



Date: August 22, 2024

To: Academic Senate

From: Andre Avramchuk, Chair

Copies: R. Roquemore

Subject: **Proposed Modifications to “Definition, Philosophy, Student Learning Outcomes and Criteria for General Education Requirements” policy – Chapter IV of the Faculty Handbook**

During the 2023-24 AY, the Academic Senate and its committees have considered modifying this policy per the new regulatory and CSU requirements. At the last Senate meeting of the year—for the third reading of the policy proposal—the written amendments solicited and obtained by the Executive Committee were not introduced to the Floor due to the time pressure dictated by the operational imperative to pass the policy before adjourning. That prevented a full consideration of the amendments duly submitted by Senators Krug and Flint. The amendments were in large part related to the Introduction to Higher Education (IHE) life-long learning requirement that is critical to Cal State LA students but no longer a part of Block E removed by the Chancellor Office’s policy while addressing regulatory changes. The Executive Committee met in summer, discussed the pros and cons of various options, consulted with the Senators and Academic Affairs administrators and, on August 22, 2024, decided to offer the amendments for Senate debate and disposition, primarily to expedite the reintroduction of the IHE as a graduation requirement in policy.

The proposed modifications to the “Definition, Philosophy, Student Learning Outcomes and Criteria for General Education Requirements” policy include two new paragraphs about IHE (Flint amendments) and two places where the word “minimum” is added for clarity and curricular flexibility in implementing the new lab requirement (Krug amendment).

Lines 112-116: Add the IHE language as one of the principles.
Line 133: Add the word “minimum.”
Line 373: Add the word “minimum.”
Lines 542-549: Add the IHE language with the desired outcomes as a graduation requirement.

1 **Definition, Philosophy, Student Learning Outcomes** 2 **and Criteria for General Education Requirements**

3 (Senate: 11/24/81, 2/16/82, 12/3/85, 6/1/93, 6/4/96, 10/9/96, 11/6/96 [EC], 2/29/97[EA], 4/21/98,
4 6/2/98, 11/17/98, 11/7/00, 5/8/12, 3/11/14, 3/16/21, 5/6/24; President: 12/9/81, 3/5/82, 3/10/86,
5 6/11/93, 8/27/96, 10/14/96, 3/28/97, 4/22/97, 6/9/98, 9/21/98, 2/1/99; 1/30/01, 8/31/12, 3/19/14,
6 3/19/21, 7/3/24; Editorial Amendment: 8/01, 1/21/15, 2/22/18 [EA])

7 **GOVERNING DOCUMENTS: TITLE V OF THE HIGHER** 8 **EDUCATION CODE AND CSU GENERAL EDUCATION** 9 **REQUIREMENTS**

10 **I. DEFINITION AND PHILOSOPHY OF GENERAL EDUCATION**

11 California State University, Los Angeles is a comprehensive institution that offers educational
12 opportunities to its students who are as varied as the city's population. Cal State LA has a special
13 mission to provide an educational experience that recognizes and takes full advantage of this
14 diversity, while emphasizing the knowledge, experiences, and ethical concerns common to all
15 people.

16 The General Education program enriches the lives of students as they acquire knowledge, learn
17 to think critically, and use methodologies of the various disciplines. Students also learn to
18 prepare for participation in a democracy, to appreciate a sense of shared cultural heritage, and to
19 understand the environment. Students experience self-discovery and personal growth and
20 recognize them as lifelong processes.

21 **Mission Statement**

22 General Education (GE) at Cal State LA prepares students for advanced study in their chosen
23 academic disciplines and provides a broad foundation for a lifetime of intellectual discovery and
24 personal and professional development. The mission of General Education at Cal State LA is

- 25 ▪ To prepare students with the intellectual skills and habits necessary for success;
26
- 27 ▪ To provide students with a breadth of knowledge through focused study in a range
28 of disciplines and disciplinary-specific ways of knowing;
29
- 30 ▪ To encourage students to bridge disciplines and disciplinary-specific ways of
31 knowing;
32
- 33 ▪ To develop students who are informed citizens and reflective and ethical thinkers
34 actively committed to improving their local and global communities; and
35

- 36 ▪ To encourage students to become self-motivated and self-directed lifelong
37 learners and leaders in their communities.

