Chart 3: Graduation With Distinction from LSMSA

1. Student applications to pursue Graduation With Distinction must be submitted to the appropriate area department chair(s) before the end of the 3rd grading period of their junior year. Students may apply for Distinction in only one area.

2. A committee of faculty and the student will formulate a proposal that must include 1.5-2.5 Carnegie units (3-5 one-semester classes) above LSMSA graduation requirements in the area in which they are pursuing Distinction. Students must contact their advisors who will make an initial determination as to whether or not the student can realistically expect to meet the following GPA requirements for excellence, leading to eligibility for Graduation with Distinction.

3. Students must maintain a 3.6 GPA with no grade below a "B" in the courses specific to the discipline in which they are pursuing Distinction.

4. Students must maintain a 3.4 GPA overall, with no failing grade on their high school transcript.

5. The proposal must include either a research paper, performance/exhibition, portfolio, or comprehensive examination at the conclusion of the project.

6. The proposal must include a public presentation of the student's work with an opportunity for questions from the audience.

7. Proposals may include course work and/or readings that cross discipline or division lines. Indeed, such work is encouraged.

Division/Discipline Responsibilities:

1. Disciplines are encouraged to develop research courses and/or colloquium/seminars that will meet regularly to provide structure/guidance for students pursuing distinction in the respective disciplines.

2. Each division or discipline should establish a committee to examine and approve Distinction proposals.

3. Proposals that involve interdisciplinary work should be addressed by a committee consisting of members of all disciplines connected to the proposal.

4. The Faculty Committee of the Whole will function as an oversight committee to maintain equity in the requirements for Distinction.