

# **Guiding Notes For CSU General Education Course Reviewers**

**Shared with California Community College  
Articulation Officers**

Academic Program Planning  
CSU Office of the Chancellor

Fall 2006

September 12, 2006

Dear CIAC members:

As your fall term proceeds, you may already be in the process of consulting with faculty on course outlines that will be submitted for CSU General Education Breadth and IGETC consideration. In the spirit of collegiality and in appreciation of your valuable time, I am enclosing two resources that I hope will result in more "approved" decisions for your outlines. The enclosed "Guiding Notes" reference and CSU GE-B Web site (link below) were developed to assist our faculty and staff reviewers of CSU GE-B and IGETC course outlines. We are sharing these resources with you so that you may better understand some of the issues that CSU reviewers take into account when considering course outlines. The information from these resources does not constitute official review criteria or policy. Rather, we are sharing insight from some of our most experienced reviewers, and we have included answers to questions raised by reviewers much newer to the process.

Executive Order 595 remains the official CSU policy governing General Education Breadth requirements, but we hope that the information provided here would enhance specific and fruitful discussions on the community college campuses about how proposed outlines might be prepared in order to have a better chance of being approved on the first attempt.

Excerpts from this reference are available online at:  
[http://www.calstate.edu/app/general\\_education.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/app/general_education.shtml)

If you have any questions, please contact me at [chanson@calstate.edu](mailto:chanson@calstate.edu).

Sincerely,



Christine Hanson  
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<http://www.calstate.edu/APP/>

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*Academic Program Planning thanks the following colleagues for their invaluable contributions in the development of this document: Dr. Jolayne Service, Ms. Kathryn Barth, Dr. Cheryl Jung, and Ms. Patricia McFall.*

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**NOTE: THIS REFERENCE GUIDE DOES NOT REPLACE CSU EXECUTIVE ORDER 595, WHICH ESTABLISHES CSU GENERAL EDUCATION-BREADTH REQUIREMENTS.** See <http://www.calstate.edu/EO/EO-595.pdf> for the full policy.

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### **RESOURCES**

- **ASSIST**  
<http://www.assist.org>
- **College Catalogs can be found at:**  
<http://www.collegesource.org/home.asp>
- **Academic Program Planning GE Resources**  
[http://www.calstate.edu/app/general\\_education.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/app/general_education.shtml)
- **OSCAR Review Database**  
[https://mu.calstate.edu:4443/webdoc/oscar\\_prod.html](https://mu.calstate.edu:4443/webdoc/oscar_prod.html)

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **What are CSU GE-Breadth and IGETC?**

##### **CSU GE-Breadth**

Students who plan to graduate from any of the California State University campuses must ordinarily complete 48 semester units of general education as described in the CSU General Education-Breadth (GE-Breadth) pattern. Of the 48 semester units required, 39 may be completed before transfer to the CSU, and the remaining 9 units must be completed at the upper-division level after the student transfers to the CSU. Completing the CSU GE-Breadth curriculum pattern at the community college allows the student to transfer to the university without being required to take further lower-division general education courses at the CSU. CSU GE-breadth certification is an alternative to the University of California-CSU Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) pattern and to campus-specific GE-Breadth requirements. CSU GE-Breadth certification is not an admission requirement nor does its completion guarantee admission to the campus or program of choice. Completion of the CSU GE-Breadth curriculum may facilitate graduation for some students because it satisfies their general education requirements regardless of the major they will choose or the CSU campus to which they will transfer.

The GE-Breadth curriculum is designed to educate students to think, write, and speak clearly and logically; to reason quantitatively; to gain knowledge about the human

body and mind, the development and functioning of human society, the physical and biological world, and human cultures and civilizations; and to develop an understanding of the principles, methods, and values of human inquiry.

(For more information, see ASSIST [http://www.assist.org/web-assist/help/help-csu\\_ge.html](http://www.assist.org/web-assist/help/help-csu_ge.html))

## **IGETC**

The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum is a general education program that California community college transfer students can use to fulfill the lower-division general education requirements of a California State University or University of California campus. This curriculum provides an alternative to the CSU General Education-Breadth requirements and UC campus-specific general education requirements. Completion of the IGETC curriculum may facilitate graduation for some students. For example, IGETC can be a good option for students who know they want to transfer but don't know if they will go to a UC or a CSU. Completion of IGETC is not an admission requirement nor does completion of IGETC guarantee admission to the campus or program of choice.