38 **General Education Learning Outcomes**

39 The General Education program at Cal State LA is defined by a set of learning outcomes that are
40 aligned with the Cal State LA Institutional Learning outcomes and the Liberal Education and
41 America's Promise (LEAP) outcomes promoted by the American Association of Colleges and
42 Universities (AAC&U) and adopted by the California State University System.

43 **Knowledge: Mastery of Content and Processes of Inquiry**

44 Students who successfully complete GE will be able to:

- 45 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of the physical and natural world.
46
- 47 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of contemporary events within political and historical
48 contexts.
49
- 50 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of the diversity of cultures and communities in the
51 United States and abroad.
52
- 53 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of constructions, institutions, and structures of power
54 and privilege in societies as well as strategies used to challenge existing
55 inequalities.
56
- 57 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of a range of disciplinary ways of knowing.
58
- 59 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of creative expression in the context of the relevant
60 art form and intellectual history.
61
- 62 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic class.

63 **Proficiency: Intellectual Skills**

64 Students who successfully complete GE will be able to:

- 65 ▪ Demonstrate civic literacy that would enable them to participate effectively in a
66 democratic society.
67

68 ▪ Use inquiry processes, including quantitative and qualitative reasoning and
69 critical and creative thinking, to engage with contemporary and enduring
70 questions.
71

72 ▪ Find, use, evaluate and process information in order to engage in complex
73 decision-making and problem solving.
74

75 ▪ Read, speak and write effectively.
76

77 ▪ Demonstrate an ability to work collaboratively.

78 **Engagement: Local and Global Communities**

79 Students who successfully complete GE will be able to:

80 ▪ Demonstrate the capacity to engage meaningfully with diverse communities.
81

82 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of how individuals affect society and the
83 environment.
84

85 ▪ Demonstrate the capacity to make well informed, ethical, and socially responsible
86 decisions.
87

88 ▪ Demonstrate understanding of the interconnectedness of local and global
89 communities.
90

91 ▪ Demonstrate literacy in the perspectives and needs of individuals and groups.

92 **Transformation: Integrative Learning**

93 Students who successfully complete GE will be able to:

94 ▪ Integrate academic learning with life through project-based experiences.
95

96 ▪ Integrate their knowledge, skills and experience to address complex, enduring,
97 and emerging issues.

98 **II. GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FRAMEWORK**

99 **Governing Principles**

- 100 1. The Cal State LA GE program shall have a distinctive theme that features
101 engagement with the surrounding multicultural communities and the greater Los
102 Angeles area. Civic Learning and/or Community Engagement shall be a 3-unit
103 requirement for all first-year students and transfer students at Cal State LA.
104
- 105 2. In order to keep the total number of units as near as possible to the 43 units
106 required by E.O. 1101 Revised and Title V, the proposed GE program shall
107 require no more than 43 units, with 34 at the lower division level and 9 at the
108 upper division level. Subsequent to a change of major, students shall not be
109 required to take different or additional GE courses solely to address CSU GE
110 requirements already satisfied by coursework taken in the original major.
- 111 3. IN THEIR FIRST SEMESTER, ENTERING FRESHMEN STUDENTS SHALL
112 COMPLETE A 2-UNIT INTRODUCTION TO HIGHER EDUCATION
113 COURSE THAT INFORMS THEM ABOUT CAL STATE LA AND
114 EXPLORES A SELECTED TOPIC OF INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY FROM A
115 VARIETY OF DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES.
- 116 4. All classes in the GE program shall require students to find, evaluate, use, and
117 process information to facilitate learning and critical inquiry and to engage in
118 complex decision making and problem solving.
119
- 120 5. All students shall complete one course that meets the outcomes for Critical
121 Thinking (1B) and the outcomes for a second composition course. Area 1A is
122 prerequisite to this course.
123
- 124 6. Two American Institutions requirements (6 units) are mandated under EO 1061.
125 A U.S. History course (3 units) is a campus graduation requirement, and a U.S.
126 Constitution course (3 units) meets both the American Institutions requirements
127 and the outcomes for Area 4, Social and Behavioral Sciences, in the CSU General
128 Education Requirements.
129
- 130 7. All students shall complete one course each from Area 5A (Physical Science) and
131 Area 5B (Biological Science). One of these courses must be associated with a
132 MINIMUM one-unit laboratory (Area 5C).
133
- 134 8. Students shall complete three GE courses at the upper division level, one each in
135 Areas 2/5, 3, and 4, with a Civic or Community Engagement component
136 (designated as CL in the catalog) in at least one of these courses. The nine
137 semester units of upper division GE shall be taken within the CSU. If all three
138 upper division GE courses have been satisfied at another CSU campus, the Civic

