

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON CURRICULAR AFFAIRS

### Updates to General Education Recertification Procedures

(Legislative)

The March 15, 2016, legislative report from Curricular Affairs, [Implementation of the Updated General Education Learning Objectives](#), recommended that all General Education courses be reviewed against the new (2015) General Education curriculum learning objectives; it further recommended that General Education courses be **re-evaluated every five years**. The goals of these two recommendations were:

- 1. To ensure that General Education courses give students the opportunity to accomplish the learning outcomes of the General Education curriculum; and*
- 2. To ensure curricular alignment with the General Education objectives, and across all sections and locations offering a course.*

General Education is the undergraduate curriculum shared by all Penn State undergraduate students enrolled in all colleges; we have a university-wide commitment to accomplishing, together, the learning goals via the breadth of courses taught across our disciplines. Thus, the committee also sought to increase faculty awareness of how their courses contribute to General Education (via their approved designations) and to ensure the General Education learning objectives appear on course syllabi to make these clear for students.

During the most recent recertification cycle (2018-2022), the above recommendations were implemented as a procedure in which faculty submitted individual course proposals for every general education course and the Senate Committee on Curricular Affairs General Education subcommittee reviewed these for recertification. The process was a large investment in time and energy. The results of this process and additional discussion of these challenges were presented in the March 15, 2022 [Update on General Education Assessment](#) report. We are now at the end

of the recommended five-year period for re-evaluation, and there is a strong desire to accomplish the legislated goals without requiring the same lengthy re-certification process.

There is an understanding that changes to courses naturally happen over time as faculty regularly review, revise, and collaborate, and as our disciplines evolve and grow. To share these revisions with the broader university community, such as when there are curricular changes to General Education learning objectives and/or Knowledge Domain/Foundation criteria that are approved by Faculty Senate, updates are submitted in curriculum proposals to Senate so that both the bulletin and course catalog can be updated. This natural evolution process will remain the same. To ensure this process remains robust, Curricular Affairs recommends additional support for university-wide faculty collaboration on General Education courses. Support for communication between faculty, across campuses, who teach the same course is needed to better facilitate these essential collaborations.

Curricular Affairs reaffirms the central importance of faculty collaboration on General Education course development, review, teaching, and delivery, as well as the alignment of our courses across all campuses according to Senate Policy [170-10 Course Uniformity/Course Coherence](#) and Student Policy [42-10 Course Uniformity](#) , as well as the General Education goals as put forth in Senate Policies [140-00 General Education](#). However, we recommend against using the mandatory course proposal process for recertification, unless otherwise necessary because of legislative changes to General Education criteria, structure, learning objectives, etc.

We acknowledge the challenges of curricular work at our large and distributed institution – challenges that include difficulties in knowing with whom to consult and engage. One way to better facilitate regular review of General Education courses is to use the information in LionPATH that tracks both the instructors of record and the most recent General Education course approval date. During the recertification process new attributes were created in LionPATH to accurately record the General Education year approval dates. This was an important update made by the Office of the University Registrar so we can better track our own course data and manage this process at the program, school, or Senate levels. The new attributes can be used to identify courses that are recommended for review on a 5-year cycle, and the

Office of General Education can communicate this review recommendation to all recent (e.g., 3 - 5 years) instructors of record. (See for example, the attached list A for 2023 courses.) Curricular Affairs thus recommends implementing these and other strategies for increasing opportunities and lowering barriers for faculty communication and collaboration in General Education.

**Recommendations.** Curricular Affairs recommends the following changes for faculty-centered processes for General Education course review and revision.

1. Mandatory recertification via a curriculum proposal will only be required for General Education courses if/when Senate approves legislative changes to the General Education learning outcomes or the Knowledge Domain/Foundation criteria. Only courses mapped to changed outcomes or criteria would require an updated proposal.
2. Faculty will continue to submit course proposals to reflect change(s) to the course curriculum as they occur over time, to keep the bulletin, course catalog, and all instructors of record current with the course as offered.
3. The General Education attribute year in LionPATH will determine the timing of the reminders of the 5-year review recommendation, facilitated by the Office for General Education.
4. We trust and encourage faculty to regularly review and update course content.

If approved, these changes will be implemented in edits to the Guide to Curricular Procedures.

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON CURRICULAR AFFAIRS**

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List A: Approved and schedulable courses (333 total) with GE 2018 attribute. These courses would be due for General Education recertification in 2023. Cross-listed courses are listed with all subject areas.

AA 120N	Intro Art Therapy	ASIA 106N	Asia Trad Medicine
AED 355Q	Art & Health	ASIA 120Y	SouthAsia Lit Hist
AEE 204N	Science Literacy & Policy	ASIA 171	Mod South Asia
AFAM 105N	Afro-Latin America	ASIA 172	Intro Japanese Civ
AFAM 114N	Race Gender Sport	ASIA 174	East Asia to 1800
AFAM 139	Af Am Literature	ASIA 175	Mod East Asia
AFAM 141N	African American Read-In	ASIA 177	Mod SE Asia
AFAM 164	Hist Brazil	ASIA 181	Religions China&Japan
AFAM 207N	JAZZ & AF AM EXPER	ASIA 183	East Asia Gender
AFAM 226N	CRIT APP TO HIPHOP	ASIA 188	Tibet Place&Space
AFR 192H	Modern Af Hist	ASIA 200	Asian Languages
AFR 202N	Gender in Africa	ASTRO 19N	Being in the Univ
AG 160	Ag Ethics/Issues	ASTRO 141N	Astrobiology Films
AGBM 101	Economic Principles of Agribus	ASTRO 320	Obs Astro Lab
AGBM 170	US Food Systems	BA 100	INTRO TO BUS
AGECO 121	Plant Stress	BA 100S	Introduction to Business
AMST 103	American Masculinities	BBH 150N	Justice and Health
AMST 150N	Western PA Art, Lit, Culture	BIOET 110N	Health and the Human Condition
AMST 226N	CRIT APP TO HIPHOP	BIOET 401Q	Science, Ethics, Policy & Law
AMST 309N	Am Mat Culture	BIOL 144	Climate Change: Biology
ANSC 100	Intro to Animal Industries	BIOL 144Z	Climate Change: Biology-Linked
ANSC 107	INTRO EQ SC & IND	BIOL 160N	Biology of Exercise
ANSC 332N	Greenhouse Gas Science- Policy	BIOL 163	A&P II Lect
APLNG 280N	Intl Comp Research	BIOL 169N	Being Human
ARAB 165	Islamic Societies	BIOL 403	Bio Writ and Comm for Research
ARCH 100	Arch and Ideas	BMB 1Z	The Science of Sickness
ART 51N	METEO and ART	CAMS 25	Greek Civ
ARTH 107N	Rocks and Art	CAMS 45	Classical Myth
ARTH 120Z	Asian Art and Arch LINKED	CAMS 45H	Classical Mythology
ARTH 130	Afri, Oce and Amers	CAMS 102	Canaan and Israel
ARTH 204	Ita and Spa Baroque	CAMS 120	New Testament
ARTH 220Z	Chinese Art - Linked	CAMS 121	Jesus the Jew
ARTH 224N	Authors and Artists	CAMS 122	Apocalypse Lit
ARTH 225N	Sexuality and Art	CAMS 200	Ancient Phil
ARTH 292N	Witches	CAS 101N	Intro Human Comm
ASIA 83S	Asia First-Yr Sem	CAS 137H	Rel I
ASIA 100Z	What Is Asia? LINKED	CAS 208N	ConflictBarg