IGETC requirements are divided into five areas of study. The areas define a specific number of courses and/or units that must be fulfilled to satisfy the IGETC requirement.

IGETC requires completion of a minimum of 37 semester or 49 quarter units of lower-division work with a C grade or better in each course. Students who complete IGETC requirements and whose courses are certified will be required to complete at least 9 semester units of upper-division general education work after transfer to a CSU campus.

(From ASSIST [http://www.assist.org/web-assist/help/help-csu\\_ge.html](http://www.assist.org/web-assist/help/help-csu_ge.html) )

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Faculty and Staff Review Process for CSU GE-Breadth and IGETC**

Executive Order No. 595 requires the CSU Office of the Chancellor, Division of Academic Affairs to maintain a list of other institutions' courses that have been accepted for general education certification purposes. In fulfillment of that policy, Academic Program Planning and Student Academic Support coordinate and conduct annual reviews of more than 1,000 course outlines to evaluate their fit with CSU GE-Breadth and Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) criteria. This year we received more than 1,300 outlines from California community colleges that wish to add courses to their lists of approved GE transfer curricula.

The GE review cycle begins every November with the UC and CSU system offices inviting California's community colleges to submit their course outlines for consideration for addition to the lists. Community college articulation officers respond by entering their new or revised course outlines, one by one, in the online ASSIST OSCAR database. (OSCAR stands for "Online Service for Curriculum Articulation Review.") ASSIST forwards the course-outline data to the CSU OSCAR review system. Authorized reviewers can then log on to OSCAR from any appropriately equipped computer to review and comment on outlines, accessing the information at any time.

When GE review was first instituted in 1992, a panel of CSU and CCC faculty members reviewed all courses submitted; soon after, they asked to implement staff prescreening as a means of managing the mounting workload. Over time, faculty expanded staff authority, allowing staff reviewers to accept or reject submissions. This decreased the proportion of courses assigned to faculty from 100% down to only 5-10% of all courses received. Currently, staff reviewers use criteria defined by CSU faculty to decide whether or not a course is suitable for acceptance as a baccalaureate-level GE transfer course. Reviewers include CSU Chancellor's Office Academic Affairs personnel, CSU campus articulation officers, and CSU campus Academic Affairs personnel. More experienced CSU staff, including the Dean of Academic Program Planning, serve as "review administrators," and conduct a second or third review of every course. CSU faculty remain the final arbiters for decisions on courses that are marginal with respect to the GE criteria.

Although the faculty's role in GE review has changed, faculty importance to GE review has not. Our faculty have played the most significant roles in this process: identifying the criteria for each GE area and providing the final decision on questionable courses.

## **INFORMATION**

### **For Staff and Faculty Reviewers Regarding all CSU GE-Breadth and IGETC areas**

#### **Miscellaneous Suitability Rules**

- If a course meets the IGETC requirements (listed later in this guidebook), approve the course for the analogous area in CSU GE-Breadth. Many CCC students who begin following the IGETC pattern find it advantageous later to switch to the CSU GE-Breadth pattern, and it is important for the transition to be smooth.
- As a rule, no variable-topics courses (or directed-studies courses) are acceptable for IGETC or CSU GE-Breadth, regardless of area. However, not all the topics in courses need be specified in great detail. For example, an instructor could certainly be allowed some choice in a course on Victorian-era English novels as to which novels to analyze in detail. The objectives and content in such a case would probably identify some overarching themes and something about the social context in which the novels were written. If a course for which the topics vary within a rather narrow range, it is advisable to forward the outline to faculty for review.
- If a course is approved for CSU GE-Breadth (outside Area A1 or Area A2), there is no CSU policy requiring that the course be taught in English to be incorporated into a GE-Breadth certification. However, community colleges have been urged to encourage prospective transfer students to take courses taught in English as a better way to develop the command of academic English that they will need for upper-division study in the CSU.
- If an honors course paralleling a non-honors course is submitted, it should include *either* (1) information from the course outline of record (in the "other outline information" section of the OSCAR submission) on how the honors course differs from the non-honors course *or* (2) a copy of the course outline for the non-honors course.