139 or Community Engagement component shall be waived.
140

141 9. Diversity shall be incorporated to the extent possible and appropriate into GE
142 courses, and all students shall complete at least two GE courses that address
143 diversity explicitly and substantially (designated as D in the catalog). The
144 intersectionality of gender, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic class shall be
145 substantially incorporated to the extent possible into GE courses. If all lower and
146 upper division GE area and unit requirements have been satisfied prior to
147 admission to Cal State LA, the Diversity component (including Race and
148 Ethnicity) shall be waived.
149

150 10. In addition to courses in 1A and 1B, all students shall complete at least two
151 writing intensive courses (designated as WI in the catalog) with at least one in the
152 major that satisfies the graduation writing requirement. If all lower and upper
153 division GE area and unit requirements have been satisfied prior to admission to
154 Cal State LA, the second WI requirement shall be waived. However, all students
155 shall complete the WI course in the major to satisfy the graduation writing
156 requirement.
157

158 All UD GE courses shall continue to require a substantial writing assignment.
159

160 11. Major courses and campus-wide required courses that are approved for GE credit
161 shall also fulfill (double count for) the GE requirement.
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163 12. Faculty shall have the opportunity to develop GE pathways that reflect a specific
164 disciplinary, interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary emphasis. The GE pathways
165 shall include lower and upper division GE courses and could lead to minors if so
166 approved. Each GE pathway shall include an UD course that meets the learning
167 outcome of transformation and integrates the use of one or more high impact
168 practices (as defined in *High-Impact Educational Practices: What They Are, Who
169 Has Access to Them, and Why They Matter*, by George D. Kuh [AAC&U,
170 2008]) <http://www.aacu.org/leap/hip/cfm>. These GE pathways and minors, while
171 encouraged, shall be optional for the completion of GE at Cal State L.A.
172

173 13. All courses, including General Education replacement courses, approved for
174 General Education are mandated to require the practice of writing in English,
175 including, where appropriate, library assignments. Evaluation of such writing
176 shall be included in all courses.
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14. General Education requirements will provide ample opportunity for students to be active learners during their educational experience.

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15. The General Education requirements shall be structured so that introductory courses are taken prior to participation in integrative experiences. Students are expected to have completed the General Education requirements in Areas 1A, 1B, 1C, 2, and at least one course each from Areas 3, 4, and 5 before enrolling in any upper division General Education course. No course with a non-General Education prerequisite may be used as a General Education course.

GE Program (43 units)	Required Courses	Units	GELOs	EO 1101 Revised Blocks
Lower Division (34 units)	English Composition	3	P	1A*
	Critical Thinking	3	P	1B*
	Oral Communication	3	P	1C*
	Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning	3	K, P	2*
	Arts	3	K, P, E	3A
	Humanities	3	K, P, E	3B
	Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	K, P, E	4
	American Institutions – US Constitution and State/Local Govt.	3	K, P	4
	Physical Science	3	K, P	5A

	Biological Science	3	K, P	5B
	Laboratory	1	K, P	5C
	Ethnic Studies	3	TBD	6
Upper Division (9 units) Three of the 9 units (one course) must include a civic and community- based learning component.	Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning/Physical & Biological Sciences	3	K, P, E, T	2/5
	Arts & Humanities	3	K, P, E, T	3
	Social & Behavioral Sciences	3	K, P, E, T	4

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188 * A grade of C- or better is needed to satisfy the requirement for these courses.

189 *GELO Abbreviations:*

190 K = Knowledge: content and processes of inquiry; P = Proficiency: Intellectual Skills; E =
191 Engagement: Local and Global Communities; T = Transformation: Integrative and Lifelong
192 Learning

193 **III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR GENERAL**
194 **EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

195 **Area 1. Communication and Critical Thinking (9 units)**

196 Area 1 addresses communication in the English language, both oral and written, and critical
197 thinking, to include consideration of common fallacies in reasoning.

