

**TOPIC: STATE GUARANTEED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES,
REVIEW CYCLE VI, ROUND II**

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I. SUMMARY

In compliance with C.R.S. 23-1-125, the Student Bill of Rights, contained in this agenda item are recommendations for courses nominated by institutions, reviewed by faculty, and recommended for the general education guaranteed statewide transfer program, gtPathways, during Cycle VI, Round II (February 29, 2008). Guaranteed transfer means that a course is universally transferable among all Colorado public institutions of higher education and applicable to general education requirements within the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Bachelor of Arts, and Bachelor of Science degree programs.

The recommendations contained in this agenda item represent the outcome of faculty consideration of 36 course nominations for the gtPathways program. The Commission has previously approved 986 general education courses in over 20 disciplines (e.g., English, math, history, biology, etc.) during the first five cycles of gtPathways course nominations, which began in January 2003.

The following table summarizes courses nominated and reviewed for statewide transfer during Cycle VI, Round II, by content area and recommendation status.

COURSE CONTENT AREA	TOTAL COURSES	NUMBER OF COURSES RECOMMENDED	NUMBER OF COURSES DEFERRED
Arts & Humanities	9	7	2
Communications	9	1	8
Natural & Physical Science	5	5	0
Social/Behavioral Sciences	13	7	6
*TOTAL	36	20	16

***No Math submissions were received during this round of reviews.**

II. BACKGROUND

Following the passage of the Colorado Opportunity Fund (COF) legislation in 2004, the Commission began performance contract negotiations with the governing boards of all public institutions in the state. Included in performance contracts is a requirement that all institutions have lower division general education course requirements of between 30 and 40 credit hours and submit all the courses included in their required general education curricula for review and possible inclusion in the statewide transfer program. Colorado's public colleges and universities have established timelines for the submission of their general education courses to the Department of Higher Education (DHE). Beginning with the calendar year 2005 and continuing through June 2009, all of Colorado's public post-secondary institutions are submitting their general education core courses to self-selected members of the state's public two and four year faculty for peer review and inclusion in the gtPathways curriculum for guaranteed transfer.

The February 29, 2008 review was the second round of gtPathways review Cycle VI. Round III of gtPathways review cycle VI will be held in October, 2008, with the review format to be determined, (reviews could be completed electronically). As necessary to accommodate future volume, the DHE will schedule and facilitate additional review cycles throughout the 2008-2009 academic year.

The list of recommendations on nominated courses found herein is the result of deliberations among 23 faculty members representing various public two- and four-year institutions in the state who met in Denver at the offices of the Department of Higher Education on February 29, 2008.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

Initial policy (fall 2003), provided for the guarantee of up to 35-37 credit hours of successfully completed courses taken from the list of approved state guaranteed general education courses, which are published on the gtPathways page of the DHE website. However, in June 2005, the Commissioners approved changes to the statewide transfer policy that effectively reduced the guaranteed credit hours from 35-37 down to 31. Effective fall semester 2006 (August, 2006), gtPathways guarantees 31 credit hours of successfully completed courses taken from the approved state guaranteed general education list of courses. Additionally, the GE 25 Council, in agreement with Academic Council, revised the procedures and forms utilized in the gtPathways course review process. The courses recommended herein conform to the newly revised process, procedures, program rules and forms of the gtPathways program as well as the revised content and competency criteria.

Faculty review committees from four of the five content areas participated in the February 29, 2008 review; no courses in the content area of Math were submitted for

review. Faculty from Arts and Humanities, Communication, Natural and Physical Sciences and Social and Behavioral Sciences reviewed the courses presented in Attachment A and took one of two actions:

- Recommend a course for inclusion in the statewide program; or
- Deferred a course for a later review

CCHE staff has communicated all of the faculty recommendations to institutions, including justifications for those courses receiving the “deferred” designation by faculty review committees.

Institutions will have the opportunity in future cycles to make any necessary corrections and/or revisions to courses that have been deferred during this cycle and re-nominate a course(s) for consideration and placement into the gtPathways curriculum.

Adoption of the attached list of courses below will continue the implementation of Colorado’s guaranteed general education transfer program. Nomination and review of additional courses for consideration will continue during fall semester 2008 as well as during the 2009 spring semester.