## CSU GE-Breadth and IGETC Areas and Requirements

<b>CSU GE-B Area A</b>	<b>Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking</b>	
<b>IGETC Area 1</b>	<b>English Communication</b>	
<b>CSU GE-Breadth</b>	<b>IGETC</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
<i>9 semester units required</i>	<i>9 semester units required</i>	
A1	1C	Oral Communication
A2	1A	Written Communication
A3	1B	Critical Thinking

<b>CSU GE-B Area B</b>	<b>Physical Universe and its Life Forms</b>	
<b>IGETC Areas 2 and 5</b>	<b>Physical and Biological Sciences, Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning</b>	
<b>CSU GE-Breadth</b>	<b>IGETC</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
<i>9 semester units required</i>	<i>7 semester units required</i>	
B1 (at least one course)	5A (at least one course)	Physical Sciences
B2 (at least one course)	5B (at least one course)	Biological Sciences
B3 (associated with the B1 or B2 course)	5A or 5B (assoc. w/ B1 or B2 course)	Laboratory Activity
B4	2	Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning

<b>CSU GE-B Area C</b>	<b>Arts, Literature, Philosophy, and Foreign Languages</b>	
<b>IGETC Area 3</b>	<b>Arts and Humanities</b>	
<b>CSU GE-Breadth</b>	<b>IGETC</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
<i>9 semester units required</i>	<i>9 semester units required</i>	
C1	3A	Arts (Art, Dance, Music, Theater)
C2	3B	Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Languages)
(at least one course in each area)	(at least one course in each area)	-History courses are allowable in the humanities area.

<b>CSU GE-B Area D</b>	<b>Social, Political, and Economic Institutions &amp; Behavior; History</b>	
<b>IGETC Area 4</b>	<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>	
<b>CSU GE-Breadth</b>	<b>IGETC</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
<i>9 semester units required (at least 2 disciplines)</i>	<i>9 semester units required (at least 2 disciplines)</i>	
D1	4A	Anthropology & Archaeology
D2	4B	Economics
D3	4C	Ethnic Studies*
D4	4D	Gender Studies*
D5	4E	Geography
D6	4F	History (see pp. 11-12)
D7	4G	Interdisciplinary Social or Behavioral Science
D8	4H	Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions
D9	4I	Psychology
D0	4J	Sociology and Criminology

\*Ethnic Studies or Gender Studies courses emphasizing artistic or humanistic perspectives are categorized in Area 3.

<b>CSU GE-B Area E</b>	<b>Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development</b>
<b>CSU Requirement Only</b>	<b>NO SIMILAR IGETC AREA</b>
<i>3 semester units required</i>	

<b>IGETC Area 6A</b>	<b>Language Other than English</b>
<b>UC Requirement Only</b>	<b>CSU DOESN'T REVIEW 6A</b>
<i>Proficiency equivalent to 2 years of high school study</i>	<i>CSU reviewers may select "accept" in OSCAR for all 6A courses</i>

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## CSU GE-BREADTH CRITERIA

### **CSU GE-B Area A Communication in the English Language & Critical Thinking**

Area A emphasizes development of students' communication and reasoning skills. Area A requires coursework in "communication in the English language, to include both oral communication and written communication," so both Area A1 and Area A2 courses need to be conducted in English.

#### **CSU GE-B A1 Oral Communication**

Courses must include faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated practice in communicating orally in the presence of other listeners. Rhetorical principles must be covered (study of effective communication in formal speeches or social interaction is appropriate, for example).

The CSU Communications Departments have asked that for courses submitted for IGETC Area 1C or CSU GE-Breadth Area A1, the "methods of instruction" and "methods of evaluation" sections of the outline be very specific about how instruction and evaluation are conducted so that it may be determined that student presentations will be made in front of faculty and other listeners.

