

SRJC Local General Education Updates

**Title 5 Updates, Mandated Alignments,
and Areas of Local Decision Making**

Academic Senate Information Item

21 August 2024

Previously Presented as an Informational Zoom Presentation to Impacted Faculty [10 May 2024]
and an Information Item to the Academic Senate [15 May 2024]
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SRJC Action Items

Title 5 was updated late Fall 2023 to better align with Cal-GETC, Cal-GETC, the single General Education Pathway for the CCC, CSU, and UC resulting from AB928.

CCC Campuses are to align their local General Education patterns to the revised Title 5 effective Fall 2025 *(extended from original deadline of Fall 2024)*.

Areas 1-5 of the new Title 5 are straightforward shifts from our existing SRJC GE pattern. No local changes or decisions are required for Areas 1-5.



Area 6 Ethnic Studies shifts require SRJC weigh in on some options related to what courses qualify for Ethnic Studies beyond the ETHST course designation.

Any additional SRJC specific Local Requirements for Graduation also require SRJC weigh in.

SRJC must align and publish updated local GE **before March 1, 2025** for **effective Fall 2025**.

The Role of the Academic Senate

Local Decisions are specific to Item 1 [Curriculum including prerequisites and placing courses] and 2 [Degree and certificate requirements] of the [10+1](#) (see [here](#) & [here](#) too).

Senate Discussions will occur Aug 21st & Sept 4th [Cycle 1] // Sept 18th Oct 2nd & Oct 16th (Cycle 2) // Nov 6th Nov 20 & Dec 4th (Cycle 3)

Department Recommendations are being and will be gathered in support of Senate discussions on these topics.

Faculty input is needed now and thru each cycle in support of maximum participation across impacted faculty and disciplines.

All Senate decisions must be reached by December 4, 2024 in order to provide time for other decisions and processes outside of Senate purview.

ACADEMIC SENATE for California Community Colleges

Title 5 §53200 (b): Academic Senate means an organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters. In Section 53200 (c), "Academic and professional matters" means the following policy development and implementation matters:

- 1 Curriculum including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines
- 2 Degree and certificate requirements
- 3 Grading
- 4 Educational
- 5 Standards
- 6 District and college related to faculty roles
- 7 Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports
- 8 Policies for faculty professional development activities
- 9 Processes for program review
- 10 Processes for institutional planning and budget development
- +1 Other academic and professional matters as are mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate.

The Role of the Academic Senate

During our Aug 21st & Sept 4th meetings [Cycle 1]: we are reintroducing this overall presentation and introducing support materials for local decisions in Area 6 Ethnic Studies.

During our Sept 18th, Oct 2nd, & Oct 16th meetings [Cycle 2]: we will discuss and decide on courses related to Ethnic Studies. We will also introduce support materials for local decisions re: Local Graduation Requirements.

In our Nov 6th, Nov 20th, & Dec 4th meetings [Cycle 3]: we will discuss and decide on local graduation requirements.

Our Fall 2024 Recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees in real time.

This plan is based on SRJC's alignment and publication of updated local GE patterns before March 1, 2025 for effective Fall 2025.

This means all Senate decisions must be reached by December 4, 2024 in support of related Spring 2025 publication deadlines outside of Senate purview.

Title 5 Updates – General Education (GE) Areas 1 thru 5

(1) English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (*minimum of 6 semester/8 quarter units*) including:

- (A) English Composition (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and include expository and argumentative writing.
- (B) Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (minimum of 3 semester / 4 quarter units). Courses fulfilling this requirement must be baccalaureate-level and may include oral communication and critical thinking courses.

(2) Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (*minimum of 3 semester / 4 quarter units*).

- Courses fulfilling this requirement must be at least college-level and may include mathematics or quantitative reasoning courses, including logic, statistics, computer languages, and related disciplines.

(3) Arts and Humanities (*minimum of 3 semester / 4 quarter units*).

- Courses in the humanities study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings.
- Such courses develop students' awareness of how people throughout the ages and in different cultures respond to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation and develop students' aesthetic understandings and abilities to make value judgments.
- Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in the visual and performing arts, art history, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, religion, and related disciplines.

Title 5 Updates – GE Areas 1 thru 5

(4) Social and Behavioral Sciences *(minimum of 3 semester / 4 quarter units)*.

- Courses in the social and behavioral sciences focus on people as members of society and develop awareness of the methods of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences.
- They stimulate critical thinking about how people act and have acted in response to their societies and promote appreciation of how societies and social subgroups operate.
- Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines.

(5) Natural Sciences *(minimum of 3 semester / 4 quarter units)*.

- Courses in the natural sciences examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena, helping students appreciate and understand the scientific method and the relationships between science and other human activities.
- Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, physical anthropology, physics, and other scientific disciplines.

Title 5 Updates – GE Areas 1 thru 5

Areas 1-5 are shifts from our current local Areas, with minimal impact or shifts from existing course approvals.

