

## GENERAL EDUCATION AT SKYLINE COLLEGE

General Education at Skyline College provides students with a foundation of knowledge and abilities useful to all programs of study. General Education gives students the opportunity to explore and master a varied set of skills, perspectives and disciplinary experiences. Our General Education program is guided by a set of student learning outcomes that compliments work a student does in their discipline majors or career and technical areas.

### The Philosophy of General Education at Skyline College

The General Education Program at Skyline College provides a scope and depth of learning that empowers students to meet the work, life, and global citizenship challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Program fosters and develops the essential knowledge, skills, and values students need to succeed in an interdependent world of daunting complexity and relentless change. It is the foundation of life-long learning. Students gain broad knowledge of science, cultures and society; a wide range of high-level intellectual and practical skills; a strong sense of ethical and social responsibility; and the ability to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills, and values acquired in general education to new settings and complex problems and challenges. The General Education Program values and prioritizes broad, diverse perspectives, cross-disciplinary learning, intellectual curiosity, critical and creative inquiry, and the importance of engaging big questions, both contemporary and enduring.

#### **In addition to our General Education philosophy statement, Title 5 speaks to the General Education policy of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (Title 5 §55805):**

*Central to an Associate Degree, General Education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction of colleges that those who receive their degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College educated persons must be able to use this knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the physical environment, the culture, and the society in which they live. Most importantly, General Education should lead to better self-understanding.*

Each course proposed through the Curriculum Committee to fulfill an area of our A.A./A.S. General Education requirement is considered in light of the above philosophy statements and the General Education Area definitions adopted by the Curriculum Committee. Each course brought forward for consideration to meet General Education criteria will be reviewed by the General Education Subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee.

### General Education Area Definitions and Requirements

#### **Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking (6 units)**

A minimum of 6 semester units are required in English Language Communication and Critical Thinking to include written communication (A2), and a choice of either oral communication (A1) or critical thinking (A3). Instruction in Area A should emphasize development of the students' written and oral communication and reasoning skills.

#### **Area A1: Oral Communication Requirement:**

Courses in Area A1 must include faculty-supervised and faculty-evaluated practice in communicating orally in the physical presence of other listeners. Principles of rhetoric must be covered in the class.

Guiding questions for consideration include:

- Does the course emphasize the development of students' communication and reasoning skills?
- Does the course include faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated practice in communicating orally in the physical presence of other listeners (not online or recorded)?
- Are rhetorical principles covered?

### **Area A2: Written Communication Requirement**

Courses in Area A2 must lead to achievement of “freshman composition” objectives as found in most colleges and universities. The course must provide the framework for students to explore general rhetorical principles and include the expository and the argumentative forms. Emphasis is placed on writing coherent, compelling essays and demonstrating critical thinking skills and the basic elements of building a convincing argument. Must include minimum writing of 6,000 to 8,000 words.

Guiding questions for consideration include:

- Does the course explore rhetorical principles independent of the application of writing to a specific profession?
- Is there assigned and graded student writing both in class as well as assigned homework?
- Does the course carry an appropriate prerequisite distinguishing it from a basic skills class?
- Do assignments include expository and argumentative forms?

### **Area A3: Critical Thinking Requirement**

Courses in Area A3 must include explicit instruction and practice in inductive and deductive reasoning and identification of formal and informal fallacies of language and thought. Courses develop the students' ability to think systematically and identify faulty reasoning such as false analogies, non sequiturs, hasty generalizations, and either-or fallacies.

- Does the course include explicit instruction and practice in inductive and deductive reasoning and identification of formal and informal fallacies of language and thought?
- Does the course develop the students' ability to think systematically and identify faulty reasoning such as: hasty generalization, non sequiturs, either-or fallacies, false analogies?

### **Note: Math Concepts (In the CSU-GE Breadth, the math requirement is in Area B4)**

Courses fulfilling this Area should have a minimum stated prerequisite of intermediate algebra or above.