Interpersonal communications courses are not a natural fit in Area A1, but a few have incorporated significant faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated practice in speaking with others; added at least a small component of traditional rhetoric; and won placement in Area A1.

#### **CSU GE-B A2 Written Communication**

Area A2 courses need to be conducted in English. They may be designed for speakers of other languages, but the courses must lead to achievement of the same "freshman composition" objectives as courses for native speakers of English.

#### **CSU GE-B A3 Critical Thinking**

Unlike IGETC Area 1B courses, CSU GE-Breadth Area A3 courses do not have to have a prerequisite or instruction in writing.

<b>CSU GE-B Area B    Physical Universe and Its Life Forms [Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning]</b>
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Area B4 courses must emphasize the development of students' mathematical and quantitative reasoning skills beyond the level of intermediate algebra. Courses in the history of mathematics, for example, are not acceptable for Area B4 because they are not focused on building students' mathematical skills. Trigonometry and discipline-specific statistics courses are not acceptable for IGETC Area 2 but may be acceptable for CSU GE-Breadth Area B4.

Courses in the other sub-areas of Area B emphasize the perspectives, concepts, principles, theories, and methodologies of the disciplines.

Courses approved for this requirement are intended to impart knowledge of the facts and principles that form the foundations of living and non-living systems. Approved Area-B courses should promote understanding and appreciation of the methodologies of science as investigative tools, as well as the limitations of scientific endeavors, namely, what the evidence is and how it was derived. In addition, particular attention should be given to the influence that the acquisition of scientific knowledge has had on the development of the world's civilizations, not only as expressed in the past but also in present times.

Some but not all course outlines submitted for Area B will refer to "the scientific method." Implicit inclusion of the scientific method is acceptable, especially for courses designed for students majoring in science, who would be expected already to be pretty familiar with the "scientific method" per se. EO 595 refers to "methodologies of science as investigative tools," and Area B courses should enhance students' appreciation of how scientists do science. If students appear to emerge from a geology course (even an environmental geology course for non-majors) with a fair idea of how geologists have come to understand what produces a volcano, that course would be satisfactory for Area B1.

Some science courses look a bit like "neither fish nor fowl" but there is a reason for this. The CSU Nursing programs wanted to pare down the number of required courses, so they chose to develop a one-semester, comprehensive Chemistry course to meet the licensing board requirements. The CCCs then developed a comparable course. They all look similar to Ventura's CHEM V30. This course does go into the nature of matter, scientific measurements and notation, etc., which are along the same lines as basic scientific methodology.

There are some physical science courses that look like blends of geology, astronomy, physics and chemistry. These "do it all" courses were designed to meet the CCTC standards for prospective elementary school teachers. These are usually acceptable, too, depending on how they are written.

When a science course includes both lecture and lab, please approve it for Areas B1 & B3 or Areas B2 & B3 (assuming the content justifies approval), even if the college failed to request placement in Area B3. Stand-alone lab courses are conventionally designated B3 only.

A stand-alone lab course must have a related lecture course as prerequisite or co-requisite to meet the IGETC lab requirement. (For CSU GE-Breadth Area B3, we may approve a lab course that doesn't have an official prerequisite/corequisite but require that a particular Area B1 or B2 course be successfully completed prior to or concurrently with the lab course for the lab course to satisfy Area B.)

Physical geography courses are almost always accepted in Area B1. Physical anthropology courses are usually accepted in Area B2 but might be accepted in Area D1.

<b>CSU GE-B Area C    Arts, Literature Philosophy, and Foreign Languages</b>
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For Area C, courses emphasize the perspectives, concepts, principles, theories, and methodologies of the disciplines. Some application of principles and development of skills are acceptable as long as the foundational principles, concepts, theory, and perspectives underlying scholarship are strong components.

#### **CSU GE-B C1 Arts (Art, Dance, Music, Theater)**

Arts include visual arts, architecture and interior design (if aesthetic concerns are prominent), music, dance (if aesthetic concerns are prominent), theater, and most film courses.