- Current Area A will move to Area 1 and bring with it courses that are currently part of our existing Area B courses that meet the Oral Comm and Critical Thinking criteria
- Current Area B will move to Area 2 retaining courses that meet the Math and Quantitative Reasoning criteria
- Current Area E will move to Area 3 retaining all courses
- Current Area D will move to Area 4 retaining all courses
- Current Area C will move to Area 5 retaining all courses

Title 5 Updates - GE Area 6 Updates

SRJC Action Required

(6) Ethnic Studies (*minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units*).

- Courses fulfilling this requirement may include introductory or integrative baccalaureate-level courses in the four autonomous disciplines within Ethnic Studies (ES):
 - Black Studies/African American Studies/Africana Studies
 - Native American Studies/Chicano/a/x
 - Latino/a/x Studies/La Raza Studies
 - Asian American Studies
 - and related areas of study
- *SRJC must decide to either follow the intent of Cal-GETC Area 6 Ethnic Studies and only allow courses that have been approved at the CSU/UC level Ethnic Studies [ES] in the areas listed above.*
 - *OR* if we would like to broaden course offerings to courses that meet the Ethnic Studies criteria outside of the disciplines listed in ES.
 - The Title 5 language “may include” does give CCC’s the option to include ES courses outside of the disciplines listed above, while the intent of Cal-GETC Area 6 is to allow only courses in the ES areas.
- In a survey of CCC campuses, some intend to stick to the Cal-GETC standard for ease of alignment, while others plan to include a broader course offering for the ability of students to fulfill the area still meeting the intention of the criteria and allowing for more options.

Title 5 Updates - GE Area 6 Updates

- Preparation work this summer included meetings with the Ethnic Studies Department Chair, members of the Curriculum Office, and Senate President.
- Recommendations from Ethnic Studies Chair and Faculty will be brought forward in our next Senate meeting (Sept 4th).
- Senate Discussions are planned across Cycle 2 (Sept 18th, Oct 2nd, & Oct 16th) of the Fall 2024 Semester.

Assigning Ethnic Studies Courses only to Ethnic Studies Disciplines

Spring 2023 // Resolution Number 09.01

Whereas, Resolution 9.03 F20 Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement [1] and Resolution 9.04 F20 Clarify and Strengthen the Ethnic Studies General Education Requirement were approved by the delegates at the 2020 Fall Plenary Session, and in July 2021 the California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved Title 5 §55063 [2] to include the Ethnic Studies Requirement that “Courses offered from ethnic studies disciplines engage students in dynamic and rigorous instruction through discipline-specific theoretical lenses that teach them about the history, expressions, and contributions of the diverse cultures that make up California and the U.S. and also how to engage in a critical analysis of these cultures in relation to each other and to society overall in order to understand and address how they are impacted by such things as systemic racism and classism”;

Whereas, The California Community Colleges Chancellor Office’s June 9, 2022 FAQs on Ethnic Studies provides guidance and clarification in the Ethnic Studies Requirement that was supported by the Board of Governors, as, per Board of Governors (BOG) President Pamela Haynes, the BOG “voted on the ethnic studies requirement as a means to help ‘break down barriers to equity’ by placing ‘diversity, equity, and inclusion...and anti-racism at the heart of our work’” and this requires true experts in African American studies, Chicana/o/x Latina/o/x Studies, Asian American studies, or Native American studies to teach ethnic studies course core competencies; and

Whereas, Title 5 § 55063 (e) (3) Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree states, “Satisfactory completion of a transfer-level course (minimum of three semester units or four quarter units) in ethnic studies. This requirement may be satisfied by obtaining a satisfactory grade in a course in ethnic studies taught in or on behalf of other departments and disciplines”; and

Whereas, An Academic Senate for California Community Colleges’ February 2022 Rostrum article spells out the importance of hiring faculty as prescribed in the 2022 *Minimum Qualifications Handbook* [3] and clearly states, “Some disciplines at colleges faced with a scarcity of faculty have attempted the single course equivalency solution. Although reasons for desiring to circumvent the regulations may stem from understandable difficulties, such problems are no excuse for hiring someone who is not qualified to teach in the discipline. Individuals hired as faculty members, both full-time and part-time, are expected to have the expertise to teach the range of courses in the disciplines for which they were hired”;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urge local academic senates and curriculum committees to appropriately assign ethnic studies courses offered “in or on behalf of other disciplines” to ethnic studies disciplines, specifically the appropriate autonomous core disciplines of ethnic studies, to remain consistent with the Minimum Qualifications Handbook.