198 This block must be completed within the first 30 semester units counted toward the baccalaureate
199 degree. In addition, Area 1A must be completed prior to enrolling in Area 1B. Transfer students
200 who have not completed this requirement must take at least one of these courses each semester
201 until the requirement is met. Courses in this block must be completed with a grade of C- or better
202 to satisfy requirements.

203 **Student Learning Outcomes for English Composition (Area 1A)**

204 Students successfully completing English Composition will be able to:

- 205 1. Apply fundamental rhetorical strategies used to produce university-level writing,
206 especially
- 207 a. modify content and form according to the rhetorical situation, purpose,
208 and audience.
- 209 b. appropriately use authorities, examples, facts, and other forms of
210 persuasive evidence to support an argument or position.
- 211 c. vary stylistic options to achieve different effects.
- 212 2. Think critically to analyze a rhetorical situation or text and make thoughtful
213 decisions based on that analysis, through writing, reading, and research.
- 214 3. Develop an effective writing process that includes flexible strategies for
215 generating, revising, editing, and proof-reading.
- 216 4. Incorporate textual evidence through quotation, summary, and paraphrase into
217 their essays and appropriately cite their sources.
- 218 5. Develop knowledge of genre conventions ranging from structure and
219 paragraphing to tone and style.
- 220 6. Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- 221 7. Use electronic environments for drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and sharing
222 texts

223 **Student Learning Outcomes for Critical Thinking (Area 1B)**

224 Students successfully completing a critical thinking will be able to:

- 225 1. Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between knowledge and belief, facts and
226 values, and identify faulty reasoning through an understanding of the formal and
227 informal fallacies of language and thought, through writing, reading, and research.
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- 229 2. Analyze and evaluate a range of evidence used to support various types of claims.
230
- 231 3. Recognize, respond to and use common techniques of persuasion.
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4. Understand the fundamentals of logic and critical thinking and the relationship of logic to language.
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5. Use inductive and deductive reasoning to reach well- supported conclusions.
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6. Identify the assumptions, biases, and prejudices upon which particular conclusions rely and understand how they may erode sound arguments.
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7. Refine fundamental rhetorical strategies used to produce university-level writing, especially
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- a. modify content and form according to the rhetorical situation, purpose, and audience.
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- b. incorporate textual evidence through quotation, summary, and paraphrase into their essays and appropriately cite their sources.
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- c. evaluate the relevance, validity, and authority of information, and ethically use and cite that information in their own writing.
- 253
254
8. Develop cogent arguments for views on theoretical and practical matters.
- 255
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9. Exhibit knowledge of genre conventions ranging from structure and paragraphing to voice, tone and style.
- 258
10. Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

259 **Student Learning Outcomes for Oral Communication (Area 1C)**

260 Students successfully completing an Oral Communication course will be able to:

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1. Describe the theoretical foundations of oral communication.
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2. Recognize the importance and purpose of oral communication.

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3. Analyze the audience and situation and adapt to the specific context in which a speech is to be delivered.
 4. Conduct research and evaluate the quality of source materials and their appropriateness for use in specific occasion, purpose, and context.
 5. Prepare outlines that include appropriate organization, well-supported claims, reasoned arguments, and sensitivity to the rhetorical situation.
 6. Perform a variety of well-prepared speeches using effective delivery techniques.
 7. Listen to and evaluate the public communication of others and provide constructive criticism.

279 **Area 2. Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning**

280 The goal of lower division General Education in quantitative reasoning is to gain basic
281 knowledge and develop key skills in mathematics and quantitative reasoning. The knowledge
282 and skills developed in these courses are essential in a world where many arguments, claims, and
283 decisions should rely on scientific studies and statistical evidence. Courses used to meet the
284 requirement for this block must be completed with a grade of C- or better within the first 30
285 semester units counted toward the baccalaureate degree.

