Council of Colleagues: Aligning General Education Curriculum and Major Requirements
April 26, 2016
Discussion Focal Points

- General Education
- Student Experience
- Learning Outcomes
- 15 to Finish
Getting Started

How is general education perceived in your departments at UH Mānoa?

Why should we be examining general education requirements?

What are the general education requirements at UH Mānoa?
A Twenty-First-Century Liberal Education

FIGURE 3. A Twenty-First-Century Liberal Education

A LIBERAL EDUCATION

GENERAL EDUCATION

THE MAJOR

Student Learning

Work Experience

Prior Learning

Student Leadership

Service Learning

Curricular Engagement

In-Depth Advising

Integrative Capstone Work

Source: General Education Transformed (Gaston, 2015)
The majority of member institutions reported Gen Ed is a greater priority.
Learning Outcomes that at Least Four in Five Employers Rate as Very Important

Proportions of employers rating each skill/knowledge area as very important for recent college graduates to have*

- Oral communication: 85% (78% students)
- Working effectively with others in teams: 83% (77% students)
- Written communication: 82% (75% students)
- Ethical judgment and decision-making: 81% (74% students)
- Critical/analytical thinking: 81% (79% students)
- Applying knowledge/skills to real world: 80% (79% students)

*8, 9, 10 ratings on zero-to-10 scale, 10 = very important
Institutions are placing greater emphasis on integration of knowledge, skills, and application than on broad knowledge acquisition in their general education programs.

Proportions saying their institution is placing more emphasis on each practice in their general education program:

- Integration of knowledge, skills, and application: 67%
- Applied learning experiences: 61%
- Cross-cutting skill development: 51%
- Broad knowledge acquisition: 32%
Guided Learning Pathways

1: Essential learning outcomes
2: Well-designed and sequenced programs, courses, assignments
3: Melding of “high touch” and “high tech”
4: High-impact practices from first to final year
5: Applied learning project
6: Student work serves as the primary evidence of their progress
Institutional Learning Objectives (ILOs)

Know
- Breadth and Depth of Knowledge

Do
- Intellectual and Practical Skills

Value
- Personal and Social Responsibility

Image adapted from “ILOs: Shaping the Mānoa Experience”
Core Requirements

Foundations

- Written Communication (FW): 3 credits
- Symbolic Reasoning (FS): 3 credits
- Global and Multicultural Perspectives (FG): 6 credits from two different groups
  - Group A: pre-history to 1500
  - Group B: 1500 to present
  - Group C: Pre-history to present

Diversification

- Arts, Humanities, and Literatures (DA, DH, DL): 6 credits in two of the three areas
- Social Sciences (DS): 6 credits in two different subject areas
- Natural Sciences
  - Biological Science (DB): 3 credits
  - Physical Science (DP): 3 credits
  - Science Lab (DY): 1 credit
Graduation Requirements

Focus

• Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues (HAP): 1 class, any level

• Contemporary Ethical Issues (E): 1 class, 300-400 level

• Oral Communication (O): 1 class, 300-400 level

• Writing-Intensive (W): 5 classes, at least 2 at the 300-400 level

Hawaiian or Second Language (HSL)

• Demonstration of competence at the 202-level or equivalent in Hawaiian or a second language.

• Students should check with their School/College regarding this requirement.
• What does your department currently do to determine its course offerings?
Focused Discussion

How are departments currently succeeding in achieving the following?

• 15 to Finish

• Offering courses that satisfy Gen Ed requirements?

• Meeting student learning objectives?

• Meeting institutional learning objectives?
Focused Discussion

• What can be done to improve on any of these efforts?

• What are the current challenges being faced?

• Why is this worth doing?
For further reference and use

AAC&U Surveys
http://www.aacu.org/about/2015-membersurvey
http://www.aacu.org/leap/public-opinion-research

UHM Program Sheets
http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcaa/programsheets

UHM General Education
http://www.hawaii.edu/gened/
gened@hawaii.edu
For further reference and use

Institutional Learning Objectives
https://manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcaa/ilo/

15 to Finish
http://www.15tofinish.com