**A Liberal Arts Education: The Innovative “Montana Ways” Core
(4/12/18)**

**Montana Ways**

The **Ways of Communicating** area challenges students to learn the principles and practices of effective and ethical communication. Broad themes in this area could include oral andwritten advocacy; digital and visual communication; and linguistic and cultural awareness.

The **Ways of Creating** area challenges students to construct and design in innovative ways, individually and with others. Broad themes in this area could include artistic production; design thinking; collaborative problem-solving; and cross-disciplinary engagement.

The **Ways of Knowing** area challenges students to pose rigorous questions and generate knowledge by drawing on diverse traditions and methods of thinking. Broad themes in this area could include critical inquiry and analysis; ecological literacy and traditional knowledge; quantitative literacy; and historical reasoning.

The **Ways of Living** area challenges students to make reflective choices in their personal decision-making and social interactions. Broad themes in this area could include ethical reasoning and action; intercultural knowledge and competence; personal health; and financial and social well-being.

**A UM Distinction: Communities of Excellence**

**(4/12/18)**

**Artistic Expression & Communication**

We cultivate the production, analysis, and appreciation of diverse forms of human expression essential to developing citizens, leaders, artists, advocates, and creators.

**Business & Technology**

We prepare students to confront economic challenges and opportunities by promoting leadership and innovation, encouraging partnerships, and recognizing workforce demands and unmet needs.

**Environment & Sustainability**

We promote good stewardship by fostering knowledge of and respect for the integrity and beauty of the ecological systems in Montana and around the world.

**Health & Human Development**

We enhance the physical, mental, and emotional health and intelligence of our communities, working with regional and international partners to serve diverse populations.

**Justice, Policy & Public Service**

We develop citizens who serve their communities and participate in democratic governance through advocacy, dialogue, dissent, and ethical decision making.