

**SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE
SAN JOSÉ, CA 95192**

Amendment E to University Policy S14-5, Guidelines for General Education (GE), American Institutions (AI), and the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR); Adopting new Program Learning Outcomes for General Education

Amends: University Policy S14-5 and 2014 GE Guidelines

Legislative History:

At its meeting of May 10, 2021, Senator White presented Amendment E to University Policy S14-5 for the Curriculum and Research Committee. Amendment E to University Policy S14-5, Guidelines for General Education (GE), American Institutions (AI), and the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) adopts new Program Learning Outcomes for General Education.

Action by University President:

**Approved and signed by
Mary A. Papazian, President,
San José State University
on May 18, 2021.**

Whereas: The WASC Senior College and University Commission requires that academic “programs ensure the development of core competencies including, but not limited to, written and oral communication, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, and critical thinking” and

Whereas: General Education underwent a program review in Academic Year 2016-17 with a notable recommendation that a taskforce be created to oversee developing an “overall model for GE Assessment,” and

Whereas: A task force deliberated for four months to propose new Program Learning Outcomes as a way to provide coherence to the GE program and establish a foundation for GE Assessment, and

- Whereas:** GE Summits were held in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 to gather feedback for the proposed Program Learning Outcomes, and
- Whereas:** Curriculum and Research reviewed all feedback from the GE Summits and subsequent fora and surveys, therefore, be it
- Resolved:** That the attached Program Learning Outcomes and preamble be adopted for General Education to replace the existing learning outcomes.

Approved: May 3, 2021
Vote: 9-0-0
Present: Abousalem, Anagnos, d'Alarcao, Maguire, Izenstark, Kitajima, Masegian, Schultz-Krohn, White(chair)
Absent: Backer, Kaur
Workload impact: No impact anticipated to adopt the new learning outcomes.

Appendix

SJSU General Education Program Learning Outcomes and Goals

Preamble: SJSU's general education program establishes a strong foundation of versatile skills, fosters curiosity about the world, and prepares students to engage and contribute responsibly and cooperatively in a multicultural, information-rich society. General education classes integrate areas of study and encourage progressively more complex and creative analysis, expression, and problem solving. The program aims to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need for a lifetime of intellectual and personal growth.

The program has three goals and nine program learning outcomes (PLOs):

Goal 1: To develop students' core competencies for academic, personal, creative, and professional pursuits. Goal 1 has five learning outcomes (PLOs 1-5):

PLO 1. [Oral Communication] Create and deliver logically-organized, well-supported, and compelling messages both in presentation and in conversation for specific audiences and diverse settings.

PLO 2. [Written Communication] Develop and practice a writing process that accounts for the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with special attention to the conventions of writing at the university.

PLO 3. [Critical Thinking] Identify and analyze a subject/topic/issue/problem of significance by evaluating the merits of different positions or perspectives; support the analysis with relevant evidence and information while stating assumptions; and draw evidence-based conclusions.

PLO 4. [Quantitative Reasoning] Analyze, interpret, and represent quantitative information in various forms to examine a question; explain the processes behind data collection and generation; and communicate evidence in support of an argument or purpose while stating assumptions, limitations, and biases, and drawing appropriate conclusions.

PLO 5. [Information Literacy] Identify information needs, locate and access relevant and credible information while accounting for bias, and use information legally and ethically.

Goal 2: To enact the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and justice by ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to serve and contribute to the well-being of local and global communities and the environment. Goal 2 has two learning outcomes (PLOs 6 and 7):

PLO 6. [Diversity, Inclusion, and Justice] Examine diverse cultures, communities, and environments; explore different perspectives; analyze connections to issues of justice/injustice; and prepare to live and work responsibly and cooperatively in multicultural societies.

PLO 7. [Civic and Global Engagement] Engage with global perspectives and knowledge; develop civic skills, interests, and values; and apply knowledge, skills and values to multicultural, community, and environmental interests.

Goal 3: To offer students integrated, multidisciplinary, and innovative study in which they pose challenging questions, address complex issues, and develop cooperative and creative responses. Goal 3 has two learning outcomes (PLOs 8 and 9):

PLO 8. [Integration and Application]: Integrate and apply knowledge and methods from more than one discipline or area of study to explore a complex question, address an issue, or produce a creative work.

PLO 9. [Reflection and Self-Assessment]: Evaluate and reflect on one's own learning while building on prior knowledge and life experiences.