ASIA 101N	Sports in Asia	CAS 214W	Speech Writing
ASIA 102	Asian Pop Culture	CAS 220	Persuasion
ASIA 103	Intro to Hinduism	CAS 232N	Horror Film and Identity
ASIA 105	War&Memory in Asia	CAS 271N	Intercultural Com
CAS 272N	Pol Comm and Tech	ENGL 136	The Graphic Novel
CAS 301	Rhetorical Theory	ENGL 137H	Rcl I
CAS 303	Comm Thry	ENGL 139	Af Am Literature
CAS 303H	Com Theory-Honors	ENGL 141N	African American Read-In
CAS 304	Quan Meth Comm Res	ENGL 181A	Advenlit: Chesapea
CAS 311	Rhetorical Criticism	ENGL 190Q	Medievalism
CAS 352	Organization Comm	ENGL 208N	BEATLES CULTURE
CED 160	Ag Ethics/Issues	ENGL 224N	Authors and Artists
CHEM 110	Chem Princ I	ENGL 225N	Sexuality and Art
CHEM 110H	Chem Princ I H	ENGL 233N	Chemistry and Literature
CHEM 112	Chem Princ II	ENGL 236N	Inequality
CHEM 130	Introductory CHEM	ENGL 245	Intro LGBT Studies
CHEM 233N	Chemistry and Literature	ENGR 120N	3D Design Thinking
CHNS 120Z	Chns Lit and Culture - Linked	ENGR 467Q	Robots & Society
CHNS 121N	Chinese Film	ENT 216N	Plagues Through the Ages
CI 185	Social Justice in Education	ESL 15	Academic Writing 2
CI 304N	Food, Farms, Justice, and Educ	FDSC 105	Food Facts and Fads
CMLIT 19N	Being in the Univ	FR 138N	French Culture Through Film
CMLIT 112N	Global World Drama	FRNAR 100	Intro to FRN Photo
CMLIT 191N	Video Game Culture	GAME 160N	Video Game Culture
CMLIT 240Q	Artistic Patronage in Europe	GAME 180N	Art Sci Virtual Wo
COMM 20N	Critical Media Literacy	GD 115N	Visualizing Info
COMM 101N	Creativity	GEOG 1N	Parks and Sustainability
COMM 150N	Cinema Art	GEOG 2N	Apocalyptic Geographies
COMM 151N	Astrobiology Films	GEOG 3N	Future of Food
COMM 222N	Social Justice Image	GEOG 6N	Map Geospatial Rev
CRIM 12H	Honors Criminology	GEOG 30N	Envt Soc Chg World
CRIM 225N	Crime in Film and Society	GEOG 107N	Immersive Tech
CRIMJ 12H	Honors Criminology	GEOG 210	Geog Envtl Sys Sci
CRIMJ 150N	Justice and Health	GEOG 220	Human Geog
CRIMJ 159	FBI History	GEOG 315	Landforms
CRIMJ 205N	CRT in HUM & SS	GEOG 330N	Political Ecology
CSD 100	Preventing Vocal Abuse	GEOG 332N	Greenhouse Gas Science- Policy
EARTH 105N	Environmnt Africa	GEOG 332N	Greenhouse Gas Science- Policy
EARTH 109	Shale Energy	GEOSC 107N	Rocks and Art
EARTH 155N	Scientific Controversies	GEOSC 212N	EQ & Human History
ECON 14	Principles of Economics	GER 189N	German Film
		GLIS 101N	Globalization

EDUC 205N	CRT in HUM & SS	GLIS 102N	Global Pathways
EMSC 240N	E&S in Ctmp Cult	HDFS 108N	Art & Sci of Human Flourishing
ENGL 50	Intr Creative Writ	HDFS 210Z	Ethnicity, Health
ENGL 88	Aust/NZ Cultural Perspectives	HDFS 249N	Adult Dev Aging
ENGL 103	Traditions Am Lit	HDFS 254N	Diversity and Human Dev
ENGL 133	Mod Am Lit to WWII	HHD 200N	Addiction
HIST 1	Western Civilization I	INART 226N	CRIT APP TO HIPHOP
HIST 6N	History and Weather	IT 130	Italian Culture and Civ
HIST 10	World Hist I	IT 131	Intro to Italian Amer Culture
HIST 11	World Hist II	IT 175	Italian Embedded Exp
HIST 20	Amer Civ to 1877	IT 225N	Crime in Film and Society
HIST 21	Amer Civ From 1877	IT 240Q	Artistic Patronage in Europe
HIST 102	Canaan and Israel	JAPNS 120	Japns Lit/Culture
HIST 103	Mad Mental Psych	JAPNS 121N	Jpn Film and Media
HIST 114N	Hist Persp Hlthca Innov	JAPNS 172	Intro Japanese Civ
HIST 115	Amer Jewish Expr	JST 102	Canaan and Israel
HIST 122	History of Science I	JST 112	Jesus the Jew
HIST 123	History of Science II	JST 115	Amer Jewish Expr
HIST 125N	History of Disease	JST 120	New Testament
HIST 130	The Civil War Era	JST 122	Apocalypse Lit
HIST 130H	Intro to Civil War Honors	KINES 160N	Biology of Exercise
HIST 141	Medvl and Mod Russia	KOR 120	Intro Kor Culture
HIST 148	History of Penn State	KOR 121	Korean Pop Culture
HIST 159	FBI History	LARCH 60	Hist of Des Place
HIST 164	Hist Brazil	LLED 215N	Children's Picture Books
HIST 165	Islamic Societies	MATH 33	Math Sust
HIST 171	Mod South Asia	MATH 34	Math of Money
HIST 172	Intro Japanese Civ	MATH 36	Insights Into Math
HIST 173	Vietnam War/Peace	METEO 6N	History and Weather
HIST 174	East Asia to 1800	METEO 51N	METEO and ART
HIST 175	Mod East Asia	METEO 133N	Ethics Climate Chg
HIST 177	Mod SE Asia	METEO 332N	Greenhouse Gas Science- Policy
HIST 179	Lat-Am Hist Since 1820	MUSIC 11	How Classical Music Works
HIST 183	East Asia Gender	MUSIC 11Z	How Classical Music Works
HIST 184	Pacific War	MUSIC 207N	JAZZ & AF AM EXPER
HIST 188	Tibet Place&Space	MUSIC 209N	BEATLES CULTURE
HIST 192H	Modern Af Hist	NURS 407	Drugs of Abuse
HIST 212N	EQ & Human History	NUTR 100	NUTR APP HEALTH
HIST 240Q	Artistic Patronage in Europe	OLEAD 210	Evidnce Based Lead
HIST 292N	Witches	PHIL 8	Gender Matters
HORT 150N	Plants and Humans	PHIL 10	Critical Thinking