### **Area B: Scientific Inquiry (4 units)**

Courses in Area B must develop student knowledge of scientific theories, concepts and data about both living and non-living systems. The requirements shall be fulfilled by completion of one course in Physical Science or one in biological science, and at least one laboratory science. Courses in Area B must emphasize scientific experimental methodology, hypotheses testing, and the power of systematic questioning. The category may include introductory or integrative courses in the areas listed in B1 and B2.

General guiding questions include:

- Does the course help students achieve an understanding and appreciation of scientific principles and the scientific method?
- Does the course help students achieve the “science literacy” expected of educated citizens in any profession?

### **Area B1: Physical Science**

- Courses in this area typically include: astronomy, chemistry, physics, oceanography, physical geography, physics, meteorology.

### **Area B2: Life Science**

- Courses in this area typically include: biology and some physical anthropology.

### **Area B3: Lab**

- Does the course outline clearly distinguish laboratory activity from lecture (if lab is included in lecture course)?

### **Area C: Arts and Humanities (3 units)**

Courses in Area C are those which study cultural activities and artistic expressions. Studio and performance classes that develop technique or skills alone don't meet the standards established for this area. Courses encourage students to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical, historical, literary, aesthetic and cultural importance.

Guiding questions:

- Will students learn to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical and cultural importance?
- Does the course use canonical or seminal works as pathways to a broader understanding of the human condition?

Courses in this area typically include: Art, drama, literature, music, history, philosophy, languages other than English, and interior design.

### **Area D: Social Sciences (3 units)**

Students learn from courses in Area D that human, social, political and economic institutions and behavior are inextricably interwoven. Coursework completed shall ensure opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the perspectives and methods of social and behavioral sciences. Issues studied in these courses should be examined in their contemporary, historical, and geographical settings. The course should be taught from a theoretical point of view and focus on core concepts and methods of the discipline. This category may include introductory or integrative survey courses in cultural and social anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines.

Guiding questions include:

- Does the course explore the principles, methodologies, value systems or ethics employed in social scientific inquiry?
- Does the course help the student develop an awareness of the method of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences?
- Does the course stimulate critical thinking about the ways people act and have acted in response to their societies?
- Does the course emphasize the concept of the discipline on various populations of society?

Courses would include introductory survey courses in economics, history, political science, anthropology, psychology, and education.

### **Area E: Lifelong Learning & Self Development (up to 3 units required)**

This area of study helps equip students for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as physiological, social, and psychological beings.

- Courses in this area include physical education (including kinesiology and dance), varsity sports, courses in human behavior, sexuality, nutrition, and mental health.
- Non-activity courses in this area should include three kinds of inquiry covering a lifespan of more than just a few years (courses should not focus on one aspect of human life such as infancy):
  - Sociological: in this context, the relationships between an individual and broader society.
  - Physiological: the human body as an integrated organism with systemic functions such as movement, nutrition, growth, reproduction, and aging.
  - Psychological: the study of the mental processes that create consciousness, behavior, emotions and intelligence.

## **Skyline College General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

### **Critical Thinking**

Students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills in problem solving across the disciplines and in daily life.

Critical thinking includes the ability to:

- support claims with relevant and credible evidence.
- develop awareness of and ability to respond to bias.
- apply accurate and logical analysis to achieve desired outcome.

### **Effective Communication**

Students will be able to communicate and comprehend effectively.

Effective communication includes the ability to:

- analyze and comprehend oral, written, and other sensory information.
- effectively construct and deliver a message to express ideas through speaking or writing.
- provide appropriate responses to establish shared meaning.
- demonstrate appropriate social skills in group settings, being receptive to alternative ideas and feelings.  
(moved from the Citizenship ISLO)

### **Citizenship**

Students will be able to use knowledge acquired from their experiences at this college to be ethically responsible, culturally proficient citizens, informed and involved in civic affairs locally, nationally, and globally.

Citizenship includes the ability to:

- demonstrate an understanding of their individual role in an interconnected world about a range of global issues.
- demonstrate an understanding of how global, national and local organizations, ideas, and issues are interconnected (e.g., social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental).

