

Adopted: November 9, 2021

**ACADEMIC SENATE
Of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA
AS-926-21**

RESOLUTION ON GENERAL EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Impact on Existing Policy: Modifies AS-899-20: Resolution on Subject Area Guidelines (II) for General Education 2020

- 1 WHEREAS, Executive Order 1100-Revised imposed on CSU campuses in August 2017
2 mandated modification of Cal Poly’s General Education (GE) template;
3 and
4
- 5 WHEREAS, Area workgroups set up in 2018-2019 developed educational objectives
6 and criteria for area specific GE courses; and
7
- 8 WHEREAS, The 2018-2019 Area C workgroup determined it is critical that courses in
9 Area C2 be writing intensive for the benefit of our students; and
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- 11 WHEREAS, Representatives from World Languages and Cultures were uncertain that
12 their GE courses, previously in GE Area C5, could satisfy writing intensive
13 requirements; and
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- 15 WHEREAS, The Area C2 guidelines were developed without the Area C5 courses in
16 mind due to the writing intensive requirement; and
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- 18 WHEREAS, Subsequently faculty in World Languages and Cultures have been working
19 with the Writing and Learning Initiatives Office staff to develop their
20 courses for writing intensive requirements; therefore be it
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- 22 RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly approve the attached educational
23 objectives and criteria for languages other than English in GE 2020 Area
24 C2; and be it further
25
- 26 RESOLVED: That it be implemented for all students according to the timeline
27 established by the General Education Governance Board in line with
28 catalog timelines.

Proposed by: 2021 Area C ad hoc workgroup and
General Education Governance Board
Date: September 27, 2021

Background

In February 2012 the Academic Senate approved a new GE Area C category, called the “C5 Elective,” which brought into GE some intermediate level courses in languages other than English. Executive Order 1100-Revised of 2017 not only required revision of Cal Poly’s GE template, it also prohibited the creation of sub-areas within GE areas. Consequently, courses in C5 either needed to be brought into the new Area C2, which retained the original GE 2000 writing intensive requirement or, if they could not meet the writing intensive requirement, be excluded from the new Area C2. Initially, as indicated in the resolution, it was unclear the courses could meet writing intensive requirements. Today, faculty in World Languages and Cultures know that they can meet those requirements. Due to these new developments, in spring 2021, the General Education Governance Board (GEGB) created a new Area C2 ad hoc workgroup to develop educational objectives and criteria for courses in languages other than English (attached).

Faculty members in World Languages and Cultures use the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages ([ACTFL](#)) proficiency guidelines to determine low, mid, and high intermediate level criteria for courses in languages other than English. Faculty experts from World Languages and Cultures have determined that the courses they offer at the 202 or higher current course numbers are mid to high-level intermediate courses in languages other than English and as such, are appropriate for GE 2020 Area C2. These mid to high intermediate courses in languages other than English will greatly enrich GE 2020 course offerings. They will bolster the commitment shared by the GEGB and the university to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion. Furthermore, many Cal Poly students who already speak languages other than English in their homes are motivated to improve their knowledge and competency in those languages. Importantly, inclusion of the mid to high level intermediate courses in GE will support our multi-lingual students.

C2: Languages other than English

All C2 courses in languages other than English must satisfy the following educational objectives and criteria. GE C2 courses in languages other than English shall be at the mid to high intermediate level.

Educational Objectives

Upon completion of a qualifying C2 course, students should be able to:

EO1 Develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension competencies in the target language at least at a mid-intermediate level as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL);

EO2 Identify and analyze relevant cultural text, audio, film, and image artifacts in target language;

EO3 Examine and analyze the aesthetic, linguistic, historical, and social development of issues in target languages and cultures;

EO4 Apply linguistic and cultural knowledge in various performative settings, including creative, expository, and analytical discourses;

EO 5 Use communicative and cultural competencies to participate actively in target language cultures.

Criteria

The course proposal and expanded outline for lower-division Area C2 courses must clearly indicate how they meet all of these criteria:

CR1 Enrollment prerequisites list completion of Area A;

CR2 Use primary sources authored within the target culture such as texts, art, films, or music from distinct historical periods;

CR3 Instructional materials and course content (cultural artifacts used in class, course assignments) incorporate contributions made by individuals from diverse and/or underrepresented groups;

CR4 As appropriate, address issues of sustainability;

CR5 Meet all other criteria for GE writing-intensive courses ([GE Writing Intensive Requirements](#)).



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Thomas Gutierrez
Chair, Academic Senate

Date: November 17, 2021

From: Jeffrey D. Armstrong
President

Copies: Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore
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Subject: Response to AS-926-21 Resolution on General Education and Languages other than English

This memo acknowledges my support of the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution.

I extend my thanks to the Academic Senate for their attention to this important matter and note that this resolution should be understood within the context of Cal Poly's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in its global dimension.

Please express my appreciation to the 2021 Area C Ad Hoc working group and the General Education Governance Board for their attention and efforts related to this resolution,