

IGETC Course Effective Date

In fall of 2006, the CCC/CSU/UC systemwide offices along with 5 CCC reps formed a committee to review, revise and update the IGETC Notes and Standards to better serve transfer students. The committee's recommendations will be presented to ICAS this spring.

One of the policies under review is the effective date for IGETC approved courses. Under current policy, courses submitted for IGETC in December, if approved, are effective the fall of the next academic year. Upon request of the institution, the approved course's IGETC effective date will be retroactive to spring of the current academic year if the course was active in the college's curriculum in the spring term (so that students currently enrolled in the course will receive the benefit of IGETC applicability).

Example: History 11 is submitted for IGETC consideration in December 2006. It is approved for IGETC with an effective date of fall 2007. Upon approval, if the course is active in ASSIST then the approval date is automatically retroactively approved for spring 2007.

The committee is recommending to ICAS that this policy be changed to better serve our transfer students and to align with both the UC TCA and CSU GE Breadth policy. The suggested policy would read:

Courses are submitted for IGETC review in December. Decisions are rendered in March of the following calendar year. Approved courses become effective the fall of the same academic year the course was submitted and approved if the course was active in the college's curriculum at that time. For example, a course submitted in December 2008 and approved in March 2009, becomes effective on IGETC beginning fall 2008.

This change in policy was suggested at the spring 2006 CIAC Conference. Overall, Articulation Officers thought the policy made good sense for students. However, two main concerns were expressed that need to be addressed:

1. College publications, such as the College Catalog, Schedule of Classes, and IGETC handouts, may not be able to be changed mid-year. In other words, most CCC campuses print their material in the summer before the beginning of fall. If IGETC results are not known until March, it was expressed that the publications may be inaccurate.

This is no different from the current UC TCA policy: most CCC campuses must print their Catalogs and Schedules before they know the results of their UC TCA submissions.

Solution: Print a statement in the Catalog and Schedules referring students to the ASSIST website. If the IGETC handouts can be re-printed with the updated courses, this is advised. If not, do the same as above.

Sample statement: At the time of publication, the 2007-2008 IGETC was not available. Please refer to the ASSIST website at www.assist.org for the current IGETC. The following is the 2006-2007 IGETC.

2. Faculty who are teaching a course that is pending UC and/or IGETC approval may tell students the course is UC/IGETC approved. Then, if the course is denied, the students have been misinformed and this may delay their time-to-transfer.

Again, this is no different from the current UC TCA policy. CCC campuses may teach a course in the fall that is pending UC transferability.

Solution: Articulation Officers, and others on the CCC campus involved in both UC TCA and IGETC submissions, should not communicate, verbally or in campus publications that courses are pending approval. Communication to the campus community, and especially to students, should not be made until the UC decision is made. Care should be taken to educate the faculty about the UCTCA and IGETC review process.

Additionally, it is at the discretion of each CCC campus to delay offering the course until all UC decisions regarding transferability are made. Many CCC campuses currently use this practice.

Lastly, this suggested change in policy will help the ASSIST Coordination Site with their record keeping and accuracy. As stated above, it also aligns more closely with both the UC TCA and CSU GE Breadth policy. This alignment helps to keep confusion to a minimum between the three segments, and, most importantly, it helps our students.