- demonstrate scientific literacy concerning a range of global issues.
- demonstrate awareness and sensitivity about how their perspectives are shaped by their experiences and cultural values.
- articulate similarities and contrasts among cultures, demonstrating knowledge of and sensitivity to various cultural values and issues.
- recognize and apply ethical perspectives.
- facilitate a positive, supportive group environment through demonstrated collegiality and leadership.
- demonstrate commitment to active citizenship.

### **Information Literacy**

Students will be able to demonstrate skills central to information literacy.

Information literacy includes the ability to:

- effectively locate and access information in numerous formats using a variety of appropriate search tools.
- evaluate the relevance, quality, and credibility of a wide variety of information sources using critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- use information ethically and legally.

### **Lifelong Wellness**

Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of lifelong wellness through physical fitness and personal development.

Lifelong wellness includes the ability to:

- demonstrate an understanding of physical fitness and its role in lifelong wellness.
- take responsibility for identifying personal needs, determining resources, and accessing appropriate services for academic success.
- exhibit resilience by embracing effort as a path to mastery, persisting in the face of setbacks, and acknowledging and overcoming challenges.
- develop attitudes central to lifelong learning: openness, flexibility, intellectual curiosity, and a broad perspective that values diversity of thought. (moved from the Citizenship ISLO)

<b>Oversight and Approval for General Education Courses</b>
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### **General Education Committee**

The General Education Committee is a subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee. The Curriculum Committee is part of the Academic Senate.

Charge of the GE Committee:

- Review curriculum brought to the College Curriculum Committee seeking approval as a General Education course
- Encourage and support the development of courses that support the General Education program
- Review General Education requirements and make recommendations to the College Curriculum Committee

**SKYLINE COLLEGE**  
**ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

Graduation from Skyline College with the Associate in Arts (AA) Degree or the Associate in Science (AS) Degree is based on completion of 60 degree applicable units, including the requirements one through nine listed below.

**1. RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT**

Either 12 units or 50% of the units applied to the major, whichever is fewer, must be completed at Skyline College.

**2. SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT**

- a. A minimum 2.00 is required in all degree-applicable coursework.
- b. All coursework transferred into SMCCCD, except non-degree applicable and upper division courses, will be evaluated to meet graduation requirements and will become part of the overall GPA.
- c. The GPA from courses taken in SMCCCD and those courses from outside SMCCCD will be used in the calculation for graduation. Honors and Phi Theta Kappa are calculated and recorded at each college.

**3. BASIC COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS**

Competency requirements exist for the areas of Writing/Reading, Mathematics and Information Competency. Students must demonstrate competency according to the following in each of the areas in order to be eligible for the AA or AS degree.

*Note: Satisfactory completion is defined as a grade of C or better.*

**a. Writing/Reading**

Satisfactory completion of English 100 or English 105, or equivalent, or higher.

**b. Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning**

1. Eligibility for Math 130, 150, 200, 201 or 241 or higher as determined by a Skyline College approved placement test; or
2. Satisfactory completion of Math 120 or equivalent, or higher; or
3. Satisfactory completion of any course having at least Math 120 (Intermediate Algebra) as a prerequisite.

**c. Information Literacy**

1. Satisfactory completion of a Skyline College English 100 course or Skyline College English 105 course taken Fall 2011 or thereafter; or
2. Satisfactory completion of the Skyline College online "Information Literacy Tutorial" (Consult the Skyline Library website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/library> for details on completing the online tutorial.); or
3. Satisfactory completion of an equivalent college-level information literacy or information competency course or requirement.

**4. MAJOR REQUIREMENT**

Any student pursuing an Associate Degree must declare a major field of study. The major is comprised of specific courses within a discipline or related discipline as specified by the appropriate division. Skyline offers both Associate in Arts and Associate in Science Degrees. Associate in Arts degrees are awarded in the fields of social science, humanities and other related curricula. Associate in Science degrees are awarded in the fields of biological or physical sciences and most occupational curricula. A list of all Skyline Associate degree and Certificate programs, including the courses and units needed for each major, can be found in this catalog under "Associate Degree and Certificate Programs." A minimum of 18 units must be completed in a major. Some majors require the completion of more than 18 semester units.

