HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on Curricular Guidelines for General Education Area E

04-17/18-ICC – October 31, 2017 – Second Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that the guidelines outlined below shall govern the work of the Integrated Curriculum Committee in evaluating and approving courses to satisfy General Education Area E requirements.

RESOLVED: That the 2008 *Resolution on Accepting a course of Study as Fulfilling Area E and/or Upper Division GE* (#08-08/09-EP) be revised by removing any reference to Area E.

RESOLVED: That the academic colleges are charged with oversight of the transition from upper-division courses to lower-division courses. The colleges implement processes that consider curricular diversity, student success, and resources to build a cohesive and collective response to best meet the needs of HSU students.

RESOLVED: That for the 2017-18 academic year, the curriculum deadline for the package of proposals from the colleges is Friday, December 15, at 5 PM. In subsequent academic years, the curriculum deadlines will be those which apply for all curricular changes.

Rationale:

I. *Executive Order 1100, revised August 23, 2017, addresses the California State University (CSU) General Education Breadth requirements. The executive order implies the following about Area E of the General Education program:*

   ● *All students who begin college in the fall of 2018 or later must be able to complete their Area E requirement through lower-division units.*
   ● *The final offerings of upper-division Area E units will be in the fall semester of 2020.*
   ● *Area E units may be used to support student success.*
   ● *Double-counting of major program requirements with Area E requirements is encouraged.*
   See Attachment A, *Executive Order 1100*, for additional detail.

II. *The transition from upper-division Area E courses to lower-division Area E courses comes with potential opportunities, threats, costs, and benefits for academic units. The intent of this resolution is to ensure that, as much as possible, these potentials are shared equitably among the academic units on campus. The assigned role of the academic colleges, to strategically organize the proposals from their departments and programs, is intended to maintain balance across academic units.*

**Guidelines for proposing curriculum for students to meet
General Educations Area E Learning outcomes**

Student Learning Outcome *(Still under construction)* Students taking courses in fulfillment of Area E will:

- Evaluate and explain how physiological, psychological, and sociocultural factors influence the continuum of personal and professional development.

Course Characteristics

Executive Order 1100 indicates that Area E is satisfied through 3-semester-unit, lower-division courses that "equip learners for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological beings. … Content may include topics such as student success strategies, human behavior, sexuality, nutrition, physical and mental health, stress management, information literacy, social relationships and relationships with the environment, as well as implications of death and dying or avenues for lifelong learning. Courses in this area shall focus on the development of skills, abilities and dispositions."

Area E courses may be thematic and designed to focus on groups of students with particular characteristics, such as undeclared majors or students with an interest in a specific major or group of related majors (as in CHEM/GEOL/PHYX 100).

At Humboldt State University, the design of an area E course must support retention and other aspects of student success. Accordingly, all Area E courses shall include three or more of the following learning opportunities:

Inclusion: How are culturally-diverse perspectives represented in the learning experience? In what ways do students grapple with what it means to be part of a fully inclusive learning community? How are the cultural competencies of students, faculty, and staff enhanced through the learning community?

Resilience: How will students advance their academic, physical and emotional resilience? What opportunities will students have to evaluate the meaning of scholastic and humanistic success, and to culture a professional mindset and skillset?

Learning: How do we learn as individuals and as a community? What are productive practices and ways of thinking that support creativity and scholarship in this and other disciplinary areas? What curricular and co-curricular programs on campus support learning?

Integration: How are students encouraged to reflect on ways of knowing and understanding, and integrate what they are learning in other courses within their first year?

Context: In what ways will students engage with the cultural and/or natural context of Humboldt County and the surrounding region, and how will they make connections to the broader state/nation/world?

Career: How can students begin to develop professional skills and explore possible career paths, and develop an understanding about how learning at the undergraduate level can translate to a career?

The questions listed under each of the six learning opportunities listed above are for consideration. The questions are not intended to imply a particular content or methodology for the learning opportunity.

Proposing Area E lower-division courses

Courses proposed to satisfy Area E are proposed, evaluated, and approved through the normal university curriculum process. A complete proposal must include the following components.

- A completed new course proposal form available from the Integrated Curriculum Committee.
- A complete syllabus that complies with the HSU Syllabi Policy.
- A completed GEAR SLO assignment inventory form (found on the ICC website).
- A justification for how the course will support retention and student success, including how the course will provide students with the relevant learning opportunities listed under "course characteristics."