

TO: Amy Parsons, Chair, Curriculum Committee
FROM: Sarah Senk, Chair, General Education Committee
CC: Dan Weinstock, Chair, Marine Transportation Department
DATE: March 2, 2020
SUBJECT: Proposed MT Curriculum Changes

The General Education Committee met on Friday, February 28, 2020 to determine whether the MT Department's revised curriculum is compliant with EO1100.

In attendance were voting committee members Sarah Senk (Chair), Katherine Luce, Elizabeth McNie (via remote connection), Tom Oppenheim, Joshua Shackman, Aparna Sinha, and Mike Strange.

Katherine Sammler, Julie Simons, Cynthia Trevisan, as well as non-voting members Graham Benton and Julia Odom were unable to attend. The meeting was originally scheduled on Thursday, February 27, but was rescheduled with less than a week's notice after an All-Hands meeting to discuss the university budget was scheduled at the same time. Sammler, Simons, and Trevisan provided feedback in writing, and their comments have been included in the recommendations below.

Below you will find a list of GE courses and recommendations.

The proposed curriculum appeared to be compliant with EO1100 with two exceptions: the curriculum included a revised Law class (LAW 315) as a UD Area D and proposed counting a new MT Capstone class as Area E. The committee voted unanimously (with three absences) to approve LAW 315 as a 3-unit Area D course. The committee also believes that the MT department has justifiable reasons for claiming that Area E is met in major, but needs to confer with the CSU GEAC on how to count a course with major prerequisites for GE credit.

The committee did not hold a formal vote to approve the curriculum for three main reasons: 1) LAW 315 needs to be approved by the Curriculum Committee as a 3-credit course before it can officially go "on the books, 2) the committee needs to see a CCR for the "MT capstone" course and seek clarification from the GEAC on the procedure for counting a GE requirement "in major," but we are confident that the MT major meets the Area E learning outcomes in major and the curriculum is compliant in that regard, and 3) the Area B Science Rep was unaware that NAU 330 had been approved for Area B classification a few years ago, and the committee needed to double check.

Due to the absence of many formal rules for workflow and the MT Department's request for expediency, we are forwarding our recommendations to the Curriculum Committee under the murky title of "tentative approval" from the GE Committee. We will hold the formal vote at our next meeting but see no reason why the Curriculum Committee cannot begin their deliberations.

General Education Courses for MT Majors under the Revised Curriculum

Area A English Language Communication and Critical Thinking	Units	<i>How is requirement met?</i>
A1 Oral Communication	3	EGL 110
A2 Written Communication	3	EGL 100
A3 Critical Thinking	3	EGL 220

Area B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning	Units	<i>How is requirement met?</i>
Lower Division B1 Physical Science (Lower Division)	3	PHY 100
Lower Division B2 Life Science	3	Unspecified Life Science elective
Lower Division B3 Laboratory Activity	1	PHY 100L
Lower Division B4 Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning	3	MTH 100
Upper Division Area B	3	NAU 330 – Meteorology

Note: NAU 205 is listed as a B4 on the “Curriculum Sheet,” but that requirement is already satisfied by Math 100.

Area C Arts and Humanities	Units	<i>How is requirement met?</i>
Lower Division C1 Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater	3	Unspecified Art elective
Lower Division C2 Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages	3	Unspecified Humanities elective
Lower Division C1 or C2	3	Unspecified Humanities elective
Upper Division Area C	3	Unspecified Humanities elective

Note: The “Copy of Curriculum Sheet with changes Feb 2020” includes two “Area C UD” courses. Please reclassify one as LD. (Of course students may always take an upper division course to satisfy a lower division requirement; if that is your intention, please specify.)

Area D Social Sciences	Units	<i>How is requirement met?</i>
Lower Division Area D (discipline 1)	3	GOV 200
Lower Division Area D (discipline 2)	3	ECO 100
Lower Division Area D	3	American Institutions
Upper Division Area D	3	LAW 315 – Admiralty Law

Area E Lifelong Learning and Self-Development	Units	<i>How is requirement met?</i>
Area E	3	in major with MT Capstone

Recommendations:

1. The General Education Committee votes to APPROVE the revised 3-unit “LAW 315 - Admiralty Law” course as an upper-division AREA D General Education course. (Please see the attached approval rubric.) Once the Curriculum Committee formally approves the change from 2 to 3 units, the proposed curriculum will be compliant with EO1100’s specifications for Area D. However, the committee requests that the MT department create a clear plan for assessment given that the “course goals” on the CCR form did not include any *measurable* learning outcomes.
2. The General Education Committee was unsure about counting the “MT Capstone” as Area E and will need to seek clarification from the CSU GEAC on Counting Area E in major with a course that has non-GE prerequisites. If the GEAC advises that MT can double count this particular course (despite the major prerequisites), the GE Committee will need to review the syllabus and course learning outcomes before formally approving it. If the GEAC advises that courses with non-GE pre-reqs cannot count, the Committee will

assist the MT department in requesting an “exemption” that will allow them to claim that Area E is met “in major.” The committee has no major objections to the MT department’s claim that Area E is met through major coursework, but requests that department make clear its assessment plan for the three Area E learning outcomes (GELOs 13, 14, and 15).

3. The proposed curriculum includes *two* B4 classes – Math 100 and NAU 205 (Ship Stability). There is no need to “double count” NAU 205 if students are already satisfying the LD B4 requirement with Math 100.
4. The committee was told that the MT department planned to replace the required HUM 400 (Ethics) course with any Humanities elective, but there is a discrepancy between two of the Excel files: The “copy of curriculum sheet Feb 2020” document seems to replace HUM 400 with any upper-division Humanities elective, but on the excel sheet entitled “Proposed NEW MT curriculum roadmap Post meeting with Associate Provost Govt moved” HUM 400 is still listed. Please correct the forms so they both say “Area C Elective.”
5. The curriculum lists two “C-upper” classes. One will need to be changed to lower division since students are only required to take 3 units of Upper-Division Area C. (With a simple waiver, students can always take an upper division class and count it as a lower one, but this might make the Registrar’s life difficult. Best to just call it what it is: lower division C.)
6. While this is outside the purview of the GE Committee’s confirmation of EO1100-compliance, two committee members documented their concerns about procedure in an email before the meeting. During the meeting, one member noted that the committee had not received all of the materials demonstrating the response from other departments. The MT representatives at the meeting said that they are still waiting on replies from some departments but “count not control the return” of necessary documents. A member of the Science & Math department noted that the S&M chair only received the proposal on Friday, February 21, and was expected to reply by the following Monday. The GSMA department chair said that he was still working on the chair’s response. We recommend that the Curriculum Committee set clear expectations regarding the timeline for requesting feedback from impacted departments.