Courses that meet IGETC Area 3 and CSU GE-Breadth Area C requirements encourage students to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical, historical, literary, aesthetic, and cultural importance and to develop an independent and critical aesthetic perspective in the arts. CSU GE-Breadth Area C1 courses should adequately address historical, theoretical, and cultural contexts of the art under study.

For IGETC Area 3A, performance and studio classes may be credited toward satisfaction of this subject area only if their major emphasis is in the integration of history, theory, and criticism; for CSU GE-Breadth Area C1, history, theory, and criticism must be a significant component but not necessarily the dominant component of the course. Some study of "great works of the human imagination" must be included in the course.

#### **CSU GE-B C2 Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Languages)**

For CSU GE Area C2, foreign-language courses at the elementary level are acceptable if the cultural content justifies the qualification. The cultural content should include more than food, festivals, and holidays. Geography, history, arts and humanities may be appropriate for the cultural content in courses for students whose command of the language is unequal to literary works in that language.

In courses for heritage speakers, look for an emphasis on culture and cultural readings in the language rather than a focus on grammar and written language skills exclusively.

Mass communication/mass media courses are not accepted in Area C2, but mass-media-and-society courses may be acceptable in Area D7.

Creative writing courses can be included in Area C2 if they include reading and analysis of professional works of literature. A prerequisite is not a criterion for approval of a creative writing course for CSU GE-B. For approval in Area C2, it is necessary that students in the course read some high-quality professionally written fiction, poetry, scripts, and/or creative non-fiction, usually in addition to each other's works. They should be learning to "read as writers," said to be a different process from reading as literary analysts.

*IGETC excludes creative writing courses categorically.*

The UC has traditionally considered history to be inherently humanistic, and in response to that position, the CSU faculty (who have typically regarded it as social scientific) agreed to an undocumented but well-established arrangement with the UC regarding history courses. Except for arts history courses, if a course in history is acceptable for IGETC, both the UC and the CSU consider it acceptable in IGETC Area 3B and/or Area 4F, regardless of the focus. Rejection of history courses is extremely rare.

The EO 338 description of GE-B Area C, reproduced in EO 595, did not distinguish between arts and humanities, though the certification provisions of EO 595 later made that distinction significant. EO 595 references to "great works of the human imagination" and students' "subjective response to creative works" are standards considered applicable primarily to courses in the arts and literature. Standards for philosophy, religious studies, and history courses include the IGETC commitment of encouraging students "to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical, historical..., and cultural importance."

If an early world history/civilization course (prehistory to early modern era) is generally acceptable for GE, then it needs to be approved for Area C2. Not to do so would undermine the teacher-preparation Lower-Division Transfer Pattern (LDTP)—something we want to avoid as much as possible. If the course is proposed for IGETC Area 4F and/or GE-B Area D6, then it should also be approved for Area D6, but if it's proposed just for IGETC Area 3B and GE-B Area C2 and it's generally okay, we'll put it solely in IGETC Area 3B and GE-B Area C2.

## **CSU GE-B Area D Social, Political, and Economic Institutions & Behavior; History**

Courses emphasize the perspectives, concepts, principles, theories, and methodologies of the disciplines.

- D1 Anthropology and Archaeology (Linguistics may be D1 or C2, depending on emphasis)
- D2 Economics
- D3 Ethnic Studies (if the dominant perspective is social scientific)
- D4 Gender Studies (if the dominant perspective is social scientific)
- D5 Geography (usually excluding physical geography)
- D6 History
- D7 Interdisciplinary Social or Behavioral Science
- D8 Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions
- D9 Psychology
- D0 Sociology and Criminology

### *D7 Interdisciplinary*

The disciplinary perspectives should be made sufficiently clear.

### *D6 History*

See page 11.

Acceptable courses in Criminology (e.g., courses focusing on the etiology of crime and criminal behavior) are categorized with Sociology (Area D0), while acceptable Criminal Justice courses (e.g., courses focusing on the institutions responsible for law enforcement, justice, and corrections) are categorized with Political Science (Area D8).

## **CSU GE-B Area E Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development**

Courses satisfying in Area E need to address physiological/health, psychological, and social considerations and must draw on findings from the biological, behavioral, and social sciences. Appropriate Area-E courses do not spend inordinate amounts of time on college-specific topics or "study skills."