286 Students successfully completing a mathematics/quantitative reasoning class will be able to:

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1. Use mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning to solve problems, both in a pure mathematical context and in real- world contexts.
 2. Interpret information presented in a mathematical form (e.g., equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words) and convert relevant information into a mathematical form.
 3. Draw appropriate conclusions based on the quantitative analysis of data, recognizing any underlying assumptions or limits of this analysis.
 4. Use deductive reasoning in a pure mathematical context to draw conclusions and provide an irrefutable logical justification for them.

- 300 5. Formulate and communicate a position on a real-world question and use
301 appropriate quantitative information in support of that position, and evaluate the
302 soundness of such an argument.

303 **Area 3: Arts & Humanities**

304
305 Courses in this block should result in developing students' understanding of the interrelationship
306 between the creative arts, the humanities and self. Studies in these areas should include exposure
307 to a diverse range of world cultures.

308 Students successfully completing a Area 3 Arts & Humanities class will be able to:

- 309 1. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity and complexity of the human search
310 for meaning, value, and purpose.
311
- 312 2. Demonstrate an ability to respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic
313 experiences and develop an understanding of the integrity of both emotional and
314 intellectual responses.
315
- 316 3. Demonstrate understanding of the interrelationship between the self and the
317 creative arts and/or the humanities in a variety of cultures.

318 In addition, students successfully completing courses in Area 3A (Arts: Cinema, Dance, Music,
319 Theatre) will be able to do one or more of the following:

- 320 1. Analyze, appreciate, and interpret significant works of art and be informed
321 observers of, or active participants in, the Creative Arts.
322
- 323 2. Demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and cultural
324 elements involved in the creative arts through participation in, and study of,
325 Drama, Music, Studio Art and/or Creative Writing.

326 In addition, students successfully completing courses in Area 3B (Humanities: Literature,
327 Philosophy, languages other than English) will be able to do one or more of the following:

- 328 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the personal and social values of cultures and
329 how ideas influence the character of human beliefs and the norms that guide
330 human behavior, as explored in the study of cultures, philosophies, and literary
331 texts.
332
- 333 2. Investigate and analyze fundamental human beliefs and their justifications,
334 especially as reflected in Philosophy and Religious Studies.
335

336 3. Apply language skills within a cultural and social context and understand aspects
337 of the culture of the language being studied.

338 **Area 4: Social & Behavioral Sciences**

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340 The courses in the social sciences block must reflect the fact that human, social, political, and
341 economic institutions and behavior are inextricably interwoven. Students will develop an
342 understanding of problems and issues from the respective disciplinary perspectives and will
343 examine issues in their contemporary as well as historical settings and in a variety of cultural
344 contexts. Courses in this block should explicitly address the interconnectedness of peoples,
345 communities, societies, and/or cultures. Courses shall be completed in at least two different
346 disciplines among the 9 required units for this Area (6 lower division, including the American
347 Institutions course, and 3 at the upper division).

348 Students successfully completing Area 4 courses will be able to:

349 1. Demonstrate understanding of problems and issues using the principles,
350 methodologies, value systems and ethics employed in social scientific inquiry.
351

352 2. Use inquiry processes, such as quantitative reasoning, qualitative reasoning,
353 critical thinking, or creative thinking, to engage with contemporary and enduring
354 questions or to engage in complex decision making and problem solving.
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356 3. Demonstrate understanding of contemporary or historical events within political,
357 social, cultural, or economic contexts with an emphasis on how these contexts are
358 interwoven.
359

360 4. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity of cultures and communities in the
361 United States or abroad.
362

363 5. Demonstrate understanding of the interconnectedness of individuals,
364 communities, society, and/or the environment.

365 **Area 5: Physical & Biological Sciences**

366 The goal of lower division General Education in the Natural Science is to gain basic knowledge
367 and learn key principles in the Life and Physical Sciences as essential for an informed citizenry.
368 In addition, students should recognize the experimental and empirical methodologies
369 characteristic of science and understand the modern methods and tools used in scientific inquiry.
370 Students complete one course each from Area 5A (Physical Science, minimum 3 units) and Area
371 5B (Biological Science, minimum 3 units). One of these courses must be associated with a
372 MINIMUM one-unit laboratory (Area 5C), for a total of 7 units in Area 5.

