GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

A. A course offered by Washburn University will count for General Education only if it meets each of the following requirements:

1. It is taught in a department, discipline or interdisciplinary area that has been approved, by the vote of both the College Faculty and the University Faculty, to offer courses in general education.

2. It requires the development of at least three but typically not more than four of the nine General Education skills.

3. The **primary content** of the course is some significant area, aspect, or dimension of either the world of nature or the world of human ideas, aspirations, values and institutions (these worlds are characterized in the General Education Statement).

4. To be accepted as a general-education course, an upper-level course must, in the view of the General Education Committee, fulfill at least one of the following requirements:
   
   i. It must have a strong interdisciplinary component, bridging the methods and approaches of multiple disciplines.

   ii. It must have a broadly foundational content, covering material of wide interest in the liberal arts and sciences.

   iii. No more than 20% of the upper-level courses listed in the catalog for any one discipline may be considered as fulfilling general-education requirements.

   iv. The course must also fulfill the criteria for lower-level general education courses.

Meeting all of the above requirements is necessary, but not sufficient, for a course to count for General Education.

B. In addition to meeting the requirements specified under A, to count for General Education a course must meet the requirements listed below:
1. Class format, assignments, testing methods and assessment plan must be suitable for promoting the understanding or mastery of the course’s primary content and for promoting the use and development of its designated General Education skills and all sections of the course will follow the Master Syllabus submitted with this application. (Refer to the Master Syllabus Criteria document when creating the materials for this petition.)

2. The course must promote the use and development of intellectual skills that are normally associated with the level, discipline, and division under which the course is offered.

3. Maximum class size must be compatible with the course’s primary content, assignments, testing methods and targeted skills.

**GENERAL EDUCATION STATEMENT**

The general faculty passed the following statement on general education:

The primary function of a liberal education is to teach those students who have the capacity and the desire to learn how to learn. Washburn University believes that a good education is the shared responsibility of the primary and secondary schools and the university. The foundation for a liberal education must be developed in the pre-college years. The university must strengthen and build on this foundation. The goals of a liberal education can be divided into two groups – intellectual skills and areas of knowledge.

A graduate with a baccalaureate or associate degree should have acquired the following skills:

The ability to

(a) read intelligently,
(b) write effectively,
(c) listen sensitively,
(d) speak clearly,
(e) think creatively
(f) reason mathematically and understand numerical data,
(g) process information both in terms of synthesis and analysis
(h) interpret and assess human values, and
(i) solve problems using the methods of analysis considering evidence, relevance and validity.

Since knowledge consists of more than random and unrelated facts, the university encourages broad comprehension. The areas of knowledge needed by a graduate are listed below:

1. The world of human ideas, aspirations, values and institutions – an understanding of how ideas have been developed and expressed in history, the arts, literature, philosophy, religion and the social sciences. This
includes investigation into how human beings have existed at other times and in cultures other than our own.

2. The world of nature – an understanding of the scientific method and the physical world, knowing something about the earth, the nature of human beings as a biological species, and comprehending the implications of science and technology in our society.

A liberal education cannot be obtained by a student through enrollment in a few specially designed courses. The required skills and areas of knowledge must be presented, explained, discussed and used throughout the whole university curriculum. This statement is a guide not only for the students to determine their expectations of a college education, but also for each professor to help determine the extent that his or her course is meeting the goals of general education.
### GENERAL EDUCATION

#### COURSE APPROVAL PROPOSAL

**DEPARTMENT:**

**COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER:**

- □ Existing Course
- □ New Course

**PREREQUISITES:**

**DISTRIBUTION GROUP:**

- □ Arts/Humanities
- □ Social Sciences
- □ Natural Sciences/Mathematics

**AREA OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- □ The World of Human Ideas, Aspirations, Values and Institutions
- □ The World of Nature

**ESTIMATED ENROLLMENT PER SECTION:**

**ESTIMATED SECTIONS:**

- PER SEMESTER: __________
- PER YEAR: __________

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL EDUCATION SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Read Intelligently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Write Effectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Listen Sensitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Speak Clearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Think Creatively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Reason Mathematically and Understand Numerical Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Process Information Both in Terms of Synthesis and Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Interpret and Assess Human Values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Solve Problems Using the Methods of Analysis Considering Evidence, Relevance, and Validity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENERAL EDUCATION SKILLS MET BY THIS COURSE:**

**BRIEFLY STATE HOW EACH OF THE INDICATED SKILLS WILL BE MET IN THIS COURSE. INCLUDE SAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL BE USED TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING THE GENERAL EDUCATION SKILLS AND INDICATE WHAT OUTCOME MEASUREMENTS WILL BE USED TO ASSESS EACH OF THE INDICATED SKILLS. [ATTACH MASTER SYLLABUS – SYLLABUS MUST INCLUDE GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OBJECTIVES IN ADDITION TO COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES]**

---

Approval of Department Chair (if applicable) __________________________ Approval of Dean __________________________

**VPAA OFFICE USE ONLY:**

- Committee Mtg. Date: __________________________
- Date Application Received __________________________
- Approved ( ) Rejected ( )