



March 19, 2024

Academic and Student Affairs

General Education Redesign

Information Sessions

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General Education Process Design Team

A workgroup was created in **Summer 2022** that included:

- Statewide **MSCF**, **MSUAASF** and **IFO** presidents and designees
- College and University **student** representative
- College and University **president** representative
- Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
- Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

General Education Process Design Team

Purpose/Charge

To determine the scope, process, parameters, and timeline for Minnesota State to re-envision its lower division general education curriculum.

Scope

The scope of this workgroup is limited to lower division general education and its transfer across institutions. Upper division general education falls outside the scope of this workgroup, as it falls within the purview of individual universities.



Overall Project Activities

PHASE I: Research and Parameter Development

PHASE II: Framework Development

PHASE III: Stakeholder Vetting

Phase IV: Curriculum Development and Implementation

General Education Redesign Phases & Key Milestones

Timing	Tasks and Activities
Sept. 30, 2023	Formed Gen Ed Steering Committee
Dec. 8, 2023	New Framework Parameter Summary Completed
Dec. 13, 2024	Draft Framework, Competencies and SLOs Defined
Feb- March 2024	Stakeholder Feedback process
March--April 2024	Editing Philosophy and model
March- -April 2024	Parameters/Finalize and publish report
April 2024	Finalize Phase II Activities
May 1, 2025	Recommendations submitted to Chancellor
May 1, 2025	Final Parameter Summary Completed

General Education Steering Committee Charge

Scope: The scope of the GESC is limited to the redesign of the lower-division general education framework and the implementation of that framework across the Minnesota State system. Program curricula and upper-division general education curricula are out of scope.

Charge: To launch and coordinate Phase I of the general education redesign work for Minnesota State.

- General Education Philosophy Draft
- General Education Model Parameters

GESC Work to Date

- ✓ General Education Model Research – completed
- ✓ Transfer Issues Review/Case Studies – completed
- ✓ Stakeholder Feedback on Current State Round 1 – completed
- ✓ General Education Philosophy Draft – completed
- ✓ General Education Model Parameters Draft – in process

Listening Sessions and Stakeholder Feedback

- Listening sessions were held on February 20th and February 27th.
- Attendees were asked to consider the philosophy and model parameters draft and share their feedback on each.
- Feedback will be used to revise draft recommendations for the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs in April 2024.

General Education Philosophy Draft

The General Education program for Minnesota State, “Minnesota Foundational Studies”, equitably serves learners throughout Minnesota State institutions in their pursuit of academic, professional and personal success.

This essential core curriculum has a transparent structure that is readily transferable between Minnesota State institutions.

Through an intentional and foundational design, this program engages learners with varied ways of knowing, thinking, and creating by teaching the core competencies that encompass the vast array of human experiences, thus elevating the power of diverse perspectives and individuals.



Model Parameters: Recommendation 1

Continue to utilize the existing MnTC Goal Area model as a basis for review and revision, with a focus on how it is implemented consistently across campuses and further exploration of possible changes, modifications, and additions within and beyond the existing goal areas.

Model Parameters: Recommendation 2

Continue to support transfer of lower division general education as a “package” while ensuring that goal areas and courses are transferable as well.

Model Parameters: Recommendation 3

Standardize the way in which goal areas are satisfied for the gen ed across the system but allow local institutions to place their own courses within those areas.

Model Parameters: Recommendation 4

Standardize breadth requirements within goal areas 1, 5 and 6.
Standardize the way breadth requirements within these goal areas are met (use the same or no sub-groups).

Model Parameters: Recommendation 5

Require only certain courses to have the same goals across the system while allowing each institution to designate its own goals for each course outside of those identified as requiring the same goals.

Model Parameters: Recommendation 6

Continue to allow double-dipping but there needs to be better definition about how this is done consistently across the system.

Model Parameters: Recommendation 7

Remove Goal Area 2 as it is currently defined. Charge a faculty group in Phase II with determining how Critical Thinking and/or Information Literacy is fulfilled within the general education model.

Presidents' Perspective





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