

TOPIC: STATE GUARANTEED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

PREPARED BY: DR. CHERYL LOVELL

I. SUMMARY

This agenda item recommends courses for inclusion in the statewide guaranteed transfer program, gtPathways.

II. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to 23-1-125, CCHE has the authority to approve courses nominated for inclusion in gtPathways. gtPathways is a set of general education courses for which the state guarantees transferability among all public institutions in Colorado. Receiving institutions agree to apply guaranteed general education courses to a student's general education or major requirements. That is, any student, upon admission to an institution, may transfer up to 31 credits of previously and successfully completed gtPathways coursework. Courses approved for gtPathways meet state content and competency criteria, and are not necessarily equivalent.

Courses are reviewed and recommended for approval by the GE Council, which is comprised of faculty members and system governing board staff from the state's two- and four-year institutions. Since January 2003, the Commission has approved over 1,200 courses in over 20 disciplines (e.g., English, math, history, biology). Most recently, the Commission approved one course in March 2011.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Pursuant to gtPathways policy, discipline-specific faculty subcommittees reviewed the course nomination packets for the courses listed below on March 4, 2011. The packets included a course nomination form, the course syllabus, content criteria for statewide transfer specific to the discipline, and competency criteria required for the content area. The subcommittees also received a GE Council-approved policy statement regarding the review of course nominations to gtPathways, HB 1263 (a bill concerning degree requirements for institutions of higher education; often referred to as the King Bill or the "Student Bill of Rights"), and HB 1298 (a bill concerning the creation of a statewide common course numbering system for the transfer of credits among state-supported institutions of higher education; often referred to as the Berry Bill). The subcommittees reviewed the nominated courses in light of these established guidelines.

The following courses are nominated for inclusion in the gtPathways curriculum:

Inst	Category	Course Prefix	Course #	Course Title	Action
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH1)	ART	185	Art History III	Recommended
CCCS	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH2)	LIT	259	Survey of African American Literature	Recommended
CCCS	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH3)	PHI	220	Philosophy of Death and Dying	Recommended
FLC	Mathematics (GT-MA1)	MATH	113	Algebra for Calculus	Recommended
CCCS	Social & Behavioral (GT-SS3)	ANT	250	Medical Anthropology	Recommended
CCCS	History (GT-HI1)	HIS	207	American Environmental History	Recommended

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the courses listed above for inclusion in the state's guaranteed transfer program, effective fall 2011.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

23-1-125. Commission directive – student bill of rights – degree requirements – implementation of core courses – on-line catalogue – competency test. (1) Student bill of rights.~