focusing on students first: Our unwavering focus on student growth and development
Raising Rider's profile: The branding, marketing and promotion of our University

Priorities

Actions

A. Faculty

Collect feedback from faculty regarding ELP implementation
Provide necessary resources for faculty to mentor students through the ELP
Encourage faculty modeling of engaged learning
Explore how to integrate into P&T process

B. Students

Increase Engaged Learning opportunities for CLAS students
Create more continuity for credit-bearing internships
Creation of CLAS Career Conference
Continue CLAS student scholarships for scholarly travel, internships, and study abroad

C. Curricular Innovations

Increase the number and variety of community partnerships
Utilize existing, and Space/place-based learning
Promote interdisciplinary inquiry, research, and practice

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Focal Point III. Communication, Inclusivity and Transparency: CLAS will strengthen its sense of community through open and ongoing dialog.

Always improving: Our commitment to planning, implementation and continuous improvement
Focusing on students first: Our unwavering focus on student growth and development
Raising Rider's profile: The branding, marketing and promotion of our University
Being an employer of choice: The importance of our people

Priorities

Actions

A. Faculty/Staff

Explore additional opportunities to engage faculty and staff
Continue the weekly Top of the CLAS (TOC) newsletter to share accomplishments
Encourage attendance at college meetings and assemblies
Improve CLAS web and catalog pages
Rework new faculty workshops
Recruit, hire, develop, and retain diverse faculty
Increase understanding of changing nature of student demographics
Establish regular processes for addressing faculty and staff needs

B. Students

Establish a CLAS student advisory council
Expand TOC to include more student news

C. Facilities

Hold meetings as needed/requested to address facilities
Provide regular reports to chairs from FMC

D. Advocacy

Promote the value of a traditional liberal education

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Focal Point IV. Resource Allocation: CLAS will balance fiscal responsibility with creativity in support of its people and programs.

Investing in our future: The strategic cultivation, management and investment of our resources

Priorities

Actions

A. Programmatic

Work with chairs/directors toward strategic budgeting
Increase curricular efficiencies
Look for cross-departmental partnerships in faculty hires

B. Faculty

Short term plan to support faculty scholarship and research
Increase support for grant and foundation applications

C. Development

Continue working with CLAS major gift officer in cultivation efforts
Establish greater opportunities to engage with alumni and friends of CLAS