Physical activity courses (except for special-topics or directed studies courses) are acceptable in Area E, as long as the students move and are instructed/supervised/coached by the faculty member (or designee) when doing so.

Students may not, however, complete Area E using only physical activity or other skill-acquisition courses. All colleges that list physical-activity courses in Area E have, as they must, a limitation on the number of physical-activity units that can count toward Area E. While integration of instruction in physical activity into "courses with broader purpose" is preferred, the GE-Breadth Advisory Committee in 1982 explicitly allowed colleges instead to limit the amount of physical-activity credit applicable to Area E.

When a physical-activity course is submitted and accepted, the college is told, "This course is accepted in Area E with the usual unit limitation on physical-activity courses."

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## **IGETC CRITERIA**

- Courses proposed for IGETC must have a minimum unit value of 3 semester or 4 quarter units. Science courses that include a laboratory should ordinarily be a minimum of 4 semester or 5 quarter units in value. If the laboratory is offered separately from the lecture, the combined total of the lecture and the laboratory should equal at least 4 semester or 5 quarter units.
- The outlines must be in English.
- Only one outline need be submitted for cross-listed (“same as”) courses.
- No variable-topics courses (or directed-studies courses) are acceptable for IGETC or CSU GE-Breadth.
- The outlines submitted should provide information in all required fields (including the title, author, and date of publication of examples of textbooks or required readings). Outlines with texts more than seven years old may be rejected if more recently published texts are appropriate and readily available.

<b>IGETC Area 1 English Communication</b>
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### **IGETC 1A English Composition**

Courses designed exclusively for the satisfaction of remedial composition cannot be counted toward fulfillment of the English composition requirement.

### **IGETC 1B Critical Thinking-English Composition**

IGETC Area 1B courses must include explicit instruction in both composition and critical thinking, and students’ writing (at least 6,000 words, not including revisions) must be evaluated for both critical thinking and English composition. An IGETC Area 1B course must have an IGETC Area 1A course as prerequisite. Prerequisite course names and catalog numbers can be verified on [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) or by consulting the college catalog at [www.collegesource.com](http://www.collegesource.com). (CSU GE-Breadth Area A3 courses do not have to have a prerequisite or instruction in writing.)

### **IGETC 1C Oral Communication**

The CSU Communications Departments have asked that for courses submitted for IGETC Area 1C or CSU GE-Breadth Area A1, the “methods of instruction” and “methods of evaluation” sections of the outline be very specific about how instruction and evaluation are conducted so that it may be determined that student presentations will be made in front of faculty and other listeners.

Courses must include faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated practice in communicating orally in the presence of other listeners. Rhetorical principles must be covered (study of effective communication in formal speeches or social interaction is appropriate, for example).

## **IGETC Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning**

### **IGETC 2A**

All courses must have an explicit prerequisite of Intermediate Algebra and build students' skills beyond the level of Intermediate Algebra. Trigonometry and discipline-specific statistics courses are not acceptable for IGETC Area 2 but may be acceptable for CSU GE-B Area B4. Courses that are designed to serve a restricted range of disciplines but "emphasize the mathematical basis of statistics, probability theory and estimation, application and interpretation, uses and misuses, and the analysis and criticism of statistical arguments in public discourse" may be approved for IGETC Area 2A.

## **IGETC Area 3 Arts and Humanities**

Courses must emphasize the perspectives, concepts, principles, theories, and methodologies of the disciplines.

### **IGETC 3A (Arts: Art, Dance, Music, Theater)**

Arts include visual arts, architecture and interior design (if aesthetic concerns are prominent), music, dance (if aesthetic concerns are prominent), theater, and most film courses.

Performance and studio classes may be credited toward satisfaction of this subject area only if their major emphasis is in the integration of history, theory, and criticism.

### **IGETC 3B (Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Languages, History)**

See pages 11-12 for the guide to placing History courses in IGETC and CSU GE-Breadth areas.