In addition to completing the course and unit requirements for the major, a student must:

- Complete with a grade of “C” or better (or Pass) all courses used to satisfy both core and elective requirements for the major.
- Complete 12 units or 50% of the units required for the major, whichever is fewer, at Skyline College.

## 5. ETHNIC AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT

*Students must complete a total of 3 units from either group listed below. The course may be applied to General Education requirements.*

### **Group a. General**

Communication Studies 150  
Business 221  
Early Childhood Education 214, 272, 273, 275  
Family & Consumer Sciences 119, 213  
Fashion 119  
History 235, 240  
Sociology 141, 143, 201

### **Group b. Area Studies**

Anthropology 110, 125, 150, 155, 165, 170, 180, 360  
Art 105, 120  
Business 226  
English 104,  
History 104, 106, 244, 335, 420, 429, 430, 432, 435, 436, 444, 453  
Interior Design 120  
Literature 116, 251, 265, 266, 267, 370, 373  
Music 240, 250, 276, 420  
Philosophy 300, 320  
Political Science 320, 330, 335  
Psychology 238, 268  
Social Science 150, 270, 275  
Sociology 142, 341, 432  
Spanish 161, 162

## 6. AMERICAN HISTORY AND INSTITUTIONS

One course of 3 units from Group A and either Group B1 or Group B2 for a total of 6 units. One course may be applied to the General Education requirement in Social Sciences. *Note: Group B2 completes the U.S. History, Constitution & American Ideals requirement for students who have satisfied only the U.S. History part of the requirement at another institution, including California community colleges or CSU's.*

### **a. U.S. History & U.S. Government:**

History 108, 201, 202, 235, 244, 429  
Political Science 210\*

### **b1. State & Local Government:**

History 240, 310  
Political Science 301

### **b2. U.S. Government/State & Local Government:**

Political Science 200\*

\* *UC transfer students - unit limitations apply: PLSC 200 and 210 combined: maximum credit, one course.*

7. **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (KINESIOLOGY)** – *Two activity courses in Physical Education (Kinesiology) are required; however, this requirement may be waived or modified for students in the following categories:*
- Graduates of accredited community colleges, other colleges, or universities.
  - Veterans with one or more years of service who have submitted a DD214.
  - Persons who successfully petition the Dean of Kinesiology, Dance and Athletics for a medical waiver or modification based on being restricted or unable to successfully complete any of the curricular offerings as certified by a licensed physician due to a medical condition.
- Note: The following courses offered through the Kinesiology, Dance and Athletics division are not activity based and therefore may not be used to satisfy the Physical Education requirement: DANC 100; KINE 100; and P.E. 105, 152 and 301.*
8. **GENERAL ELECTIVES – Additional courses to meet the minimum 60 units degree requirement** (non-degree applicable courses do not meet this requirement).
9. **GENERAL EDUCATION:** 19 units required - General Education courses introduce the student to areas of study that develop breadth of knowledge and contribute to a balanced education. **See General Education (GE) Areas A through E below.**

**Important:** Although a course may be listed in more than one area, a student may use a course to satisfy only one subject area.

**GE Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking 6 semester units REQUIRED**  
(3 units from **Area A2** and 3 units from **Area A1** or **A3**)

**A1: Oral Communication Requirement:**

Communication Studies 110, **127**, 130, 140, 150

**A2: Written Communication Requirement:**

English 100, 105, 110

**A3: Critical Thinking Requirement:**

**NOTE :** *The Business, Mathematics and Psychology courses listed here meet CSU GE area B4.*

Business 120, 123

Communication Studies 110, 127, 130, 140, 150

English **100, 105, 110\*\***, 165

Mathematics 130, 150, 153, 200, 201, 222, 241, 242, 251, 252, 253, 270, 275

Philosophy 103, 109, 200

Psychology 171

**GE Area B: Scientific Inquiry**

**4 semester units REQUIRED**

One course required from any of the following areas: B1 or B2. Must include one lab course (indicated by \*).

