

Area E: Description and Structure

A. Technical Characteristics

1. Area E requirement shall be for a total of 3 semester units at the Upper Division.
2. Courses approved to meet this requirement shall be for 3 semester units and offered at the Upper Division.
3. Normally, students are expected to have completed most of their General Education program prior to enrollment in Area E courses.
4. Courses approved to meet Area E requirements shall be assigned the number 400 (e.g. Philosophy 400).

B. Other Considerations

1. All courses proposed for Area E shall be subject to review and evaluation as set forth in Section II below.
2. The number of courses to be approved shall be limited according to need in terms of number of students to be served and availability of resources as well as qualitative considerations.
3. Units sponsoring courses which are approved are expected to offer the course at least once a year.
4. Approved courses shall be subject to continuing evaluation and periodic review in accordance with provisions outlined in Section III below.

C. Objectives and Criteria for Area E courses derived from CEO 338 as embodied in the HSU General Education Program

1. The criteria for reviewing and evaluating courses proposed to meet Area E requirements shall be based primarily on the area definition which follows. The objective of this area is to equip students for

lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological entities. This area builds upon the base of scholarship and disciplined inquiry developed in the broad General Education areas of humanities, science, and social science. It can be contrasted with them in terms of focus and purpose. While other General Education offerings focus on specific disciplines as particular ways of understanding human experience, this area expands the learner's understanding of how various areas of disciplined investigation lead to the discovery of oneself as an integrated person, and further, how contributions from such disciplines can be effectively utilized to enhance purposeful, continued, self-directed personal growth and integration. It may also be synergic in bringing together several disciplines in order to come to a more complete understanding of oneself.

2. The objectives and principles of HSU General Education shall also apply as appropriate. For convenience, they are summarized below in the form of desired characteristics.

- Assists students to think clearly and logically.
- Imparts appreciable knowledge appropriate for Area E
- Assists students to see relationship with other areas of General Education.
- Provides for critical engagement of the minds of students in the concepts, methods and perspectives employed in the course.
- Enables students to perceive the usefulness of the concepts, methods and perspectives after college.

Procedures for Development and Approval of Area E Courses

A. Process

1. Courses shall be reviewed by curriculum committees of the appropriate department(s) and college(s) prior to review by senior committees.
2. Individual courses proposed to meet Area E requirements must be reviewed and recommended to the Provost by the University Curriculum Committee which has direct oversight responsibility for Area E.

B. Information Requirements

1. In general, the information necessary for review of the proposed courses will describe the course and explain how the course will meet the objectives of Area E and the General Education program. To facilitate the review process, an information form has been provided with explanatory comments.
2. Specific Information Required
 - A brief description of the disciplinary perspective and topical focus of the proposed course.
 - An outline of the conceptual framework which will be employed in the course to address the question of human integration including 1) the concept by which the idea of the whole, or dynamic, of self is articulated, 2) the concepts by which are identified the various aspects of the self which are subject to integration, and 3) the vocabulary expressing the process by which integration might be enhanced.
 - An outline of the concepts organizing and embodying the appreciable knowledge drawn

from the discipline(s) on which the course is based or from the subject-matter which provides the topical focus of the course.

- A list and explanation of what the students will be asked to do to critically engage their minds in the concepts, methods and perspectives to be employed in the course.
 - An explanation as to how the concepts, methods and perspectives will be applicable by students to circumstances which they may encounter after college.
3. A course outline or syllabus which presents the topics, assignments and essential parts of the course in the order in which they are to be taken up. A copy of the syllabus to be distributed to students at the beginning of the term may meet this requirement. It is understood that the order in which topics are taken up, and texts and assignments may change from term to term.
 4. A proposed course evaluation form designed to elicit student perceptions of the effectiveness of the course in meeting the objectives of Area E of the General Education program

Evaluation of Area E Courses and Area E Program Review

A. Processes, methods and information requirements for evaluation of Area E courses.

1. The principle adopted for the General Education program at HSU is that the program aim for excellence and not mere acceptability. Evaluation shall include differentiation as to the level of achievement of Area E objectives.
2. Student evaluation shall be undertaken for every offering of the course for at least two years after

implementation (1986-87, 1987-88). The instrument used for purposes of collecting student evaluations may be that identified under II.B.4. above with modifications as appropriate. Evaluations shall be delivered to the Dean of the college for collection and use by College and University Curriculum Committees in oversight review.

3. Peer evaluation shall consist of collegial visits by departmental faculty and members of the College Curriculum Committee and University Curriculum Committee at their discretion. Written reports of observations and evaluations are encouraged and copies should be sent to the Dean of the college for collection.
4. Courses for which student and peer evaluations are not conducted in keeping with these provisions shall be deleted from the program.
5. Oversight review of the course shall be conducted under the auspices of the University Curriculum Committee which has direct oversight responsibility for Area E. Evaluation shall be undertaken during the first year of initiation (1986-87) and at least every five years thereafter and shall result in a written report and recommendations to the Provost.
 - Normally the review will be carried out by a subcommittee of the University Curriculum Committee charged with that function.
 - Information considered by the subcommittee shall include:
 - Student evaluation data collected by the Dean of the college.
 - Peer evaluations collected by the Dean of the college.
 - Reports of collegial visits undertaken by members of the University Curriculum Committee pursuant to this review.

- Copies of students papers, examinations and the like which demonstrate the performances and achievements relevant to Area E objectives.
- Interviews with instructors.
- The evaluation should determine and the report should reflect the degree (or the comparative degree) to which the courses are meeting the objective of Area E and of the General Education program.

B. Program Review for Area E

1. Program review for Area E shall normally be undertaken by the University Curriculum Committee no later than Fall semester of the third year of implementation (1988-89).
2. Program review report shall be made to the Provost and shall include the following features:
 - Observation based on evaluation of individual courses, reported as per III.A.2 and III.A.3 above.
 - Observation of patterns of choices made by student.
 - Interpretation of the effectiveness of individual course.
 - Observation of data reflecting overall satisfaction of graduates with the Area E course which they may have taken.

Learning Outcomes

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Upon completing this requirement students will:

1. Students will explain and demonstrate an appreciation for the nature of being human as an integration of physiological, psychological, and sociocultural influences.
2. Students will demonstrate preparation for the life-long and complex process of self understanding, self-analysis, and self-development as an individual among others.