

General Education Guiding Principles

Approved June 14, 2010

Framework

The general education program should:

- Meet the New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements (<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/ocue/lrp/liberalarts>)
- Ensure that students achieve RIT's General Education Learning Outcomes
- Be consistent with the Academic Program Profiles
- Support RIT's Goals, Values, Vision and Mission
- Support the IWC Comprehensive Writing Program initiative

Depth and Breadth

The general education program should:

- Contribute to the development of a breadth of knowledge by providing course offerings from a broad range of disciplines, including math, humanities, and the natural and social sciences
- Allow students to explore a particular area of knowledge in depth through a series of related courses
- Provide opportunities for students to make connections between courses and across disciplines
- Be integrated into all four or five years of a student's education at RIT

Supporting programs/majors

The general education program should:

- Provide a progression of courses that are integrated with major fields of study
- Provide courses that support the basic requirements for students in the majors

Implementation

The general education program should:

- Be clear and concise to ease processes for:
 - Scheduling
 - Auditing
 - Advising
- Offer students courses and programs that support their major field of study and other interests
- Provide students choices in how to fulfill their requirements
- Be clear and easy to understand for students, faculty, and staff
- Allow for easy adaptation for future reform

Other

The general education program should:

- Be intellectually stimulating for faculty and students
- Be adaptive to changing curricula and a changing world
- Support innovation, creativity, scholarship, and entrepreneurship