

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**February 18, 2021
12:30 – 1:23 p.m.
Teams Virtual Meeting**

MINUTES

Present: O. Ghrayeb (SVP, Undergraduate Education), R. Caughron (BC, Chair), A. Schatteman (BC), M. Myles (BC), J. Pendergrass (BUS), P. Smith (EDU), R. Sinko (EET), M. Cooke (HHS), L. Sunderlin (LAS/NS), C. Abreu (LAS/H), S. Estes (Director Academic Advising, LAS), K. Robinson (LAS, Student), J. Lung (LAS, Student), R. Subramony (AVP Academic Assessment), C. Zack (Academic Assessment), D. Halverson (CC/CE)

The meeting was called to order by Rod Caughron, Chair.

I. Adoption of Agenda: Caughron called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Pendergrass so moved and this was seconded by Sunderlin with no discussion; the motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.

II. Announcements: None

III. New Business:

A. University Honors Program - Caughron called for a motion to discuss and vote on V.A.1-3. Myles so moved and this was seconded by Smith and the motion was **APPROVED unanimously**. The listed Honors Seminars were approved for inclusion as general education courses **unanimously**.

Items V.A.1-3:

- HON 300: Evolution of Art /Topic A course fulfills the Creativity and Critical Analysis Domain
- HON 300: Indigenous Illinois/Topic C fulfills the Society and Culture Domain
- HON 300: Introduction to Computational Social Science/Topic C fulfills the Society and Culture Domain

IV. Old Business:

Ongoing discussion of the General Education mission and philosophy as it relates to an assessment model. Subramony summarized the subcommittee's thoughts on aligning the student learning outcomes with the knowledge domain and foundational studies framework of NIU's general education. Subramony expanded the conversation to explain how this fits into the assessment plan that the General Education Committee will need to present to the University Assessment Panel in April.

Zack presented a benchmarking of learning outcomes that other institutions utilized in their general education assessment plans. Zack discussed how this presentation to the assessment subcommittee led to the idea to align the SLOs with the knowledge

domains. The sub-committee will continue to refine this concept by mapping the SLOs to the domains to determine which of the eight baccalaureate SLOs should be aligned with which knowledge domain framework.

The full General Education Committee concurred that aligning the SLOs with the Knowledge Domain and Foundational Studies framework was a good way to re-structure the program. Both allowing for a better method to assess which courses fit into which domains and as a solid assessment foundation for the program as a whole.

- V. Adjournment** – Caughron called for a motion to adjourn at 1:36 pm. Myles so moved and Estes seconded; the motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Halverson, Curriculum Coordinator/ Catalog Editor.