Pursuant to performance contract requirements, institutions must clearly distinguish guaranteed transfer courses from those not approved for guaranteed transfer in course catalogs and related materials; courses nominated for guaranteed transfer, but not approved, must be easily distinguishable from courses carrying the guaranteed status. In addition, prominently placed, in the general education section of the college catalog, shall be explanations of the distinction between courses approved for guaranteed transfer and courses not approved for guaranteed transfer to other Colorado colleges and universities.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission approve the courses recommended by faculty reviewers for guaranteed statewide transfer status, effective August 2008 (fall semester 2008).

V. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Copies of all materials included in course submissions as well as copies of faculty reviewers’ worksheets are on file in the Academic and Student Affairs Office of the Department of Higher Education.

VI. 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.** The general assembly hereby finds that students enrolled in public institutions of higher education shall have the following rights:

(c) Students have a right to clear and concise information concerning which courses must be completed successfully to complete their degrees;

(d) Students have a right to know which courses are transferable among the state public two-year and four-year institutions of higher education;

(e) Students, upon completion of core general education courses, regardless of the delivery method, should have those courses satisfy the core course requirements of all Colorado public institutions of higher education;

(f) Students have a right to know if courses from one or more public higher education institutions satisfy the students' degree requirements;

(g) A student's credit for the completion of the core requirements and core courses shall not expire for ten years from the date of initial enrollment and shall be transferable.

(3) **Core courses.** The commission, in consultation with each Colorado public institution of higher education, is directed to outline a plan to implement a core course concept, which 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 commission and shall identify the specific courses that meet the general education course guidelines. 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.

Attachment A

gtPathways					
Review Cycle VI, Round II					
February 29, 2008					
Inst	Category	Course Prefix	Course #	Course Title	Action
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH2)	AFS	205	Survey of African American Literature	Recommended
MSCD	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH1)	ARTH	1500	Art Appreciation Survey	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH4)	ASL	201	American Sign Language III	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH4)	ASL	202	American Sign Language IV	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH4)	CHIN	201	Intermediate Chinese I	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH4)	CHIN	202	Intermediate Chinese II	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH4)	JAPN	201	Intermediate Japanese I	Recommended
UNC	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH2)	MIND	100	First Year Preceptorial	Deferred
CCCS	Arts & Humanities (GT-AH2)	MUS	123	Survey of World Music	Deferred
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	CO	300	Writing Arguments	Deferred
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	CO	301A	Writing in the Disciplines: Writing in the Arts Humanities	Deferred
CSU-	Communication (GT-	CO	301B	Writing in the	Deferred

FC	CO3)			Disciplines: Writing in the Sciences	
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	CO	301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Writing in the Social Sciences	Deferred
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	CO	301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Writing in Education	Deferred
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	CO	302	Writing Online	Deferred
MSC	Communication (GT-CO3)	ENGL	219	Introduction to Technical Writing	Deferred
UNC	Communication (GT-CO2)	ENG	227	Technical Writing	Deferred
CSU-FC	Communication (GT-CO3)	JTC	300	Professional and Technical Communication	Recommended
UNC	Natural & Physical Sciences (GT-SC2)	ENST	235	Chemistry and the Environment	Recommended
FLC	Natural & Physical Sciences (GT-SC2)	GEOG	235	Weather and Climate	Recommended
FLC	Natural & Physical Sciences (GT-SC1)	GEOL	105	Earth and Environment	Recommended
UNC	Natural & Physical Sciences (GT-SC2)	GEOL	110	Geology and Society	Recommended
UCD	Natural & Physical Sciences (GT-SC2)	PHYS	1100	Foundations of Physics	Recommended
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-HI1)	AFS	100	Introduction to Africana Studies	Recommended
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-HI1)	ANT	121	Archaeology of Colorado	Deferred
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	ANT	130	Introduction to Physical Anthropology	Deferred
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	ANT	212	North American Indians	Recommended
FLC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	ANTH	171	World Archaeology	Recommended
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	ASLS	160	Introduction to Human Communication and Its	Recommended

				Disorders	
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	CHIN	116	Introduction to Chinese Civilization	Deferred
CCCS	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS1)	Eco	101	Economics of Social Issues	Recommended
ASC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS1)	GOVT	291	American Government	Deferred
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS2)	GEOG	200	Human Geography	Recommended
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	HUSR	205	Introduction to Human Services	Deferred
UNC	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-HI1)	MCS	101	Multiculturalism in the US: Concepts and Issues	Deferred
UCD	Social & Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS3)	SOC	2462	Introduction to Social Psychology	Recommended