HPA 57	Consumer Choice Health Care	PHIL 13	Nature and Environ
HUM 100N	Foundations Hum	PHIL 60N	PhiI60sCountcult
HUM 150N	World Myth in Arts	PHIL 83	1st-Year Smnr
HUM 200N	Explorations Hum	PHIL 103H	Honors Ethics
HUM 300N	Intr in Humanities	PHIL 103W	Ethics
INART 50Z	The Science of Music	PHIL 105	Philosophy of Law
INART 141N	African American Read-In	PHIL 105H	Honors Phil Law
INART 203Q	Medievalism	PHIL 106	Business Ethics
PHIL 107	Phil Technology	PLSC 177N	Pol Gov Wash Dc
PHIL 108H	Honors Soc and Political	PLSC 290N	Comparat. Violence
PHIL 108W	Soc Pol Phil	PPEM 120	The Fungal Jungle
PHIL 113	Phil Literature	PSYCH 100H	Honors Intro Psych
PHIL 114	Feminist Philosophy	PSYCH 109N	Psych Creativity
PHIL 115	Phil of Education	PSYCH 120N	Knowing Right from Wrong
PHIL 119	Ethical Leadership	PSYCH 144Z	Climate Change: Psychology
PHIL 120N	Knowing Right from Wrong	PSYCH 169N	Being Human
PHIL 123	Media Ethics	RLST 102	Canaan and Israel
PHIL 125W	Thry Knowl	RLST 103	Intro to Hinduism
PHIL 126	Metaphysics	RLST 115	Amer Jewish Expr
PHIL 126W	Metaphysics	RLST 120	New Testament
PHIL 127	Philosophy of Mind	RLST 121	Jesus the Jew
PHIL 129	Phil of Language	RLST 122	Apocalypse Lit
PHIL 133N	Ethics Climate Chg	RLST 133N	Ethics Climate Chg
PHIL 136N	Art & Phil in Ancient Greece	RLST 165	Islamic Societies
PHIL 200	Ancient Phil	RLST 181	Religions China&Japan
PHIL 202	Modern Phil	SC 103N	Data Meets Design
PHIL 205	American Phil	SC 125N	History of Disease
PHIL 208	Contemporary Phil	SOC 12H	Honors Criminology
PHIL 242N	Well-Being	SOC 20N	Critical Media Literacy
PHOTO 101	Photo Culture	SOC 120N	Knowing Right from Wrong
PHOTO 321N	Flow Visualization	SOC 205N	CRT in HUM & SS
PHYS 1	Science of Phys	STS 105	Food Facts and Fads
PHYS 10	Physics Headlines	STS 110N	Chemistry in World Wars
PHYS 211	Mechanics	SUST 150N	Sci & Sust Devel
PHYS 211H	Honors Mechanics	WMNST 8	Gender Matters
PHYS 212	Elect. and Mag.	WMNST 83N	1st-Year Smnr
PHYS 212H	Honors Elect. and Mag.	WMNST 100	Women's and Gender Studies
PHYS 213	Fluids&Thermal Phy	WMNST 100U	Women's and Gender Studies
PHYS 214	Wave Motion&Quan	WMNST 105N	Diverse World
PLANT 220	Garden for Fun and Profit	WMNST 106N	Wmn Gender and Arts
PLSC 1	Amer. Politics	WMNST 106Q	Wmn Gender and Arts



PLSC 1H	AmericanPoliticsHonors	WMNST 175N	Fashion Gender ID
PLSC 3	Comp. Politics	WMNST 202N	Gender in Africa
PLSC 7N	Ideologies	WMNST 225N	Sexuality and Art
PLSC 10	Sci Study of Pols	WMNST 240Q	Artistic Patronage in Europe
PLSC 17N	Intro to PI Theory	WMNST 245	Intro LGBT Studies
PLSC 17W	IntroPoliticTheory	WMNST 301N	Sex/Gender/Power
PLSC 90	INTRO SECURITY		