

General Education Standing Senate Committee Report

Friday, September 6th 2013

Chair: Dr. Jeff Pietruszynski

Scheduled Meetings:

Since the last Senate Report, the GE committee has met several times both in-person and via e-mail. The Committee meets regularly on the second Friday of the month at 11:00 a.m. all faculty are invited to join the discussion.

Academic Year 2011 – 2012

- **Curriculum Changes (Attachment)**
- **General Education Committee**
 - The GE Committee decided that all curriculum proposals will follow the same timeline for submission as the EPC. This means that any proposal for the GE Committee must be given to the Coordinator for GE no later than one week prior to the scheduled meeting. The timeline will allow for committee members to fully review a proposal during the week instead of having to make a snap decision at the meeting.
 - Representatives from the proposing department / college should attend the GE meeting in which the proposal is being discussed. This allows for direct questioning of the submitters as opposed to ideas being inferred by a written copy only.
 - ALL proposals will be returned to the submitters to be passed on to the next step (or brought back for review). It is the proposers job to be sure that all signatures are in place and the information gets passed to EPC.
- **General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force**
 - **Call for Proposals (Attachment)**

**General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force
Call for Curriculum Framework Proposals**

Deadline for Proposals: September 12th, 2013

Send all proposals by hardcopy OR electronically to:

Dr. Jeff Pietruszynski
Coordinator of General Education
233 Hill Hall
jpietrus@wvstateu.edu

I. Introduction to the proposal

WVSU's General Education curriculum provides the common core of knowledge, skill, and academic experience for all of State's undergraduates. The University is a community of students, staff, and faculty committed to academic growth, service, and preservation of the racial and cultural diversity of the institution. Its mission is to meet higher education and economic development needs of the state and region through innovative teaching and applied research. In order to accomplish this mission, General Education offers students broad exposure to the arts and sciences, secures the foundation for subsequent specialized study, and prepares students to take an active role in a democratic society.

In the Fall 2012, the General Education Committee, Faculty Senate, and the Provost / VPAA established a task force to coordinate possibilities for development of a new general education program for the university that is focused on meeting the needs of WVSU students and the standards of accrediting, certification and licensure bodies; and is amenable to ongoing assessment and improvement.

II. Call for Curriculum Framework Proposals

Building on the above initiative, the task force seeks from members of the WVSU community proposals that create a General Education framework that reinforces the outcomes listed below. Framework should describe both what courses should be taken and when said courses are taken. Although current national averages place the number of GE hours between 38-42, designers should not feel limited by a strict hour limit. Proposals can come from individuals or groups and the task force encourages cross-disciplinary and cross-college proposals. Successful proposals should incorporate some existing GE courses, but designs are not limited to the current list. New courses can be invented, and no course currently existing should be considered "off limits" to revision / removal. Innovation and creativity are encouraged as long as the design successfully integrates the University Mission and the revised GE Objectives (Below). Although complete proposals are recommended, well-thought out, but not complete, plans can be submitted as well.

III. General Education Objectives

The General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force has endorsed the AAC&U L.E.A.P. outcomes to be used for GE Revision. Those outcomes are listed below and can be found, in more detail at the AAC&U's website (<http://www.aacu.org/leap/>).

WVSU's General Education curriculum prepares students for twenty-first-century challenges and full participation in a democratic society by gaining

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World

- Through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts

Focused by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring

2. Intellectual and Practical Skills, including

- Inquiry and analysis
- Critical and creative thinking
- Written and oral communication
- Quantitative literacy
- Information literacy
- Teamwork and problem solving

Practiced extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

3. Personal and Social Responsibility, including

- Civic knowledge and engagement—local and global
- Intercultural knowledge and competence
- Ethical reasoning and action
- Foundations and skills for lifelong learning

Anchored through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges

4. Integrative and Applied Learning, including

- Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies

Demonstrated through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems

IV. Examples of General Education Framework

Examples listed here are for reference purposes, not as an endorsement of revision ideas.

WVSU:

<http://www.wvstateu.edu/WVStateU/media/icons/Academics/WVSU-Catalog-2012-13.pdf>

(Pages 15-18)

California State University, Long beach:

http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/catalog/curr_handbook/section_6/framework.html

Indiana University East:

<http://www.iue.edu/catalog/documents/GenEdFramework.pdf>

North Carolina Central University

<http://www.nccu.edu/academics/gec/requirements.cfm>

Ohio University:

<http://www.ohio.edu/gened/program.cfm>

Temple University:

http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/academic_programs/general_education/

Western Kentucky University:

http://www.wku.edu/registrar/documents/gen_ed_req.pdf

General Education Curriculum

Items listed in ***Bold Italics*** are courses that had been approved during the Fall2012 – Spring 2013 academic year

FRESHMAN EXPERIENCE

1 credit hour

This course is designed to assist the first-year student in developing skills and abilities necessary for academic success. Required of all first-year students MUST BE TAKEN within their first two semesters of college work (as appropriate to their major).

