

**POLICY ON GENERAL EDUCATION
(GE Policy)**

(This policy supersedes Policy Statements 19-08, 12-00, 08-00, 00-00, 98-00, 96-00, 91-00 (Rev.) (1994), 91-00, 87-01, 83-04 supplements #2 (1987) and #1 (1985), 83-04, 81-11 amended (1988), 81-11 amended

2.1 Academic Preparation

All students are assessed for readiness for baccalaureate-

and analytically based research are central to the learning of content. For this reason, all courses in Explorations must have at least one pre- or co-requisite from the Foundation, and all Upper-Division GE Courses must have the entire Foundation curriculum as prerequisite.

In addition, as students' progress through their Explorations, they will be expected to develop additional skills and attributes, including ethical reasoning, analytical reading, creativity, respect for difference, awareness of other cultures, questioning of stereotypes, the values of citizenship, negotiating skills, and other attributes of use in a diverse society. Courses at this level will be evaluated for their attention to one or more of these areas and to Foundation skills, as well as content.

2.4 Upper-Division GE Courses

The final stage of the GE Program encompasses nine upper-division GE units. All students, including transfer students who have completed a certified lower-division GE Program, must complete nine units of Upper-Division GE Courses in Areas B, C, and D (one three-unit course in each Area). Upper-division GE Courses should be restricted to students who have completed 60 semester units or more. This protects the integrity of the increasing complexity of degree requirements, and it conserves upper-division courses for the graduating seniors whose degree completion could be slowed without access to required upper-division GE Courses. At the same time, the CSU is committed to providing the courses students need, when they need them. In exceptional cases only, a student may enroll in upper division GE courses after they have attained sophomore standing, completed the entire Foundation (a(m)-16.5 (.))J0 Tc 0 Tw 15.2

Foundation stage, it is expected that they will be organized either as small groups or as large lectures with small group discussions, activities, or workshops. Although no explicit class size limit will be set for other GE Courses targeted to first-year students, the GEGC will consider whether the proposed modes of instruction are consistent with the learning objectives of the course and the level.

Courses beyond the Foundation stage must continue to enhance the Foundation skills, as well as build additional skills as indicated in the descriptions of the specific levels. Wherever appropriate, instruction approved to fulfill the GE requirements should recognize the contributions to knowledge and civilization that have been made by members of various cultural groups and genders. Wherever appropriate, the content of courses should include examples of the relationship of human and cultural diversity to the subject matter.

In order to be approved for a specific GE Area or Subarea, the course must include:

- x for all GE courses: textbooks/readings and bibliography items that clearly address the Area or Subarea being requested;
- x for all GE courses: Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) dedicated to the Area or Subarea being requested and taken or adapted from the implementation document defining GE SLOs approved by the Academic Senate and maintained by the GEGC;
- x for all GE courses: scheduled class topics that directly address the GESLOs dedicated to the Area or Subarea being requested;
- x for Foundation courses: at least two thirds of the SLOs, assignments, assessments, evaluative criteria, and final course grade dedicated to the Area or Subarea being requested; and
- x for Exploration courses: at least one third of the SLOs, assignments, assessments, evaluative criteria, and final course grade dedicated to the Area or Subarea being requested.

Courses proposed for GE certification must use the forms provided and formal requirements set by GEGC.

3.2 Lower-Division General Education Courses

3.2.1 Area A, English Language Communication and Critical Thinking

3.2.1.1 Distribution

Students must complete nine units in Area A, English Language Communication and Critical Thinking (all courses at the lower-division level), as follows:

- x Subarea A1: Three units chosen from approved courses in Oral Communication.
- x Subarea A2: Three units chosen from approved courses in Written Communication.
- x Subarea A3: Three units chosen from approved courses in Critical Thinking.

3.2.1.2 Criteria

3.2.1.2.1 Criteria for Subareas A1, Oral Communication, and A2, Written Communication

Courses in fulfillment of Subareas A1 and A2 will develop students' knowledge and understanding of the form, content, context, and effectiveness of communication. Students will examine communication from the rhetorical perspective by practicing accuracy, reasoning, organization, and persuasion. Students will enhance their information literacy skills by developing their abilities to find, critically evaluate, organize, and report information, and by reading, writing, and listening effectively. Instruction will provide an understanding of the

A laboratory course of not more than one semester unit value, associated with Subarea B1 or Subarea B2, is required if neither the B1 nor B2 course includes a l

Courses in fulfillment of Subarea D1 will, at a minimum, include the following:

- x an analysis of the significant events occurring within the entire territory of the US, including the relationships among regions within that area and relationships with external regions and powers, as appropriate;
- x a chronological span of not less than one hundred (100) years;
- x

the state and the nature of the processes of state and local government under that constitution;

- x the nature of federalism, including the relationship of federal to state and local practices, the resolution of jurisdictional conflicts, and the political processes involved.

undergoes substantial change requires appropriate reevaluation to remain on the list of approved courses. A request for inclusion in an additional GE Area or Subarea for a course already on the list of approved courses approved for GE requirements requires a review and evaluation of the course for all prior as well as requested GE Areas or Subareas by the GEGC.

Except in the case of courses that have not yet been offered, departments may be asked to provide anonymous examples of student work as evidence that course expectations are appropriate.

- 8.1.3 The Colleges must submit materials for each of their courses on the General Education Master Course List for periodic review and evaluation. Failure to submit a course for by the end of the semester following the semester during which the college received a request will be interpreted as a desire to delete the course from the list of approved courses and will be so honored.

9.0 **COURSE LIST APPEAL PROCEDURES**

- 9.1 A department (via the college) may appeal a decision regarding placement of one of their own courses on the General Education Master Course List. The department (via the college) does this by requesting reconsideration and submitting further information about the course to show why the original decision was incorrect.
- 9.2 Although the appeal must be written and include all necessary information and arguments, representatives of the department and college may attend the meeting at which the GEGC reviews the appeal to ask and answer questions.
- 9.3 If a department discovers that one of its courses is approved for GE under a specific GE Area and the course is not appropriate, that department must request that the course be deleted from the General Education Master Course List.
- 9.4 If after the appeal referred to above a college still disagrees with the judgment of the GEGC, it may appeal to the Curriculum and Educational Policies Council. If this is done, the GEGC will