To qualify for IGETC Area 3B, a foreign language course should develop students' language skills and knowledge beyond the level of proficiency needed to satisfy IGETC Area 6A (equivalent to two years of high school instruction) and include a significant cultural component (typically focused on literature).

Language courses for native (heritage) speakers should emphasize culture and cultural readings and not focus on grammar and written language skills exclusively.

## **IGETC Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences**

### **IGETC 4A**

- 4A Anthropology and Archaeology (Linguistics may be D1 or C2, depending on emphasis)
- 4B Economics
- 4C Ethnic Studies (if the dominant perspective is social scientific)
- 4D Gender Studies (if the dominant perspective is social scientific)
- 4E Geography (usually excluding physical geography)
- 4F History
- 4G Interdisciplinary Social or Behavioral Science
- 4H Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions
- 4I Psychology
- 4J Sociology and Criminology

Acceptable courses in Criminology (e.g., courses focusing on the etiology of crime and criminal behavior) are categorized with Sociology (Area 4J), while acceptable Criminal Justice courses (e.g., courses focusing on the institutions responsible for law enforcement, justice, and corrections) are categorized with Political Science (Area 4H).

## **IGETC Area 5 Physical and Biological Sciences**

Courses must emphasize experimental methodology, the testing of hypotheses, and the power of systematic questioning rather than only the recall of facts. Courses that are too narrow or have an applied focus are unacceptable (forestry, horticulture, health, human environment, human nutrition, for example).

A stand-alone lab course must have a related lecture course as prerequisite or corequisite to meet the IGETC lab requirement.

The only science courses for which UC is imposing an Intermediate Algebra prerequisite are the courses designed for science majors.

### **IGETC 5A**

5A courses must focus on the core concepts of a physical science discipline (e.g., Energy and the Way We Live would not be acceptable).

### **IGETC 5B**

Acceptable courses for Area 5B must focus on teaching the basic concepts of biological sciences.

## **IGETC Area 6A Language Other than English**

*CSU reviewers do not have to review courses for IGETC Area 6A.*

This is solely a UC category, and CSU reviewers can simply approve for Area 6A all courses submitted for that area. Some courses are submitted for IGETC Area 6A and CSU GE-B Area C2; CSU reviewers should review and recommend approval or rejection, as appropriate, of those courses for CSU GE-B Area C2.

**NOTES REGARDING CSU GE-BREADTH**  
**(Extracted from EO 595)**

- A. **English Communication/Critical Thinking**  
Minimum nine semester or 12 quarter units in communication in English language, including both oral and written communication, and in critical thinking, to include consideration of common fallacies in reasoning. Critical thinking should include inductive and deductive processes, formal and informal fallacies of language and thought, and the ability to distinguish fact from judgment or opinion.
- B. **Inquiry into Physical Universe, Life Forms, With Laboratory Activity**  
Minimum 12 semester units or 18 quarter units to include inquiry into physical universe and its life forms, some laboratory activity participation, and into mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning and their applications.
- C. **Arts, Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Languages**  
Minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units in the arts, literature, philosophy and foreign languages. Should include exposure to both Western and non-Western cultures [but not necessarily within every course]. Foreign languages can be included, but only if they contain a cultural component and are not solely skills acquisition courses.
- D. **Social, Political, Economic Institutions**  
Minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units dealing with human social, political, and economic institutions and behavior and their historical background. Includes both Western and non-Western contexts [but not necessarily within every course].
- E. **Lifelong Understanding and Development as Physiological, Psychological Beings**  
Minimum of three semester units or four quarter units in study designed to equip human beings for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological and psychological entities. Physical activity could be included as long as it is an integral part of the study described herein.

**EXCEPTIONS**

- A. The CSU campus may partially waive CSU GE-Breadth requirements for an individual student to avoid demonstrable hardship, such as the need to extend the time required to complete the degree in the case of a senior-level transfer student.
- B. In the case of high-unit professional major degree programs, the Chancellor may grant exceptions to one or more requirements for students completing the particular program. Such exception must be considered at the campus level prior to initiating the request. A full academic justification shall be submitted to the Senior Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, who shall submit his or her recommendation and that submitted by the campus president, along with all relevant documents, to the Chancellor.