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| ARH 101 | Freshman Experience |
| BSS 101 | Freshman Experience |
| NSM 101 | Freshman Experience |
| CPS 101 | Freshman Experience |
| UNIV 101 | Freshman Experience |

INTERDISCIPLINARY MATRIX

6 credit hours

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

G ED 100 *Origins*

An interdisciplinary, team-taught course which is the “core of the core” of common learning experiences in the General Education curriculum. The course design is a matrix of themes exploring the questions of origins in the broadest possible way: the origin of the universe, life, humanity, human thought, society, and technology. Each discipline will be investigated across disciplines and through various modes of knowledge: scientific, symbolic, aesthetic, and philosophical. **PREREQUISITE:** ENGL 101 placement. (G ED 100 is waived for transfer students who have completed 30 or more credits when they enter WVSU).

OR

EDUC 200 Foundations of Education

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

G ED 200 *Human Diversity (Race, Gender and Human Identity)*

This course provides the basis for the understanding and transcendence of problems related to race and gender. The origins, nature, and implications of prejudice and discrimination are analyzed from an interdisciplinary perspective. **PREREQUISITES:** ENGL 101 and G ED 100 (except for those transfer students for whom G ED 100 is waived).

BA301 Organization and Management

CJ 313 Race and Gender Issues

EDUC 227 Exceptionalities and Human Diversity

Or

SWK 202 Cultural Aspects

Note: CJ 313, EDUC 227, and SWK 202 are open to all students, but CJ 313 and EDUC 227 have departmental prerequisites.

ALTERNATIVE HONORS OPTION:

Students accepted into the Honors program may take the following course to meet the Interdisciplinary Matrix requirements. This course is intended for Honors students, but is open to all students with permission from their advisor. Note: Although the course is a substitute for BOTH interdisciplinary course requirements, students must still meet the total number of General Education hours required for graduation.

GE160H Foundations of Inquiry

An interdisciplinary, team-taught course within the "core of the core" of common learning experiences in the General Education curriculum. The course focuses on the large "human questions" by identifying how they relate to perception, reason, and structure. Focusing on multi-cultural issues of humanity (including race and gender), human thought, society, and technology, investigation will take place across disciplines and through various modes of knowledge. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: English 101 placement

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

6 credit hours

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

ANY 101-102 FOREIGN LANGUAGE SEQUENCE (MAY NOT USE TWO DIFFERENT 101-LEVEL COURSES)

| | |
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| COMM 446 | International Cinema |
| EDUC321 | Teaching Writing in the Elementary School |
| ENGL 350 | World Literature: Classical Era |
| ENGL 351 | World Literature: Modern Era |
| ENGL 440 | Interpreting the Holocaust |
| FREN 205 | A View of Changing Culture |
| FREN 443 | West African Culture |
| INTS 250 | Diversity in Africana Studies |
| PHIL 308 | World Religions |
| POSC 210 | International Relations |
| POSC 415 | Arab Middle East |
| SPAN 205 | Spain and its Culture |
| SOC 305 | Birth, Death, and Migration |

HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION

3 credit hours

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| HIST 201 | World History or |
| HIST 202 | World History |

ENGLISH

6 credit hours

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| ENGL 101 | English Composition I |
| ENGL 102 | English Composition II or ENGL 112 Technical Writing (depending on major) |

MATHEMATICS

3 credit hours

Every student is required to complete at least one college-level Mathematics course. Specific Mathematics requirements vary among major programs—consult major department to determine which course is required.

SPEECH

3 credit hours

COMM 100 Speech Communication

LIFETIME HEALTH AND FITNESS

2 credit hours

HHPLS 122 Fitness for Living or
HHPLS 157 Healthy Living
(2 credit hours each)
HHPLS 242 Team Sports II

LITERATURE

3 credit hours

ENGL 150 Introduction to Literature

FINE ARTS

6 credit hours

TWO COURSES MUST BE TAKEN FROM TWO DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES (ART, COMMUNICATIONS, MUSIC)

ART 100 Art Appreciation or
ART 101 Studio I - Introduction to Art

COMM 140 Film Appreciation or
COMM 170 The Art of the Theatre

MUS 104 American Music: A Panorama or
MUS 107 Appreciation of Music

NATURAL SCIENCE

6–8 credit hours

BIOL 101 Principles of Biology (4 credit hours)
BIOL 108 Environmental Biology (3 credit hours)
BIOL 110 Economic Biology (4 credit hours)
BIOL 120 Fundamentals of Biology (4 credit hours)
CHEM 100 Consumer Chemistry (3 credit hours)
PHYS 101 Physical Science Survey I (3 credit hours)
PHYS 102 Physical Science Survey II (3 credit hours)

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| PHYS 103 | Elements of Physical Science | (3 credit hours) |
| PHYS 106 | Introduction to Physical Geology | (4 credit hours) |
| PHYS 110 | Weather & Climate | (3 credit hours) |
| PHYS 120 | Astronomy (3 credit hours—students may add the optional 1 credit hour laboratory PHYS 121) | |
| PHYS 170 | Physics through Photography | (3 credit hours) |

AMERICAN TRADITIONS

3 credit hours

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| BA 210 | Business Law |
| HIST 207 | American History to 1865 |
| HIST 208 | American History from 1865 |
| POSC 101 | American National Government |

SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND BEHAVIOR

3 credit hours

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|-----------------|---|
| BA 312 | Personal Finance |
| ECON 101 | American Economy |
| EDUC 201 | Human Growth and Development |
| EDUC 319 | Content Area Literacy |
| POSC 100 | Introduction to Government and Politics |
| PSYC 151 | General Psychology |
| SOC 101 | Introduction to Sociology |