

**Ad hoc General Education Committee Report to the
Academic Senate, May 9, 2014**

Ellen Okuma and Robyn Kalauli, co-chairs, submit this report:

1. Since the last Senate meeting (April 22), GEC met twice, on April 25 and May 2.
2. GEC also consulted via email with 2 deadlines—May 5 and May 7.
3. GEC reviewed 12 proposals.
4. The following 13 courses require 15 (PHIL 101 & 102 are being recommended for 2 different Primary Designations) Senate decisions on May 9. They are presented in the order of review and approval by GEC.

GEC’s recommendation to the Academic Senate is to approve the following courses for GE in the Primary and Secondary Designations as indicated:

- a. SOC 218 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Social Sciences) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) **(unanimous in favor; 7 YES)**
- b. SSCI 111 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Social Sciences) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Self and Community (GELO 8, optional) **(5 YES; 2 NO)**
- c. GEOG 102 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Social Sciences) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) **(unanimous in favor; 7 YES)**
- d. ENG 102 with a SECOND Primary Designation under GELO 4 (Information Competency) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) **note: ENG 102 has already been approved by the GEC and Academic Senate for a Primary Designation under GELO 2 (Critical Reading). (unanimous in favor; 6 YES)**
- e. SOC 100 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Social Sciences) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Self and Community (GELO 8, optional) **(unanimous in favor; 6 YES)**
- f. HUM 275 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) **(4 YES; 2 NO)**
- g. PHIL 120 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Ethics (GELO 10, optional) **(unanimous in favor; 7 YES)**
- h. HIST 151 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) **(unanimous in favor; 6 YES)**
- i. HIST 152 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) **(unanimous in favor; 6 YES)**

- j. BIOL 101 (lecture only) with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Natural Sciences) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) (**unanimous in favor; 9 YES**)
 - k. ASAN 120 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) (**6 YES; 2 NO**)
 - l. PHIL 101 with a Primary Designation under GELO 10 (Ethics) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) (**unanimous in favor; 8 YES**)
 - m. PHIL 102 with a Primary Designation under GELO 9 (Cultural Diversity) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Areas of Knowledge/Humanities (GELO 7, optional) (**unanimous in favor; 8 YES**)
 - n. PSY 170 with a Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/SSCI) and a Secondary Designation for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) (**unanimous in favor; 8 YES**)
 - o. PHIL 101 with a SECOND Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) (**unanimous in favor; 6 YES**)
 - p. PHIL 102 with a SECOND Primary Designation under GELO 7 (Areas of Knowledge/Humanities) and Secondary Designations for Critical Thinking (GELO 3, required) and Cultural Diversity (GELO 9, optional) (**unanimous in favor; 6 YES**)
5. The following requires Senate action on May 9: revisions proposed by Liberal Arts DCs to GEC regarding GELO 10 and its Benchmark a.

GEC’s recommendation to the Academic Senate: Endorse the revisions.

6. The following requires Senate action on May 9: GEC’s proposed revisions to GEC Operating Procedures.

GEC’s recommendation to the Academic Senate: Endorse the revisions.

7. **GEC recommends that the ad hoc GEC continue for another 2 years.** Such a continuation will allow implementation of the new GE curriculum and time for the Academic Senate to develop a charge for a standing committee and prepare the necessary amendment to the Academic Senate Charter.
8. At the last two meetings, the GEC continued to debate 2 primary issues while reviewing course proposals for GE designation:
- a. **College level reading and writing skills**—The ACCJC standard states that GE courses have to be rigorous at a level appropriate for higher education. UH System ([E 5.209](#), UH System Student Transfer and Inter-campus Articulation) and

HawCC ([HAW 5.252](#), Numbering Criteria for New and Modified Courses) policies specify that courses numbered 100 and higher are baccalaureate level. Courses numbered 100 and higher can articulate across the system therefore it is logical that these courses have equivalent entry requirements.

HawCC's courses numbered 100 and higher are inconsistent in their requirement of college level skills in reading and writing. Some courses being reviewed for GE have no reading or writing placement requirements. Other courses have been proposed with both reading and writing placement requirements but lower than college level. Several courses have one placement requirement but not the other one.

There was disagreement across the GEC on how to address the lack of consistency in placement requirements. Some GEC members voted No on courses without placement requirements; others voted Yes.

Regarding college level courses, there was discussion about the need to clarify which HawCC body is responsible for making sure that we are complying with ACCJC eligibility requirements and UH System and college policies.

- b. **Areas of Knowledge (GELO 7: Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences)**--Review of an application for a course with an alpha outside of the designated area of knowledge being applied for has caused concern. A hypothetical example would be a HOST course applying for a Humanities GELO 7 Primary Designation.

The GEC's discussion indicated that more clarification is needed for applicants seeking Primary Designation in the Areas of Knowledge.