

TOPIC: RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NEW gtPATHWAYS COURSES

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I. SUMMARY

This item recommends approval of sixteen new courses for inclusion in the state general education curriculum, gtPathways. This 31-credit gtPathways curriculum forms the core of most bachelor's degrees and is guaranteed to transfer and apply to lower-division general education requirements at all public colleges and universities. gtPathways makes possible the statewide transfer articulation agreements, which provide guided pathways to students and enhance timely completion.

II. BACKGROUND

The Commission approves courses nominated for inclusion in gtPathways, per §23-1-125(3), C.R.S. The state guarantees transferability of gtPathways courses and application to lower-division general education requirements among all public institutions in Colorado. Per §23-1-125(5), C.R.S., private institutions may choose to participate in gtPathways; currently, one private institution (Colorado Technical University) participates. Courses approved for gtPathways meet state content and competency criteria, which were developed by Colorado faculty and approved by the Commission.

Courses are peer reviewed and recommended for approval by discipline-specific faculty subcommittees under the direction of the General Education (GE) Council. The GE Council is comprised of faculty and administrative staff from the state's public two- and four-year institutions. Since January 2003, the Commission has approved over 1,200 courses in six content areas. Most recently, the Commission approved 24 courses in June 2014.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Department staff assisted the GE Council in facilitating the fall 2014 gtPathways review by organizing and hosting the discipline-specific faculty subcommittees throughout the months of October and November 2014. These subcommittees reviewed the 23 courses listed on Appendix A. Courses marked as "Recommended" meet the state content and competency criteria and are recommended for approval by the Commission. Courses marked as "Deferred" do not meet state content and competency criteria. They may be revised and re-submitted by the institution for the next round of reviews in spring 2015.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the new gtPathways courses (marked as "Recommended" in Appendix A).

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

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

(3) Core courses. The department, in consultation with each Colorado public institution of higher education, is directed to outline a plan to implement a core course concept that defines the general education course guidelines for all public institutions of higher education. The core of courses shall be designed to ensure that students demonstrate competency in reading, critical thinking, written communication, mathematics, and technology. The core of courses shall consist of at least thirty credit hours but shall not exceed forty credit hours. Individual institutions of higher education shall conform their own core course requirements with the guidelines developed by the department and shall identify the specific courses that meet the general education course guidelines. Any such guidelines developed by the department shall be submitted to the commission for its approval. In creating and adopting the guidelines, the department and the commission, in collaboration with the public institutions of higher education, may make allowances for baccalaureate programs that have additional degree requirements recognized by the commission. If a statewide matrix of core courses is adopted by the commission, the courses identified by the individual institutions as meeting the general education course guidelines shall be included in the matrix. The commission shall adopt such policies to ensure that institutions develop the most effective way to implement the transferability of core course credits.

APPENDIX

A: Fall 2014 gtPathways Review – RESULTS

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Content Area	Course #	Course Title	Credit Hrs	Institution	Action
Arts & Humanities					
GT-AH1 – Arts & Expression	MUS 248	Asian Musical Culture	3	UNC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
GT-AH2 – Literature & Humanities	HUM 103	Introduction to Film Art	3	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Resubmission</i>
	E 142	Reading Without Borders	3	CSU-FC	RECOMMENDED <i>Resubmission</i>
	MUS 212	Song Lyrics	3	UNC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	COM 151	Introduction to Media	3	WSCU	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
GT-AH3 – Ways of Thinking	BUS 220	Ethics in Contemporary Organizations	3	CSU-FC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	PHIL 140	Basic Logic	3	UNC	RECOMMENDED <i>Resubmission</i>
GT-AH4 – Foreign Languages	LITA 200	Second Year Italian I	4	CSU-FC	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	LITA 201	Second Year Italian II	3	CSU-FC	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
Written Communication					
GT-CO3 – Advanced Writing Course	JTC 301	Corporate and Professional Communication	3	CSU-FC	RECOMMENDED <i>Resubmission</i>
Natural & Physical Sciences					
GT-SC1 – Course w/ Required Lab	ANT 111	Physical Anthropology	4	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	BIO 104	Biology: A Human Approach	4	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	BIO 224	Genetics	4	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
GT-SC2 – Lecture Course w/o Required Lab	AST 155	Astronomy Ancient Cultures	3	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
Social & Behavioral Sciences					
GT-HI1 - History	HIS 235	History of the American West	3	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>

	HIS 251	The History of Christianity in the World	3	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
GT-SS2 – Geography	GEOG 250	Making of the American Landscape	3	UNC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
GT-SS3 – Human Behavior, Culture, or Social Frameworks	CRJ 110	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3	CCCS	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	SOC 220	Global Environmental Issues	3	CSU-FC	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	SPCM 130	Relational and Organizational Communication	3	CSU-FC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	PBHL 2001	Introduction to Public Health	4	UCD	RECOMMENDED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	HDFR 2200	Love, Family and Human Development	3	UCD	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>
	MUS 245	Introduction to Ethnomusicology	3	UNC	DEFERRED <i>Initial Submission</i>