

## **Proposed Modifications to Assessment Section of 2022 GE Guidelines**

Approved by Curriculum and Research on October 3, 2022

**Revision Rationale:** Community feedback indicated that the 2022 GE Guidelines approved by the Academic Senate in May 2022 have the potential to increase faculty workload with respect to assessment. As written, the GE Guidelines propose a framework focused on assessment at the program level (PLOs), and ask departments to provide evidence of assessment of GE ALOs at the time of Program Planning. In addition, the Guidelines ask departments to provide a summary of no more than two pages for *each course* addressing the following activities over the last program planning cycle: GE course coordination, the process used to assess GE ALOs, what the assessment data reveal about student learning, and resulting course modifications. For a department that teaches multiple GE courses, the report could be long.

The proposed modifications to the GE Guidelines ask departments to provide a summary of no more than two pages total that describes the following activities for *the department* over the last program planning cycle: GE course coordination, the process used to assess GE ALOs, what assessment data have revealed about student learning, and resulting course modifications. Departments are expected to participate in the PLO assessment using rubrics developed by the SJSU community.

**Workload:** It is anticipated that these modifications will reduce the workload for departments, faculty, the General Education Advisory Committee, and the Program Planning Committee.

**Proposed Changes** (pages 8 and 9 of the GE Guidelines) Red text and strikeout are used to show changes to the GE Guidelines, see below.

### **Assessment and Continuing Certification of GE Courses**

#### **GE Program Assessment Framework:**

The SJSU General Education program will be assessed at the program level. GE Areas are mapped to one or more Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) as listed in Appendix A. The PLOs will be assessed on a rotating basis, so that all GE PLOs are assessed within a 3-year cycle. GE PLOs will be assessed using coursework from the courses in the GE Areas that are linked to the PLO being assessed. Standardized rubrics, developed by the GE faculty community, will be used to assess each PLO.

The GE Director, with support from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Analytics, will be responsible for compiling the PLO assessment data and distributing the summary to the SJSU community.

#### **Recertification of GE Courses after Adoption of the 2022 GE Guidelines:**

Following the adoption of the 2022 GE Guidelines, current GE courses will be reviewed and recertified, starting in Fall 2022 and continuing over five semesters through Fall 2025. Area F will be excluded, since all Area F courses were developed according to the new GE PLOs, ALOs and content requirements.

#### **Continuing Certification of GE Courses:**

A department's GE courses are reviewed as part of its regular program planning cycle. The department summarizes its involvement in GE over the past program planning cycle and any plans for the next program planning cycle. It also reflects on how well its courses contribute to

their GE Area Goals/Learning Outcomes and to the larger General Education Program Learning Outcomes. ~~GE program level assessment is not related to course level continuing certification.~~

All GE courses undergo review for continuing certification by the appropriate committees beyond the department level. Departments are notified at least one semester in advance of the courses that are scheduled for continuing certification review.

As a section of the program planning report, the department submits the following: ~~for each GE course:~~

1. **Representative s**Syllabi from the last two years that each **GE** ~~the~~ course has been taught, along with sample showcase assignments that demonstrate how the course meets each of its GE ALOs.
2. A description of the coordination across sections of **GE** ~~the~~ courses and across years that ensures consistent implementation.
3. An assessment report (two pages maximum) **for the department** ~~each course~~ that includes the following:
  - a. A summary of the process of assessment of student learning in **the GE courses housed in the department** ~~program~~, including who reviews ~~reviewed~~ the data and how course modifications are developed and approved. Summarize what the assessments have revealed about student learning with respect to GE ALOs.
  - b. Changes that the department has made to try to improve student learning with respect to the GE ALOs.
  - c. Future plans for course modifications, if applicable.

GEAC can either (1) continue to certify the course through the next program planning cycle or (2) seek clarifications or discuss its concerns with the department. When those concerns are resolved, then the course's GE certification is to be continued through the next program planning cycle. If its concerns cannot be resolved, then GEAC can recommend to the Curriculum and Research (C&R) Committee that the course be decertified. C&R makes the final decision, and the department has the right to appear before the C&R. If a member of GEAC has voted on the matter when it was before GEAC, then that member shall not vote on it again when it comes before C&R.