

General Education Courses

Definition of General Education Courses

A general education course is one which focuses primarily on one of the general education outcomes and covers every component of the associated general education rubric. To maintain the general education course designator, no more than one rubric component may be omitted from the course content. Further, all general education courses must be taught by someone meeting the qualifications to teach general education: a master's degree in the discipline or subfield OR a master's degree plus 18 graduate credit hours in the discipline or subfield.

Proposed Changes to General Education Committee

The general education committee has the authority and responsibility to designate courses as meeting the above definition; thereby such courses are called "general education courses." Designation must be renewed on a 5-year rolling basis OR whenever substantial changes are made to said course. It is the faculty member's responsibility to notify the general education committee when any substantial changes are made.

RATIONALE:

In HLC's 2017 Final Report, instructions were given to develop clear guidelines for what can be called a Gen Ed course at Mountwest. (See Final Report comments on HLC core component 4B.) Creating these guidelines, as well as overseeing adherence to the guidelines, should be a responsibility that resides with the general education committee.

Excerpt from HLC Assumed Practice B2A:

"Faculty teaching general education courses, or other non-occupational courses, hold a master's degree or higher in the discipline or subfield. If a faculty member holds a master's degree or higher in a discipline or subfield other than that in which he or she is teaching, that faculty member should have completed a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours in the discipline or subfield in which they teach."