373 Students successfully completing 5A Physical Science or 5B Biological Science and the 5C
374 laboratory will be able to:

- 375 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of scientific inquiry (i.e., the
376 "Scientific Method"). The nature of science, the potential limits of scientific
377 endeavors, and the value systems and ethics associated with scientific inquiry.
378
- 379 2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic scientific principles as they apply to broader
380 concepts (e.g., global climate change, the spread of infectious diseases, etc.),
381 including historical developments of the disciplines and major contributions
382 various cultures of the world.
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- 384 3. Evaluate the credibility of sources of scientific information.
385
- 386 4. Draw appropriate conclusions based on the analysis of qualitative and quantitative
387 empirical data.
388
- 389 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the value of science in developing a rigorous
390 understanding of the natural world and of the impact of science on societal,
391 environmental, political, economic, and/or technological contexts.
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- 393 6. Students successfully completing a science laboratory will be able to demonstrate
394 hands-on skills applying specialized methods and tools of scientific inquiry (such
395 as collecting, analyzing, and interpreting the data, presenting the findings, and
396 using the information to answer questions).

397 **Area 6: Ethnic Studies**

398 This lower-division, 3 semester unit requirement fulfills Education Code section 89032. The
399 requirement to take a 3 semester unit course in Area 6 shall not be waived or substituted.

400 To be approved for this requirement, courses shall have the following course prefixes: African
401 American, Asian American, Chicana(o) and Latina(o) American or Native American Studies.
402 Similar course prefixes (e.g., Pan-African Studies, American Indian Studies, Chicana(o) Studies,
403 Ethnic Studies) shall also meet this requirement. Courses without Ethnic Studies prefixes may
404 meet this requirement if cross-listed with a course with an Ethnic Studies prefix. Courses that are
405 approved to meet this requirement shall meet at least 3 of the 5 following core competencies.

- 406 1. Analyze and articulate concepts such as race and racism, racialization, ethnicity, equity,
407 ethno-centrism, eurocentrism, white supremacy, self-determination, liberation,
408 decolonization, sovereignty, imperialism, settler colonialism, and anti-racism as analyzed
409 in any one or more of the following: Native American Studies, African American
410 Studies, Asian American Studies, and Chicana(o) and Latina(o) American Studies.

- 411 2. Apply theory and knowledge produced by Native American, African American, Asian
 412 American, and/or Chicana(o) and Latina(o) American communities to describe the
 413 critical events, histories, cultures, intellectual traditions, contributions, lived-experiences
 414 and social struggles of those groups with a particular emphasis on agency and group-
 415 affirmation.
- 416 3. Critically analyze the intersection of race and racism as they relate to class, gender,
 417 sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability, tribal
 418 citizenship, sovereignty, language, and/or age in Native American, African American,
 419 Asian American, and/or Chicana(o) and Latina(o) American communities.
- 420 4. Critically review how struggle, resistance, racial and social justice, solidarity, and
 421 liberation, as experienced and enacted by Native Americans, African Americans, Asian
 422 Americans and/or Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Americans are relevant to current and
 423 structural issues such as communal, national, international, and transnational politics as,
 424 for example, in immigration, reparations, settler-colonialism, multiculturalism, language
 425 policies.
- 426 5. Describe and actively engage with anti-racist and anti-colonial issues and the practices
 427 and movements in Native American, African American, Asian American and/or
 428 Chicana(o) and Latina(o) communities and a just and equitable society.

429 Upper-division ethnic studies courses may satisfy the lower-division area f requirement so
 430 long as adequate numbers of lower-division course options are available to students.
 431 Ethnic studies courses required in majors, minors or that satisfy campus-wide
 432 requirements and are approved for GE Area F credit shall also fulfill (double count for)
 433 this requirement.

434

435 **IV. UPPER DIVISION GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS** 436 **AND LEARNING OUTCOMES (9 UNITS)**

437 Students will be required to complete one course in each of the three following areas,
 438 (Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences, and Physical & Biological Sciences / Mathematical
 439 Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning).

