

MINUTES
General Education Committee
February 25, 2025
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Montecito Room

Members present: Gregg Afman (Professor of Kinesiology), Michelle Hardley (Secretary, Registrar), Heather Keaney (Professor of History), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director, Library & Information Services), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Telford Work (Chair, Professor of Religious Studies)

Absent:

I. Prayer – Heather Keaney

II. The minutes from February 11, 2025
The minutes from February 11, 2025 were approved.

III. PRCs Response to the 2024 GE Annual Report
The GE Committee spent some time reviewing the PRC response to the GE annual report. Ultimately, the GE Committee needs to decide if they want to meet with the PRC Committee to discuss the results or if they are ok with the response and are ready to follow through with the PRC recommendations.

One of the recommendations from the PRC was to establish a benchmark for the World History SLO moving forward. We could use historical data or departmental expertise to establish the benchmark against the learning outcome being assessed. Departments could also use a standard 4-5 point Likert scale that assesses competency in general, and for each assessment cycle select a specific point on the scale as a benchmark. The point on the scale that is selected can vary depending on the learning outcome being assessed.

Heather will work on those recommendations with the History department and send them to Tatiana for our next GE annual report.

The other recommendation from the PRC was to identify who would follow up with the departments on any needed Thinking Globally syllabus revisions. Felicia Song has already followed up with the impacted departments so this information will be reported in our next GE annual report. This assessment item has been closed.

IV. JRD Faculty Survey (Google Drive)
The GE Committee asked Blake Kent to look at faculty survey and provide suggestions for improvement. He had no suggestions for changes to the faculty survey.

The faculty survey will be done using a Google Survey.

V. JRD Student Survey (Google Drive)

The GE Committee asked Blake Kent to look at student survey and provide suggestions for improvement. He had some minor suggestions to separate one question into two to increase clarity. He also suggested revisions to the question related to the learning outcome and to revise the wording on the follow up questions to better relate to the question on the learning outcome.

The GE Committee worked through the document and revised the language for a number of questions, including the ones that Blake noted. We will also be adding in demographic questions on class level, transfer or non-transfer status and race/ethnicity.

Students will complete the assessment on paper. There will be a space for them to add in additional comments they have.

VI. MU-016 Syllabus; MU-016 Submission Form – Working Artistically

The GE Committee discussed the MU-016 syllabus and proposal.

This course has been approved for Working Artistically effective Fall 2025.

VII. GE Submission Form Revision

The GE Committee had a short discussion on revisions we might make to the GE submission form. The major question is whether to have a separate form for each GE area that can also include the certification criteria for the category, or to continue with our current form that is universal. A separate form for each GE area might function better for both the faculty to prepare their materials and for the GE Committee in evaluating the submissions. There are 19 categories, so moving forward with separate forms would be some work on the outset but it may be functionally better for the faculty and for the committee.

The GE Committee decided to try using a separate form for each GE area. We will pilot a form for the JRD area and send it Tom Knecht for pilot testing. The Political Science department is considering proposing new courses in this area, so they may be a good test case for the effectiveness of the new format for both faculty and the committee.

VIII. Final GE Proposal to Senate and Supportive Documents

This item will be considered in a future meeting.

IX. Other Business

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley