



## Curriculum Handbook

# 7. General Education Requirements

### Overview

This section outlines the standards for courses proposed to meet General Education Requirements for:

- Napa Valley College General Education
- CSU General Education
- IGETC

### I. Napa Valley College General Education Proposal

If a course is proposed for Napa Valley College General Education (Title 5, Section 55806. (2) it must satisfy the criteria as described below. While courses might satisfy more than one general education requirement, it may not be counted more than once for these purposes. A course may be used to satisfy both a general education requirement and a major requirement. Students may use the same course to meet a general education requirement for the Associate Degree and to partially satisfy a general education requirement at the California State University, if such a course is eligible under the provisions of section 40405 of this title.

#### A. Natural Sciences

Courses in natural science are those which examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena. Courses in the social sciences, fine arts, and humanities are not included in this category.

Courses in the humanities are those which study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. To satisfy the general education requirement in humanities, a course shall be designed to help the student develop an awareness of the ways in which people through the ages and in different cultures have responded to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation and help the student develop aesthetic understanding and an ability to make value judgments. Such courses could include introductory or integrative courses in the arts, 9(t)-12(du)TJld i. Sucwdcu3( )-ga -9v6( )-12(t)( a c)-8eentan aph12(

Communication and Analytical Thinking:

course proposed to meet American institutions and California government requirement must satisfy the requirements CSU executive order #167 if the course is intended to meet the California State University graduation requirement as well as the Associate Degree requirement.

**Health Education and Physical Education Course:**

Students are required to take three units of Health Education or Physical Education to satisfy both the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees.

## II. California State University (CSU) General Education

If a course is proposed for areas of CSU GE (Executive Order No. 595) (Title 5, Sections 40405.1), it must satisfy the following criteria.

### Area A. Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking

Instruction approved for fulfillment of the requirement in communication is to be designed to emphasize the content of communication as well as the form and should provide an understanding of the psychological basis and the social significance of communication, including how communication operates in various situations. Applicable course(s) should view communication as the process of human symbolic interaction focusing on the communicative process from the rhetorical perspective: reasoning and advocacy, organization, accuracy; the discovery, critical evaluation and reporting of information; reading and listening effectively as well as speaking and writing. This must include active participation and practice in written communication and oral communication.

Instruction in critical thinking is designed to achieve an understanding of the relationship of language to logic, which should lead to the ability to analyze, criticize, and advocate ideas, to reason inductively and deductively, and to reach factual or judgmental conclusions based on sound inferences drawn from unambiguous statements of knowledge or belief. The minimal competence to be expected at the successful conclusion of instruction in critical thinking should be the demonstration of skills in elementary i(al)-1o-iigohe 1 Tw -4gencluding(al)-1o-iii3(nf)-13(-12(d ])Tp)-12(of)-nypusri12(i)3er (t)-1(andi)-9(ng -12(i)3(n)-12(g unda13

curricular procedures. In specifying inquiry into mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning and their application, the intention is not to imply merely basic computational skills, but to encourage as well the understanding of basic mathematical concepts.

- B1. Physical Science
- B2. Life Science
- B3. Laboratory Activity
- B4. Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning

#### [Area C. Arts, Literature, Philosophy and Foreign Languages](#)

Instruction approved for the fulfillment of this requirement should cultivate intellect, imagination, sensibility and sensitivity. It is meant in part to encourage students to respond subjectively as well as objectively to experience and to develop a sense of the integrity of emo

these areas should be examined in their contemporary as well as historical setting, including both

### III. Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

If a course is proposed for IGETC (Title 5, Section 40405.2), it must satisfy the following criteria:

- Requirements prior to submission for IGETC
- Course must be listed on the UC Transfer Course Agreement (TCA) list and
- Course must be transferable for CSU baccalaureate elective credit/baccalaureate list
- Course complies with Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum requirements in Title 5, Section 40405.2.

#### Area 1. English Communication

English as a Second Language courses cannot be used to fulfill the English composition requirement.

Writing courses designed to meet the needs of a particular major, e.g., Writing for Accountants, cannot be used to meet the composition requirement.

The English Communication subject area includes a requirement for a combined course in critical thinking-English composition. The IGETC curriculum states that the course must have a prerequisite of a first-semester reading and composition course. The course must provide “as a major component, instruction in the composition of substantial essays and require students to write a sequence of such essays. Written work shall be evaluated for both composition and critical thinking.

Group A: English Communication

Group B: Critical Thinking-English Composition

Group C: Oral Communication

#### Area 2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

Courses approved to fulfill this requirement must focus on quantitative analysis and the ability to use and criticize quantitative arguments. Symbolic Logic, Computer Programming, and survey math/quantitative reasoning requirement.

Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning



Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions

Psychology

Sociology & Criminology

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

**Biological Sciences** - Acceptable courses must focus on teaching the basic concepts of biological sciences. Human Nutrition, Horticulture, Forestry, Health, and Human Environment courses were determined to have a narrow or applied focus and therefore unacceptable for this area. Courses which emphasize the major concepts of the discipline, including biochemical and physiological principles, will be considered.

**Physical Sciences** - Course which do not focus on the core concepts of a physical science discipline, such as Energy and the Way we Live, are not acceptable.

Physical Science with Lab or Physical Science Lab only (non-sequence)

Physical Science Lecture only (non-sequence)

Physical Science Lecture course

Physical Science with lab or Biological Science Lab only (non-sequence)

Biological Science Lecture only (non-sequence)

Biological Science Lecture course

Biological Science Lab course

First Science course is a Special sequence

Second Science course in a Special Sequence

