



NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Memo

To: Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Cristie Kedroski, Interim President
Date: August 20, 2024
Re: Statewide General Education Review

This past January, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved revisions to Rule 6A-14.0303, Florida Administrative Code (FAC). The rule established new standards and learning outcomes for general education courses, identified a new list of general education core courses, and described new requirements for approving and reporting institutional general education course offerings.

These revisions were the result of the modification of section (s.) 1007.55, Florida Statutes (F.S.) during the 2023 legislative session. The section now requires public postsecondary boards of trustees and presidents to annually review and approve the general education requirements offered at their local institution.

Northwest Florida State College's (NWFSC) has completed its review of its General Education program. The information about the General Education review process can be reviewed in the enclosed presentation, which was presented to the Board earlier in the year.

All proposed curriculum changes were presented to the faculty for a two-week period for review and feedback, and then the edits were sent to the Academic Affairs Coordinator to be completed in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS).

Presented along with this memo are two documents:

- 1) An Excel spreadsheet provided by the Office of K-20 Articulation the indicates the changes made to NWFSC's General Education courses, and
- 2) A certification form to be signed by the president and Board chair indicating that the institution has reviewed the Excel spreadsheet and submitted new courses or changes to the SCNS.

The following information provides context for the spreadsheet:

- Please direct your attention to the columns titled: "Course Review Status," "General Education Updates," and "Additional Updates." These are the three columns that reflect the review that NWFSC conducted. These three columns were provided to NWFSC as limited drop-down options that the college must select from in order to demonstrate the work that was completed. All other columns were pre-populated by the state, aside from the final course tabulations we calculated in the very last column.
- "**Course Review Status**"- "No Updates" means that the course was already in compliance. "Updated" indicates that either the course's General Education status needed to change, or that additional items were

changed, such as the course description. At NWFSC, all courses were reviewed for compliance with the relevant statutes as can be seen in the course review status column. Moving to the next column on the right allows the viewer to see the specific changes made for the course.

- **“General Education Updates”** column - “Not Applicable” means that the General Education categories the course was assigned to were accurate and no changes were made. Otherwise, the General Education column indicates the change made. For example, Oceanography (OCE 1001) was designated to count as both a Core and Institutional General Education requirement, whereas it only counted as Institutional in the past. As such, the row states “Both General Education: Core/Institution.” This indicates the course’s new, current status.
- **“Additional Updates”** column – This column refers to any additional updates made. Institutions could select from: course description, course level, discipline, course description and discipline, course description and course level, other changes, or not applicable. For a majority of NWFSC’s courses, we updated only the course description. In most cases, the course descriptions were pulled directly from the state's course descriptions and student learning outcomes. In some cases, a specific reference to requiring texts from the Western Canon was added to the course description.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Trustees approves the Academic Year 2024-2025 General Education program, as presented.