

SUNY Board of Trustees: Document 1401

-establishment of SUNY GER General Education Requirement, enacted 1998.

SUNY Board of Trustees: Document 1402

-establishment of SUNY GER Learning Outcomes and Course Approval Guidelines.

Policy Title: Assessment of General Education

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Appendix A: SUNY General Education Requirement Student Learning Outcome Areas

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS AREAS

1. MATHEMATICS

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Interpret and draw inferences from mathematical models such as formulas, graphs, tables and schematics;
- Represent mathematical information symbolically, visually, numerically and verbally;
- Employ quantitative methods such as, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, or statistics to solve problems;
- Estimate and check mathematical results for reasonableness; and,
- Recognize the limits of mathematical and statistical methods.

2. NATURAL SCIENCES

Students will demonstrate:

- Understanding of the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical analysis; and
- Application of scientific data, concepts, and models in one of the natural sciences.

3. SOCIAL SCIENCES

Students will demonstrate:

- Understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical and interpretive analysis; and
- Knowledge of major concepts, models and issues of at least one discipline in the social sciences.

4. AMERICAN HISTORY

Students will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of a basic narrative of American history: political, economic, social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity in American society;
- Knowledge of common institutions in American society and how they have affected different groups; and
- Understanding of America's evolving relationship with the rest of the world.

5. WESTERN CIVILIZATION

Students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the development of the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of Western civilization; and
- Relate the development of Western civilization to that of other regions of the world.

6. OTHER WORLD CIVILIZATIONS

Students will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of either a broad outline of world history, or
- The distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of one non-Western civilization.

7. HUMANITIES

Students will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the conventions and methods of at least one of the humanities in addition to those encompassed by other knowledge areas required by the General Education program.

8. THE ARTS

Students will demonstrate:

- Understanding of at least one principal form of artistic expression and the creative process inherent therein.

9. FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Students will demonstrate:

- Basic proficiency in the understanding and use of a foreign language; and
- Knowledge of the distinctive features of culture(s) associated with the language they are studying.

10. BASIC COMMUNICATION

Students will:

- Produce coherent texts within common college-level written forms;
- Demonstrate the ability to revise and improve such texts;
- Research a topic, develop an argument, and organize supporting details;
- Develop proficiency in oral discourse; and
- Evaluate an oral presentation according to established criteria.

COMPETENCIES

The following two competencies should be infused throughout the General Education program:

1. CRITICAL THINKING (REASONING)

Students will:

- Identify, analyze, and evaluate arguments as they occur in their own or other's work; and
- Develop well-reasoned arguments.

2. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Students will:

- Perform the basic operations of personal computer use;
- Understand and use basic research techniques; and
- Locate, evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources.