The New Division I “in a nutshell”

Division I =
4 distribution area courses (including tutorial) + 3 electives +
Campus-Engaged Learning Activity
4 cumulative skills
Portfolio and Retrospective

- By the end of the second semester, students must have successfully completed one 100-level or designated 200-level course in four out the five distribution areas to fulfill their distribution requirements (one of which is the First Year Tutorial):
  - Arts, Design, Media (ADM)
  - Culture, Humanities and Languages (CHL)*
  - Mind, Brain and Information (MBI)
  - Physical and Biological Sciences (PBS)
  - Power, Community and Social Justice (PCSJ)

  *A language course at Hampshire or the Five Colleges can be used to fulfill this requirement.

Note: While there is some overlap between the schools and the distribution areas, the latter are different from and should not be confused with the five interdisciplinary schools:

  - Cognitive Science (CS)
  - Critical Social Inquiry (CSI)
  - Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies (HACU)
  - Interdisciplinary Arts (IA)
  - Natural Science (NS)

For example, courses in different schools may be listed under the same distribution area. Students can search courses on TheHub by the new five distribution areas through a drop down menu.

If a course is cross-designated, for example between ADM and PCSJ, it can only count for one distribution area.

- During their first year of enrollment, students must also satisfactorily complete three additional courses (electives) drawn from the curriculum offered in any of the schools of Hampshire College or from the Five Colleges (for a total minimum of seven courses)

  OPRA and EPEC courses may not count toward the distribution area courses or elective requirements but may be used as a CEL-1 (Campus Engaged Learning Activity) with the approval of the advisor.
Five College courses: A student must receive a grade of C or better for courses to count; if they receive a C- or lower, it cannot be used to fulfill Division I requirements.

- In addition to the seven courses, students must complete one or more **Campus-Engaged Learning Activities (CEL-1)** totaling a minimum of 40 hours, approximately equal to course contact hours. The appropriate CEL-1 will be determined in consultation with the tutorial advisor and activity sponsor. The student will document the fulfillment of the CEL-1 and include a reflection on it in the Division I retrospective essay. A menu of options will be available and students can also propose their own CEL-1.

  Students will register for a CEL-1 on TheHub but will not be bound by the add/drop period or the semester length.

- Students will be evaluated on their progress in **four cumulative skills** during their first year and throughout their career at Hampshire College. Comments from course evaluations and by the advisor will be collected on the Advisor’s Page, which will be accessible to the student, Division I advisor, potential Division II members and any future advisors. The four cumulative skills are:
  
  - Writing and Research
  - Quantitative Reasoning
  - Independent Work
  - Multiple Cultural Perspectives

  Evaluation criteria (aka “rubrics”) were developed by various subgroups of faculty to provide instructors and students with a common language and orientation. We encourage faculty to use these evaluation criteria in their classes, share them with students, and use the suggested language to evaluate students in courses.

  We strongly encourage faculty to state clearly in their syllabi **which cumulative skills** will be addressed in their course and **how** students can demonstrate and improve their skills.

- Students must complete at least six courses by the end of the first year in order to return to Hampshire in their third semester. Students with less than the required seven courses and campus engaged learning activity will be placed on an academic contract in the third semester.

- First-year students who present official AP exam scores of 4 or higher, IB scores of 5 or higher from Higher Level coursework, and/or transferrable college credit may use this work in place of up to three elective courses in Division I. Additionally, a fourth AP, IB, or college course may be included as part of students’ Division II portfolios. This policy applies to United Kingdom “A” Level General Certificate Examination grades of A or B. Certain other examinations, such as the French Baccalaureat, German Abitur, and the Swiss Matura may also be recognized. All first-year students are required to complete their tutorials, all distribution requirements, and the campus-engaged learning requirement (CEL-1).
First-year students who present Advanced Placement program (AP) scores of 3, 4, or 5 or International Baccalaureate (IB) scores of 5, 6, or 7 on Higher Level exams may use non-distribution 200-level courses to fulfill the Division I distribution requirement in the relevant distribution areas. AP or IB placement must be recorded by central records before it can be used for Division I.

Please contact Laura in CASA for further details. Without AP or IB scores, students must take a 100-level or designated 200-level course.

Remind your students to:

- Check their Hampshire email regularly
- Verify on TheHub that they are signed up for the correct courses. For example, they need to actively drop a course they are no longer attending or it will remain on their schedule (Instructors cannot drop students from the roster).
- Consider the importance of regular advising meetings
- Pay attention to add/drop and preregistration periods
- Think about the relationship between their different interests and goals, remain open to things they are learning in different courses and contexts during their first year.
- Save all their written work and projects for the Division I portfolio