**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**General Education Committee Meeting 2nd Meeting/Academic Year 2024-2025  
Teams**

**Thursday, October 17, 2024**

**12:30p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Voting Members Present: Baker, S. (CEDU); Gonzalez, N. (Student Rep); Zhou, L. (CBUS); Takai, S. (CEET); Haupt, K. (Student Rep); Wilson, J. (CLAS); Devroye, A. (CVPA); Lowe, C. (CEDU-Advisor); Ezell, M. (CLAS). Delgado, T. (Student Representative)

Voting Members Absent: Wang, J.C. (CVPA), Saravanan, A. (CHHS); Arnold, S. (CLAS);

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present: A. Schatteman (Vice Provost Academic Affairs); Gawron, I. (Curriculum Coordinator/Catalog Editor), Buhrow, A. (Assistant Vice Provost); Hirsch, A. (CITL).

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Absent:

1. **Meeting Call to Order by Chair** - With a quorum present, Stephanie Baker, Chair, called the meeting to order.
2. **Adoption of Agenda** –
   1. Zhou motioned to approve the agenda. Devroye seconded.
3. **Approval of Minutes** –
   1. Previous minutes were approved via email.
4. **Announcements**

Baker and Schatteman shared announcements with the topic of the EDGE session being AI in General Education.

* 1. [Enriching the Design of General Education](https://www.niu.edu/citl/programs/enriching-the-design-of-general-education.shtml) (EDGE) next brown bag session October 23, 12-1pm, in person, HSC Capitol Room **RSVP**
  2. Coalition for Transforming Higher Education Funding in IL, funding model listening session, October 24, 2-4pm, Barsema Alumni and Visitor Center, [RSVP required](https://transformhigheredil.org/events/the-time-is-now-equitably-funding-our-public-universities-northern-illinois-university/)

1. **DISCUSSION AGENDA –**
2. **College of Business**– *No Curricular Items*
3. **College of Education –** *No Curricular Items*
4. **College of Engineering***–*
5. **College of Health and Human Sciences –**

* [HDFS 343](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:548/form) – *Creativity and Critical Analysis*

Baker and Gawron explained the proposal. Discussion topics included: how this proposal was discussed last GEC meeting and they accepted the recommendations by the GEC to remove the prerequisites and changing the Gen Ed designation. Little discussion occurred on the proposal. Zhou motioned to approve the proposal. Gonzalez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

1. **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences** –

* [ENGL 311](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:282/form) - *Creativity and Critical Analysis*

Devroye motioned to approve the proposal. Gonazlez seconded. Baker and Gawron explained the proposal. The discussion topics included: how the course currently exists and is requesting Gen Ed designation; how this will help non-majors; that the course has no prerequisites; and how CLAS has their own Gen Ed forms that are attached to the proposal. Discussion included: Schatteman, Gawron, Devroye, Baker. The motion was approved unanimously.

* [SOCI 354](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:172/form) **–** Existing Gen Ed course

Baker and Gawron explained the proposal. Discussion topics included: How this is an existing Gen Ed course and the review is mainly meant to ensure that the changes they are making do not disqualify the course from maintaining the Gen Ed designation; the general history of course changes and Gen Ed designation; that the proposal is removing prerequisites. Gonzalez motioned to approve the proposal. Zhou seconded. 8 voted in favor. 0 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* [CRIM 288](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:164/form) *– Society and Culture*

Devroye motioned to approve the proposal. Takai seconded. Ezell explained the changes/rationale. Discussion topics included: how the CRIM courses (288 and 289) are great for general education given the importance of the criminal justice system and how society interacts with it differently, and that there are no prerequisites so help any student register for the course. 8 voted in favor. 0 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

* [CRIM 289](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:165/form) *– Society and Culture*

Gonzalez motioned to approve the proposal. Zhou seconded. Discussion primarily fell along similar lines as the discussion with CRIM 288. There were some discussions on Curriculum system-specific questions. Overall, little discussion occurred on the course. 8 voted in favor. 0 against. 1 abstention. The motion passed.

1. **College of Visual and Performing Arts***– No Curricular Items*
2. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**
3. **NEW BUSINESS –**

* **Report on Association for General and Liberal Studies,** [**2024 Constitute**](https://www.agls.org/aboutourconstitute/2024constitute/) **(Alicia)**
  + **Schatteman presented briefly the conference she attended about how other universities tackle General Education programs, including: General research about general education programs; how some universities have specific offices to administer general education programs; peer mentor models of general education; branding general education programs to build identity; specifics within general education programs, such as requiring capstone, or having courses be more specific to careers or contemporary topics; and communities of practice. There were general discussions on how to implement some of this. Discussion included: Baker, Schatteman.**
* **Gen Ed Assessment – Rubrics (Amy)**
* **Listing of all general education knowledge domain courses, with chosen student learning outcomes and links to the existing student learning outcome rubrics** [**https://www.niu.edu/citl/resources/toolkits/edge/gened-alignment.shtml**](https://www.niu.edu/citl/resources/toolkits/edge/gened-alignment.shtml)
  + **Buhrow presented briefly on the rubrics and the initiative to more intentionally assess Gen Ed. Discussion included: explaining the rubrics, knowledge domains, and student learning outcomes and how they align; a pilot of having people assess for the rubrics/SLOs; the overall goal is to update and ensure the rubrics are helpful and useful for faculty. Discussion included: Schatteman, Buhrow, Baker.**

1. **ADJOURNMENT** –

Gonzalez motioned to adjourn. Zhou seconded. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 pm.