

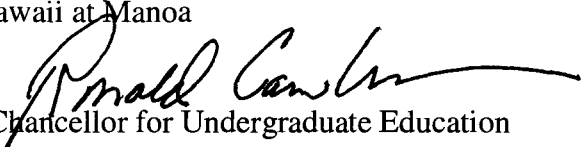


UNIVERSITY
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MĀNOA

MEMORANDUM

December 18, 2008

TO: Academic Advising Officers
University of Hawaii at Manoa

FROM: Ronald Cambra 
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education

SUBJECT: Articulation of UH System General Education Diversification (D) courses

Most of the UH system campuses have parallel General Education requirements. Most campuses have, for example, Diversification requirements (DA, DH, DL; DB, DP, DY; DS) that align with UHM's D requirements and category "Hallmarks."

The goal of Diversification requirements is to ensure "that every student has a broad exposure to different domains of academic knowledge" (*UHM 2008-2009 Catalog*, p. 73). The Hallmarks that distinguish the various UH Diversification categories all mention the *terminology, theory, and/or processes* associated with different methods of academic inquiry. An ad hoc group of UHM faculty, staff, and administrators, as well as the UHM Faculty Senate's General Education Committee, recognize that methodological approaches to the same content matter may, in theory, legitimately vary from campus to campus and even from instructor to instructor.

To ensure that UHM's undergraduates complete their Diversification requirements with exposure to the different domains of academic inquiry, UHM respects the approach to inquiry emphasized by the specific classes for which UH system students have earned credit. **As of this semester, any UH System course that transfers to UHM will carry the Diversification category employed by the sending campus, not UHM, as long as the sending campus's Diversification classification is consistent with UHM's Diversification course-eligibility policies, category hallmarks, and designation processes** (see <http://www.hawaii.edu/gened/diversification.htm>). Thus, a student who transfers LING 102 (DH) from XCC to UHM will satisfy a DH requirement, even though the course carries DS at UHM.

In order to make the UH system's officially equivalent courses truly equivalent throughout the system, UHM urges the UH system to sponsor regular meetings of discipline-specific faculty members from all campuses. One of the goals of such meetings should be to encourage uniformity in methodological approach, and thus in the D category, for every course that shares the same Alpha and Number. To do otherwise is to ensure misunderstandings on the part of students and their advisors.

Please make this information available to all who advise UH students on transfer of System courses to UHM. If you have any questions, please telephone Stella Hieda at UHM (956-6232), who coordinates UH system course articulation at UHM.