M/S/C

1. Resolution F20 09.03 Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement: <https://www.asccc.org/resolutions/ethnic-studies-graduation-requirement>.
2. Proposed Revisions to Title 5, Section 5506 Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree (Ethnic Studies Requirement): [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccchan/Board.nsf/files/C44RX3700FBB/\\$file/revisions-to-title-5-55063-a11y.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/ccchan/Board.nsf/files/C44RX3700FBB/$file/revisions-to-title-5-55063-a11y.pdf)
3. *Minimum Qualifications Handbook* (2022). <https://www.cccco.edu/-/media/CCCO-Website/About-Us/Divisions/Educational-Services-and-Support/Academic-Affairs/What-we-do/Curriculum-and-Instruction-Unit/Minimum-Qualifications/ccco-2022-report-min-qualifications-a11y.pdf?la=en&hash=C250C473024B24162799C9E64C787EF7E50DC5C6>. pp. 7, 27, 30, 38, 45 & 2 p. 26



Questions re: Area E / 6 Updates?

Title 5 Changes

Local Graduation Requirements

SRJC Action Required

Current GE Areas that are not included in the Title 5 updates include:

- Area F - American Institutions
- Area H - Global Perspectives and Environmental Literacy
- Area I - Information Literacy

All of the courses approved for the following areas are approved in other existing areas and there is currently no projected local GE credit loss:

- Area F - All courses additionally approved for and act as a double count for current area D (to be Area 4)
- Area H - All courses additionally approved for Areas D and E (to be Areas 3 and 4)

Information Literacy

- This is the only locally approved GE course that does not maintain any other GE currently, but can be integrated in the revised update based on department desire
- Area I - LIR 10 is not currently approved for any other GE Area (current or new)
- Could still be included in a graduation requirement

Title 5 Changes

Local Graduation Requirements

SRJC Action Required

- *The Academic Senate is seeking the recommendation of the Discipline Specific Faculty and Programs in determining which course of action to take concerning Local Graduation Requirements.*
- Senate Discussions are planned across Cycle 3 (Nov 6th, Nov 20th, & Dec 4th) of the Fall 2024 Semester.
- Formal recommendations from the Discipline Specific Faculty and Programs will be included as part of the Senate's current meeting materials.
- Formal recommendations and documentation will need to be submitted at least a week ahead of each Senate discussion (by Oct 30th, Nov 13th, and Nov 27th) in support of the 72-hour Brown Act requirement for public meeting materials.
- The Academic Senate Executive Committee and Academic Senators are available to support faculty in their decision-making processes.

ASCCC Resolution 15.02

Include Lifelong Learning and Self-Development as a Graduation and General Education Requirement

Spring 2023 // Resolution Number 15.02

Whereas, AB 928 (Berman, 2021) presents unintended consequences for students in many disciplines, including kinesiology, health, physical education, dance and nutrition, within the California Community Colleges system;

Whereas, The mental and physical well-being of all California community college and university students continues to be of serious concern, as confirmed by more than 3,500 students in a statewide survey and over 700 students in a single district survey who support including lifelong learning courses in the GE or graduation requirements and 1,300 California Community College students who have expressed their voice and concern regarding the elimination of lifelong learning and self-development courses in letters written and sent to the Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, Assemblyman Marc Berman, and the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates;

Whereas, The California Master Plan for Higher Education (CMPHE) differentiates the distinct roles and respective missions of California's three tier higher educational systems – California Community Colleges, California State University, and University of California – and indicates that a single transfer curriculum should recognize these system differences without ignoring the physical and mental health needs of all students served by the CMPHE; and

Whereas, Kinesiology, physical education, dance, athletics, nutrition and health education are building blocks of academic success for all students, particularly those who are disproportionately impacted, and the elimination of lifelong learning and self-development courses due to streamlining the GE pattern will result in course cancellations due to reduced enrollment in the disciplines identified above and will deny the opportunity for knowledge and skill development, which will exacerbate inequities and health disparities that contribute to the success gaps in disproportionately impacted students;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges encourage California community colleges to include lifelong learning self-development courses in local general education requirements for associate degrees to ensure that California community college students have the benefit of education in critical areas that affect their academic success, health, and well-being.

Courses Previously Included in Lifelong Learning Requirements

Include Lifelong Learning and Self-Development as a Graduation and General Education Requirement

Spring 2023 // [Resolution Number 15.02](#)

The Current CSU Area E courses related to Lifelong Learning which could be moved to a Local Graduation Requirement include...

- BAD 52 Human Relations
- CHLD 10 Child Growth and Development // CHLD 90.1 Child, Family, Community Interrelationships
- COMM 5 Group Discussion and Problem Solving // COMM 6 Interpersonal Communication
- COUN 6 Introduction to Career Development // COUN 10 Student Success - The First Year Experience // COUN 20 Sex and Gender // COUN 53 College Success
- FDNT 10 Elementary Nutrition
- HLE 5 Health and Wellness
- HUSV 90 [now SWHS 90] Introduction to Social Work and Human Services
- KINES 53 Principles of Health and Wellness
- NRM 12 Introduction to Environmental Conservation
- PSYCH 3, 7, 8, 34, 35, 40, 52, 56, 57
- SOC 10 Close Relationships and Family Life



Questions re: Local Grad Requirements?

[End Slide] SRJC Local General Education Updates

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