General Education Framework

Academic Senate Meeting
September 9, 2010
Functions of the GEC

- To ensure the general education curriculum is established, monitored, reviewed, and assessed
- To oversee General Education Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
- To determine which undergraduate courses qualify for general education credit
- To maintain the official catalog of RIT’s General Education Curriculum and associated courses
Create a set of overarching principles to guide general education curricular reform that:

- complements RIT’s mission,
- serves RIT students,
- reflects the diversity of the University,
- conforms to New York State’s statutory requirements and
- complies with the RIT approved General Education Student Learning Outcomes
Academic Senate Charge to GEC

- Seek advice and consultation from the curriculum committees of the College of Liberal Arts and College of Science
- Ensure that the needs and interests of all colleges are appropriately considered
Academic Senate Charge to GEC

- Take into consideration budgetary implications
- Benchmark against colleges and universities of interest
- After consultation with the ICC, forward the proposed curriculum to the Academic Senate for action
GEC Membership

Membership of the General Education Committee

- The chief academic officer or designee, ex-officio, voting, Dick Doolittle
- Academic dean representative, Robert Ulin
- Academic Senate representative, Amit Ray
- The Director of Student Learning Outcomes Assessment, ex-officio, non-voting, Anne Wahl
- Faculty representative from each college of the University:
  - COS, Elizabeth Hane, Chair
  - COLA, Franz Foltz
  - SCB, Erhan Mergen
  - CAST, George Zion
  - GCCIS, Rajendra Raj
  - KGCOE, Surendra Gupta
  - NTID, David Templeton
  - CIAS, Naomi Orwin
How the New Framework Differs

- University-wide engagement
- Not disciplinary, but outcome driven
- First-Year Seminar
- Opportunities for integrated and inter-/trans-disciplinary experiences
- Intentional scaffolding
- Writing intensive
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Framework</th>
<th>BS</th>
<th>BFA</th>
<th>AS</th>
<th>AAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminar/1st-year</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>writing intensive course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perspectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categories TBD *</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematical/Scientific/Te</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ch Literacy</td>
<td>(4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>courses)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immersion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Sciences Concentration Requirements *</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose 3 additional, related</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Required Credits</strong></td>
<td>42</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Education Electives</strong></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Perspectives Foundation

General Education Framework
BS Degree

Foundation
- First Year Seminar
- Basic Writing (optional)
- First Year Writing

Perspectives
- Perspectives 1
- Perspectives 2
- Perspectives 3
- Perspectives 4
- Perspectives 5
- Science Literacy
- Quant Literacy

Immersion
- Conc. 1
- Minor 4 (optional)
- Conc. 2
- Minor 5 (optional)
- Conc. 3
- Capstone (optional)

Elective General Education courses to bring total to 60 credits
General Education – BFA Degree

Foundation
- First Year Seminar
- First Year Writing
  - Basic Writing (optional)

Perspectives
- Perspectives 1
- Perspectives 2
- Perspectives 3
- Perspectives 4
- Perspectives 5
  - Science Literacy (optional)
  - Quant Literacy (optional)

Immersion
- Conc. 1
- Conc. 2
- Conc. 3
  - Minor 4 (optional)
  - Minor 5 (optional)
  - Capstone (optional)

Total should be a minimum of 30 credits
Additional program determined or elective courses to bring total to 30 credits
General Education – AAS Degrees

Foundation
- First Year Seminar
- Basic Writing (optional)
- First Year Writing

Perspectives
Choose 4 of 5; TBD
- Perspectives 1
- Perspectives 2
- Perspectives 3
- Perspectives 4
- Perspectives 5
- Science Literacy
- Quant Literacy

Additional program determined or elective courses to bring total to 25 credits
General Education Assessment

- Alignment/mapping of General Education Student Learning Outcomes to Courses

- Current Assessment Plan Implementation
  - General Education Faculty Teams

- Assessment Management System
  - Taskstream
Gen Ed Course Review/Approval

• GEC will review and evaluate all new proposals for courses for General Education credit using:

  ◦ State of New York Liberal Arts and Sciences Guidelines

  ◦ RIT Student General Education Student Learning Outcomes
The College Curriculum Committee provides:

- A cover memo (required form):
  - Process of approval
  - Alignment to General Education Framework

- An outline for the course being reviewed in the ICC New/Revised Course Outline format
Gen Ed Course Review/Approval

- GEC reviews the proposed course and forwards the recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer
- GEC informs the ICC of the recommendations and the RIT community of the final decision regarding the course proposal
- GEC maintains database of currently approved courses
“Concentration” Approval

- Courses within a concentration go through the same approval process
- For approval as a General Education Concentration, a group of three courses ideally should:
  - Explore a perspective area in greater detail
  - Integrate across perspectives
  - Lead to a minor with the addition of two courses
"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused?
My brain is full."