Overview of Our Revised General Education Program

The General Education Team

- Coordinator – Clifton Franklund
  GeneralEducation@ferris.edu
- Academic Affairs General Education Committee
- General Education subcommittees (8)
- General Education content advisory groups
- Everybody at Ferris

Implementation Goals

- Challenge students to be successful citizens of a diverse and globalized world
- Provide transparent processes to define, deliver, and evaluate student learning experiences in General Education
- Don't break anything
Overview of Our Revised General Education Program

Eight Core Competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Outcome Areas</th>
<th>New Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Intensive Courses</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Enrichment</td>
<td>Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Consciousness</td>
<td>Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity/Gender</td>
<td>Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Understanding</td>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>Quantitative Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Awareness</td>
<td>Self and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Problem Solving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dealing With MTA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self and Society</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Literacy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Solving</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transitioning Course Mapping

- Old outcome area courses automatically gain the corresponding new competency
- Transfer courses mapped to the old outcome areas automatically map to the corresponding new competency
- Transfer courses that articulate with a Ferris course automatically gain all the General Education attributes of that course
- Non-matching courses may still be approved to have General Education attributes

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There Are Two Web Sites!

Sortable Lists

- Sortable lists are available on both web sites
- Built using Cold Fusion and pull directly from Banner
- Use old list for students prior to fall 2017
- The new list has up-to-date listings of all courses mapped to the new competencies

Degree Requirements

- The degree requirements are essentially unchanged for Associates and Bachelors degrees
- Bachelors now require Collaboration and Problem Solving within their academic program courses
Anatomy of a Competency

- Operational Definition: Natural sciences are academic disciplines that collectively use empirical evidence to comprehend and explain the physical world. At Ferris State University, these disciplines include Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Geology, and Physics.
- Hallmark of a Bulldog: Ferris graduates use empirical evidence to make informed decisions about scientific issues.
- Relevance: Scientific investigation is how we come to a deeper understanding of the natural world, make discoveries that affect humankind, and develop solutions to many problems. Well-informed citizens need to both comprehend the scientific process and critically evaluate information presented in the popular media.

Ferris Learning Outcomes

- SCI1: Utilize concepts – Students correctly apply, analyze, or evaluate information using discipline-specific facts and concepts.
- SCI2: Design experiments – Given a problem, students formulate a potential solution or hypothesis and design a valid experiment to test it.
- SCI3: Analyze issues – Students use scientific concepts and principles to critically analyze historical or contemporary issues or policies.
- SCI4: Communicate data – Students clearly communicate scientific findings using a variety of formats (words, graphs, tables, statistical inferences, formulae, etc.) as appropriate.

Assessment of Student Learning

- All courses with General Education attributes will report data for their competencies
- One FLO will be assessed each semester
- Student learning data will be aggregated, deidentified, analyzed, and published online
- Details of these processes will be presented at 1:30 pm today

Course Certification

- Any course (from any program or college) can apply for a General Education attribute
- The General Education subcommittees will evaluate all applications
- Decisions are made according to how well the proposed course fits the operational definition and Ferris Learning Outcomes
- Details of these processes will be presented at 2:30 pm today
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8/21/17

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Course Recertification

- All old General Education courses automatically gained the corresponding attributes in the revised program
- All courses will be re-certified on a rolling three-year cycle
- Decisions are made by the corresponding General Education subcommittees
- Details of this process will also be presented at 2:30 pm today

Questions or Comments?

Thank You!