440 **Criteria for Upper-Division GE Courses:**

- 441 1. Courses are all 3000-level courses.
 442
- 443 2. All upper-division GE courses must include as prerequisites the completion of Areas 1
 444 and 2, and at least one course each from Areas 3, 4, and 5.
 445
- 446 3. Students will be required to complete at least one upper division GE course that includes
 447 a Civic Learning/Community Engagement Component (CL). The nine semester units of
 448 upper division GE shall be taken within the CSU. If all three upper division GE courses

449 have been satisfied at another CSU campus, the Civic or Community Engagement
450 component shall be waived.
451

452 4. An upper division GE course may not be prerequisite to another.
453

454 5. Courses must require substantial writing consistent with general education policy.

455 Major courses and campus-wide required courses that are approved for GE credit shall also
456 fulfill (double count for) the GE requirement.

457 **Upper Division Student Learning Outcomes**

458 Students successfully completing upper division GE courses will be able to:

459 1. Demonstrate basic skills of General Education, namely, oral and written communication,
460 critical thinking, and where appropriate, mathematical skills, beyond the lower division
461 level.
462

463 2. Demonstrate attainment at the upper division level of the outcomes identified under the
464 area requirements in Areas 2/5, 3, and 4.
465

466 3. Demonstrate their mastery of the outcomes listed under the Civic Learning/Community
467 Engagement requirement in GE for courses so designated.

468 **V. UNIVERSITY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

469 **American Institutions Requirement and Learning Outcomes**

470 Students are required by California Statutory Law (Title V, section 404) to complete six units
471 (two courses) in the following areas of United States History, Constitution and American ideals:

472 1. Any course or examination that addresses the historical development of United States
473 institutions and ideals must include all of the subject matter elements:
474

475 a. Significant events covering a minimum time span of approximately one hundred
476 years and occurring in the entire area now included in the United States of
477 America, including the relationships of regions within that area and with external
478 regions and powers as appropriate to the understanding of those events within the
479 United States during the period of study.
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- 481 b. The role of major ethnic and social groups in such events and the contexts in
482 which the events have occurred.
483
- 484 c. The events presented within a framework that illustrates the continuity of the
485 United States experience and its derivation from other cultures, including
486 consideration of three or more of the following: politics, economics, social
487 movements, and geography.
488
- 489 2. Any course or examination that addresses the Constitution of the United States, the
490 operation of representative Democratic government under that Constitution, and the
491 process of California state and local government must address all of the subject matter
492 elements.
493
- 494 a. The political philosophies of the framers of the Constitution and the nature and
495 operation of United States political institutions and processes under that
496 Constitution as amended and interpreted.
497
- 498 b. The rights and obligations of citizens in the political system established under the
499 Constitution.
500
- 501 c. The Constitution of the state of California within the framework of evolution of
502 federal-state relations and the nature and processes of state and local government
503 under that Constitution.
504
- 505 d. Contemporary relationships of state and local government with the federal
506 government, the resolution of conflicts and the establishment of cooperative
507 processes under the constitutions of both the state and nation, and the political
508 processes involved.

509 Students successfully completing the American Institutions requirement will be able to:

- 510 1. Demonstrate civic literacy that would enable them to participate effectively in a
511 democratic society, including an understanding of the requirements of democratic
512 citizenship.
513
- 514 2. Use inquiry processes, including qualitative reasoning and critical thinking to engage
515 with contemporary and enduring questions regarding United States institutions and
516 government.
517

- 518 3. Demonstrate understanding of ethical principles and values that have shaped United
519 States institutions and ideals throughout the history of the United States and its
520 government.
521
- 522 4. Demonstrate understanding of United States institutions and ideals within the context of a
523 changing and diverse society, including the impact of government on the introduction and
524 evolution of various cultures and institutions in the United States and the effect of new
525 cultures and institutions on the structures and policies of federal and state government.

526 In addition, students successfully completing the requirement in U.S. History will be able to:

- 527 1. Demonstrate understanding of the historical diversity of cultures and communities in the
528 United States.
529
- 530 2. Demonstrate understanding of cultural expression in the historical context of the United
531 States.

532 In addition, students successfully completing the requirement in U.S. Constitution/California
533 State & Local Government will be able to:

- 534 1. Demonstrate understanding an Americans' and Californians' political behavior within the
535 frameworks established by the United States and California Constitutions.
- 536 2. Understand the effects of historical, technological and economic changes on government
537 and the effects of governmental policy on technological and economic change.

