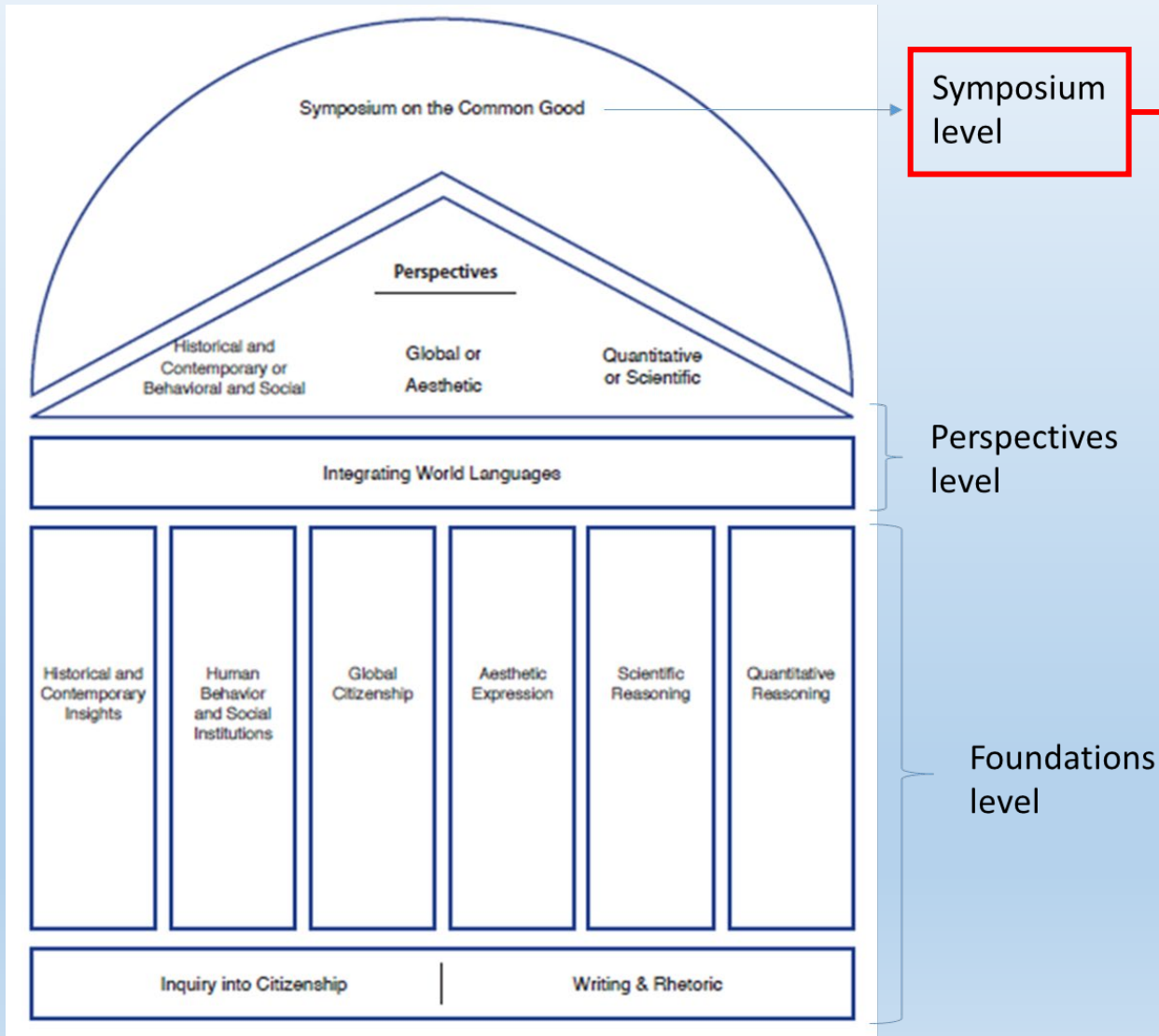


The Civitae Core Curriculum

<http://solomon.longwood.edu/offices--departments/civitae/>



*Students will prepare to serve the common good by applying the knowledge, skills, and perspectives gained throughout their core curriculum, major classes, and extracurricular activities. In relation to a **common theme** and a specific community issue, students will synthesize and analyze information from multiple disciplines and generate a product for public consideration.*



The Symposium on the Common Good

- is the culmination of the Civitae Core Curriculum experience
- engages students in critical deliberation of citizenship and the issues citizens face in their communities
- requires students' investigation, discussion, and advocacy of a position on a civic issue
- creates a common shared experience across sections of the course
- results in a public, campus-wide Symposium Day to move students from discussion to action
- is based on a **broad theme**, rotated every 3-6 years

Excerpts from the Selected Proposal

What do citizens owe their neighbors? Should we privilege the many over the one?

Dos Passos admired both axes of liberty – self-interest and solidarity – writing in *The 42nd Parallel* (1930) that “a man’s got to work for more than himself,” while also noting that citizens should concentrate on “paddling [their] own canoe.”

In *The Theme is Freedom* (1970), Dos Passos provides a useful metaphor to describe the obligations of a citizen in a free society: “The creation of a world view is the work of a generation rather than of an individual, but we each of us, for better or for worse, add our brick to the edifice.”

Excerpts from the Selected Proposal

E pluribus unum is often translated as “one from many.” With sections designed around this theme, students will explore how the common good is achieved – how the *many* becomes *one*.

Potential CTZN 410 Topics

- In an effort to supply energy to the Commonwealth, Dominion Power wants to build a natural gas pipeline through much of Buckingham and Cumberland counties, but meets loud resistance from many local land owners.
- The 2008 recession saw public funds used to prop up banks deemed too-big-to-fail and to bail out car manufacturers, ostensibly privileging the common good over the individual and the marketplace. More recently, current trade wars have resulted in new publicly-funded subsidies to farmers.

When is compromise required? Which skills are useful to build consensus? How has Civitae and the major prepared students to assess a public need, to bring people together, to lead?

Symposium Timeline

August 2019 – Symposium theme announced

September 2019 – Professional Development sessions (“What is Symposium again?”)

Late-September 2019 – Call for proposals for faculty to pilot sections of Symposium

Early-October 2019 – Pilot proposals due

Early-November 2019 – Acceptances sent to pilot faculty

Late-November 2019 – Professional Development for pilot faculty

Spring 2020 – Continued Professional Development for ALL faculty interested in teaching Symposium sections

Fall 2020 – Pilot sections of CTZN 410 offered