**B1: Physical Science** (see notes under \*B3 Lab):

Astronomy 100 101\*

Chemistry 112\*, 210\*, 220\*, 234 & 237\*, 235 & 238\*, 410\*

Geology 100, 105, 180, 210\*, 220\*

Oceanography 100, 101\*

Physics 105, 210\*, 220\*, 250\*, 260\*, 270\*

**B2: Life Science** (see notes under \*B3 Lab):

Anthropology 125

Biology 101\*, 110\*, 111\*, 130, 140, 145, 150, 170, 171\*, 215\*, 230\*, 240\*, 250\*, 260\*

Environmental Science and Technology 100

*\*B3 Lab: Courses identified with an “ \* ”; Note: All one unit lab courses must be successfully completed concurrently or after 3 unit lecture companion courses.*

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**GE Area C: ARTS AND Humanities**

**3 semester units REQUIRED**

**C1: Arts:** (+ Indicates Ethnic & Cultural Diversity course)

Art 101, 102, 105, 107, 115, 120, 130, 201, 204, 221, 248, 301, 350, 351, 352, 405, 411

Dance 100

Family & Consumer Sciences 113, 119

Fashion 113, 119

Film 370

Humanities 117

Interior Design 110, 120

Music 100, 105, 111, 115, 144, 202, 204, 240, 250, 275, 276, 301, 470

**C2: Humanities:** (+ Indicates Ethnic & Cultural Diversity course)

American Sign Language 111, 112, 121, 122

Arabic 111, 112, 121, 122

Chinese 111, 112, 121, 122, 130

Early Childhood Education 191

English 110, 161

Filipino 110, 111, 112, 120

Film 440

History 100, 101, 104, 106, 109, 203, 335, 420, 429, 430, 432, 435, 444, 453, 461, 462, 463, 464

Humanities 106, 115, 116

Italian 111, 112, 121, 122

Japanese 111, 112

Literature 101, 111, 113, 116, 151, 191, 225, 251, 265, 266, 267, 370, 373, 416, 432

Music 276

Philosophy 100, 160, 175, 195, 240, 280, 300, 312, 320

Political Science 280, 335

Sociology 341, 432

Spanish 130, 140, 161, 162

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**GE Area D: Social Sciences**

**3 semester units REQUIRED**

**D1 - U.S. History & U.S. Government**

History 108, 201, 202, 235, 244

Political Science 210

**D2a – State & Local Government**

History 240, 310

Political Science 301

**D2b – U.S. Government/State & Local Government**

Political Science 200

**D3 – Social Institutions** (+ Indicates Ethnic & Cultural Diversity course)

Administration of Justice 100

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Anthropology 110, 150, 155, 165, 170, 180, 360  
Business 100, 101, 200, 210  
Early Childhood Education 201, 212  
Economics 100, 102, 111, 310  
Education 100  
Family & Consumer Sciences 212  
Geography 110, 150  
History 104, 106, 203, 248, 300, 335, 429, 430, 432, 435, 436, 444, 453  
Journalism 110  
Philosophy 280  
Political Science 115, 130, 150, 280, 315, 320, 330, 335  
Psychology 100, 110, 200, 201, 268, 300, 301, 390, 410  
Social Science 140, 150  
Sociology 100, 105, 110, 141, 142, 143, 160, 201, 341, 432, 665

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**GE Area E: Lifelong Learning & Self Development      Up to 3 semester units REQUIRED<sup>1</sup>**

*(Up to 3 units of course work in Area E may be applied towards completion of General Education Requirements, or students may select an additional 3 units of General Education from Areas A-D above.)*

**E1:**

Career and Life Planning 111, 132, 135, 136, 137  
Counseling 100  
Family & Consumer Sciences 310, 313, 320, 392  
Health Science 100, 130, 150  
Library 100

**E2: (Physical Education Activity Courses – maximum of 2 units may apply to General Education requirements):**

Adaptive Physical Education 348-359  
Combatives 301 to 405  
Dance 105 to 350, 395, 400, 450, 665  
Fitness 106, 110 to 400  
Individual 101 to 255  
Physical Education 105, 270  
Team Sports 100 to 201  
Varsity 100 to 200, 310 to 380

**Important Notice:** Please see a counselor if you are planning to transfer. We encourage you to use DegreeWorks to review your degree options.