Excerpt of the GE Policy relevant to Social Sciences & Citizenship (D)

For the complete GE policy, please visit the Academic Senate website

3. STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

3.1. The General Education curriculum is organized as three (3) sequential phases... The second is Explorations: courses distributed across the curriculum that are intended to provide an opportunity to explore the various way of acquiring and examining knowledge while continuing to develop learning skills...

3.6. Explorations

3.6.3. For this reason, all courses outside the Foundation must have pre- or co-requisites from the Foundation, and all courses numbered 300 or higher must have the entire Foundation curriculum as prerequisites.

4. GENERAL REGULATIONS

4.2. To ensure that every course in the General Education program contributes to student achievement of the goals of the entire program, all course syllabi for approved General Education courses must include information on the expected GE learning outcomes to be addressed in the course. It is not expected that every GE course will address every outcome; faculty are strongly encouraged to tailor specific course learning outcomes to a subset of the GE learning outcomes and to explain how those will be addressed in the particular course.

4.9. Because General Education is a breadth requirement, students will normally have no prior experience in the discipline beyond an introductory course. Therefore, upper-division courses designed primarily for students majoring in the discipline will not be acceptable for the General Education program, except for Integrative Learning capstones. Any course that has requisites that are not on the General Education Master Course List will need justification as to why such courses must be requisites and why such requisites will not unduly restrict enrollment.

4.10. No course identified in the catalog as available for credit in a graduate program will be permitted for General Education credit. Double-numbered courses (400 and 500 level) may not be used for General Education credit.

7. GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE CONTENT CRITERIA

7.8. Category D: Social Sciences and Citizenship

7.8.1. Category D.1.a., U.S. History Criteria: The purpose of this requirement is to foster in students an awareness of the United States experience and of the people, institutions, circumstances, and events in United States history that have shaped contemporary conditions, as provided for in Title 5, Article 40404. The requirement is intended to enable students to function as responsible and constructive citizens. Courses meeting this requirement should, at a minimum, include the following:

a. An analysis of the significant events occurring within the entire territory of the United States, including the relationships among regions within that area and relationships with external regions and powers, as appropriate;

b. A chronological span of not less than one hundred (100) years;

c. An examination of the nature and extent of the continuity of the United States experience within itself and with the cultures from which it is derived;

d. Consideration of the relationship of such factors as geography, religion, natural resources, economics, cultural diversity, and politics to the development of the nation during the time period covered;

e. Coverage of the role of national, economic, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic groups in the events described;

f. Introduction to the groups and individual leaders who have been instrumental in the development of the United States;
g. Attention to the phenomenon of conflict (or change) as a variable in the United States national experience.

7.8.2. Category D.1.b., Constitution and American Ideals Criteria: The purpose of this requirement is to give students a comprehensive understanding of and appreciation for American political institutions and processes established by the United States Constitution and the California state constitutions, as provided for in Title 5, Article 40404. Students will acquire the knowledge and skills essential to effective political participation and citizenship. All courses meeting this requirement must at a minimum include the following:

a. The political philosophy of the framers of the Constitution and the nature and operation of United States political institutions and processes that operate under the Constitution as amended and interpreted;

b. The rights and obligations of citizens in the political system established under that Constitution;

c. Principles and practices of political organization, including political parties, interest groups, legislative politics, and campaign practices;

d. Analysis of the American citizenry, including political culture and voting behavior;

e. Constitutionally and legislatively established administrative and regulatory institutions including analysis of bureaucracies and their impact on citizens at the national, state, and local levels;

f. The constitution of the state of California within a framework of the historical evolution of the state and the nature of the processes of state and local government under that constitution;

g. The nature of federalism, including the relationship of federal to state and local practices, the resolution of jurisdictional conflicts, and the political processes involved.

7.8.3. Category D.2, Social and Behavioral Sciences and History Criteria: Instruction approved for fulfillment of this requirement should reflect the fact that human social, political and economic institutions and behavior are inextricably interwoven. Problems and issues in these areas should be examined in their contemporary as well as historical settings, including both Western and non-Western contexts.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2012