

**General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force
Call for Curriculum Framework Proposals**

Deadline for Proposals: September 9th 2013

Send all proposals by hardcopy OR electronically to:

Dr. Jeff Pietruszynski
Coordinator of General Education
233 Hill Hall
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I. Introduction to the proposal

WVSU's General Education curriculum provides the common core of knowledge, skill, and academic experience for all of State's undergraduates. The University is a community of students, staff, and faculty committed to academic growth, service, and preservation of the racial and cultural diversity of the institution. Its mission is to meet higher education and economic development needs of the state and region through innovative teaching and applied research. In order to accomplish this mission, General Education offers students broad exposure to the arts and sciences, secures the foundation for subsequent specialized study, and prepares students to take an active role in a democratic society.

In the Fall 2012, the General Education Committee, Faculty Senate, and the Provost / VPAA established a task force to coordinate possibilities for development of a new general education program for the university that is focused on meeting the needs of WVSU students, the standards of accrediting, certification and licensure bodies, and is amenable to ongoing assessment and improvement.

II. Call for Curriculum Framework Proposals

Building on the above initiative, the task force seeks from members of the WVSU community proposals that create a General Education framework that reinforces the outcomes listed in Section IV. Framework should describe both what courses should be taken and when said courses are taken. Although current national averages place the number of GE hours between 38-42, designers should not feel limited by a strict hour limit. Proposals can come from individuals or groups and the task force encourages cross-disciplinary and cross-college proposals. Successful proposals should incorporate some existing GE courses, but designs are not limited to the current list. New courses can be invented, and no course currently existing should be considered "off limits" to revision / removal. Innovation and creativity are encouraged as long as the design successfully integrates the University Mission and the revised GE Objectives (Section IV). Framework submissions that propose minor revisions on the current curriculum may also be submitted for evaluation.

III. Submission Instructions:

All proposals should be submitted to Dr. Jeff Pietruszynski at the address listed on the top of this call. Proposals may be sent via hardcopy, electronically, or both. Evaluation of submissions will be made by the General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force in a blind review.

Therefore, we ask that submitters only identify themselves with contact information on the cover page to the proposal. This step will allow evaluation solely on the merit of the proposal without other factors influencing decisions. Although complete proposals are recommended, well-thought out, but not complete, plans can be submitted as well.

IV. General Education Objectives

The General Education Curriculum Revision Task Force has endorsed the AAC&U L.E.A.P. outcomes to be used for GE Revision. Those outcomes are listed below and can be found, in more detail at the AAC&U's website (<http://www.aacu.org/leap/>).

WVSU's General Education curriculum prepares students for twenty-first-century challenges and full participation in a democratic society by gaining

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World

- Through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts

Focused by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring

2. Intellectual and Practical Skills, including

- Inquiry and analysis
- Critical and creative thinking
- Written and oral communication
- Quantitative literacy
- Information literacy
- Teamwork and problem solving

Practiced extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

3. Personal and Social Responsibility, including

- Civic knowledge and engagement—local and global
- Intercultural knowledge and competence
- Ethical reasoning and action
- Foundations and skills for lifelong learning

Anchored through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges

4. Integrative and Applied Learning, including

- Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies

Demonstrated through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems

V. Examples of General Education Framework

Examples listed here are for reference purposes, not as an endorsement of revision ideas.

WVSU:

<http://www.wvstateu.edu/WVStateU/media/icons/Academics/WVSU-Catalog-2012-13.pdf>
(Pages 15-18)

California State University, Long beach:

http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/catalog/curr_handbook/section_6/framework.html

Indiana University East:

<http://www.iue.edu/catalog/documents/GenEdFramework.pdf>

North Carolina Central University

<http://www.nccu.edu/academics/gec/requirements.cfm>

Ohio University:

<http://www.ohio.edu/gened/program.cfm>

Temple University:

http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/academic_programs/general_education/

Western Kentucky University:

http://www.wku.edu/registrar/documents/gen_ed_req.pdf