538 **INTRODUCTION TO HIGHER EDUCATION (IHE) REQUIREMENT AND** 539 **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

540 EVERY FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A TWO-UNIT
541 1000-LEVEL IHE COURSE NO LATER THAN THEIR SECOND TERM IN RESIDENCE.
542 STUDENTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE INTRODUCTION TO HIGHER
543 EDUCATION REQUIREMENT WILL BE ABLE TO DEVELOP AN AWARENESS OF AND
544 UTILIZE THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT CAL STATE LA TO SUPPORT LEARNING,
545 ACADEMIC PLANNING, AND A SENSE OF BELONGING.

546 **Diversity Requirement and Learning Outcomes**

547 Students will be required to complete two courses (six units) certified as diversity courses. At
548 least one of these courses must focus on issues of race and ethnicity and their intersectionality
549 with other social categories that structure inequality in society. These courses can be completed
550 either at the lower division or upper division level from among courses satisfying GE
551 requirements. It is the intent of the diversity requirement to promote understanding of diversity
552 and encourage tolerance and acceptance of others. General diversity courses will be designated
553 with (D) in the catalog. Those courses focusing on race and ethnicity will be designated with
554 (RE) in the catalog.

555 Students successfully completing a diversity course will be able to:

- 556 1. Demonstrate understanding of theoretical and practical factors of race, ethnicity, gender,
557 gender identity, socioeconomic class, disability, sexuality, religion or age.
558
- 559 2. Demonstrate understanding of the intersectionality of these factors, with particular
560 attention paid to race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic class.
561
- 562 3. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity of intercultural and intracultural relationships.
563
- 564 4. Demonstrate civic literacy and an awareness of social justice that would enable effective
565 participation in a diverse society.

566 **Civic Learning/Community Engagement Requirement and Learning Outcomes**

567 Students are required to complete at least one course (three units) containing a Civic Learning or
568 Community Engagement component at the upper division level. Civic Learning/Community
569 Engagement courses will be designated as (CL) in the catalog.

570 Students who successfully complete the Civic Learning/Community Engagement courses will be
571 able to:

- 572 1. Demonstrate understanding of the connection between academic learning/disciplinary
573 knowledge and civic participation.
574
- 575 2. Demonstrate understanding of their impact on their respective physical, social and
576 cultural environments and how such environments impact them.
577
- 578 3. Demonstrate knowledge of ways to make change in local and global communities.
579
- 580 4. Demonstrate the ability to collaborate in order to develop and implement an approach to a
581 civic issue.

582 **Writing Intensive (WI) Course Requirements and Learning Outcomes**

583 Students will complete at least two writing intensive courses with at least one in the major.
584 Writing intensive courses will be designated as (WI) in the catalog.

585 Students successfully completing a writing intensive course will:

- 586 1. Be able to use both formal (such as essays, reports, and research writing) and informal
587 (such as brainstorming, free-writing, and reading responses) writing strategies to develop

588 their understanding of course content and to think critically about that content.
589

590 2. Be able to use drafting, revising, editing and other writing processes to demonstrate their
591 mastery of course content through formal writing products appropriate to the discipline,
592 such as thesis-driven essays, formal reports, or professionally formatted manuscripts.
593

594 3. Be able to demonstrate understanding of discipline specific features of writing including
595 rhetorical strategies and genre and format conventions prominent in assigned reading and
596 writing or found in professional publications in the discipline.
597

598 4. Have completed written assignments that total at least 5,000 words, of which at least
599 2,500 words are polished and revised based on responses from readers, such as
600 instructors, peers via workshops, or writing center tutors.

601 **VI. APPROVED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE** 602 **REPLACEMENTS**

603 Departments/divisions/schools shall have the opportunity to request that existing or new courses
604 be allowed to double count in GE and the major provided the courses meet the outcomes for GE.
605 Requests to double count courses must be approved by the Educational Policy Committee.

606 **VII. PERIODIC REVIEW**

607
608 The entire program must be reviewed every five years by the appropriate curriculum committee
609 for reapproval. Courses and pathways, including approved General Education replacement
610 courses, must meet the General Education guidelines. Courses and pathways, including approved
611 General Education replacement courses, not reapproved within the review cycle will be deleted
612 from the General Education program. All courses and pathways must continue to meet the
613 General Education guidelines as they are currently taught.

614