

Consent Agenda Item –

Revisions to SP 06-06 General Education Learning Goals and Outcomes

Drafted by: General Education Program Review Task Force in consultation with the General Education Committee

Background: The GE Program Review Task Force took the learning outcomes listed last in the original SP 06-06 policy, and with small revisions, has listed them first in these revisions. This was done because they emphasize the University mission and should therefore be listed first.

Policy:

General Education Goals and Outcomes

General Education requirements are designed to assure that all graduates of the University, whatever their major, have acquired essential skills, experiences, and a broad range of knowledge appropriate to educated people within a society. Students who complete the General Education program examine the modern world and issues facing societies from multiple perspectives and translate knowledge into judgment and action in the form of civic engagement.

Goal 1. Evaluate issues and integrate ideas from multiple perspectives, including cultural, national and international, and disciplinary perspectives, and identify actions consistent with their own civic responsibility. They will be able to:

- Outcome 1.1 Integrate content, ideas, and approaches from
 - (a) multicultural perspectives,
 - (b) national and international perspectives, and
 - (c) integrative perspectives across disciplines.
- Outcome 1.2 Take individual and collective actions which can address issues of public concern.

Goal 2. Identify clear, logical, and creative arguments. They are able to:

- Outcome 2.1 Reason inductively and deductively and from a variety of perspectives.
- Outcome 2.2 Deliberate with others and present arguments clearly, logically, and creatively.

Goal 3. Find and critically examine information. They are able to:

- Outcome 3.1 Access needed information effectively and efficiently.
- Outcome 3.2 Evaluate information and its sources critically.
- Outcome 3.3 Explain the economic, legal, social, and ethical issues surrounding the use of information.

Goal 4. Communicate effectively using a variety of formats. They are able to:

- Outcome 4.1 Speak and present effectively in various contexts.
- Outcome 4.2 Write effectively in various forms.
- Outcome 4.3 Use relevant tools in various contexts to present and/or integrate ideas.

Goal 5. Understand the physical universe and its life forms, scientific methodology, and mathematical concepts, and use quantitative reasoning. They are able to:

- Outcome 5.1 Conduct planned investigations using the scientific method to reach reasoned conclusions.
- Outcome 5.2 Solve problems using mathematical methods.
- Outcome 5.3 Use graphs, tables, etc. to represent and explain scientific and mathematical models.
- Outcome 5.4 Make connections between important/core/key concepts (or big ideas) in the natural sciences to describe/explain natural phenomena.

Goal 6. Cultivate intellect, imagination, sensibility and sensitivity through the study of philosophy, literature, languages, and the arts. They are able to:

- Outcome 6.1 Analyze creative human products and ideas.
- Outcome 6.2 Articulate personal thoughts and emotions when encountering human creations and ideas.
- Outcome 6.3 Create original and imaginative works in philosophy, literature, language, and/or the arts.

Goal 7. Understand social, cultural, political, and economic institutions and their historical backgrounds, as well as human behavior and the principles of social interaction. They are able to:

- Outcome 7.1 Convey how issues relevant to social, cultural, political, contemporary/historical, economic, educational, or psychological realities interact with each other.
- Outcome 7.2 Discuss how social sciences conceive and study human experience.
- Outcome 7.3 Use social science methods to explain or predict individual and collective human behavior.