

Proposed General Education Model #2 (Berg, Donovan, Nilsen, and Winburn)

Introduction

In this proposed model for GE, there are two tiers of GE courses. The first tier consists of courses covering fundamentals for all students, while the second tier will consist of GE courses that can build on the fundamentals developed in the first tier. Second tier courses may not be taken until 11 credits of first tier courses have been completed (see FYE experiences for exceptions). The GE outcomes will come predominately from the GE courses, but some outcomes may be met by other courses, including those within the major. The FYE experience will be kept within this model, with a second year experiences (SYE) added to build on outcomes introduced in the first year. Transfer students will be introduced to MSU through an INT 399 requirement (similar to the INT 299 in the FYE). A capstone experience will also be required for all graduates.

General Education Coursework

The GE coursework will be divided into two tiers: Tier 1 which are courses considered to be fundamental. Tier 2 will consist of all other GE certified courses. The advantage to this model is that Tier 2 courses assume that specific outcomes have been addressed in Tier 1 coursework. With a solid foundation from the Tier 1 courses, Tier 2 courses may focus more extensively on a) content and b) the GE learning outcome(s). Tier 2 courses may not be taken until the 2nd year of the student's curriculum (assuming they entered MSU as new students and are not transfer students).

Coursework and Outcomes

Each GE course will be certified to address a maximum of two learning outcomes. Students will be required to enroll in a minimum number of courses designed to address each outcome.

The Tiers

Tier 1 courses

- Engl 110
- Engl 120
- Comm 110
- Math GE
- Hist Tier 1 GE
- FYE INT course

Tier 2 courses

All other GE courses (across the state mandated distribution)

The First Year

Tier 1 courses should be taken during the first year at MSU. For most students, the FYE will be an integral part of incorporating the Tier 1 courses into their curriculum.

There are three proposed formats for FYE cohorts:

1. For students with no dual credit coursework or only 1 course (Tier 1 GE)
 - FYE cohort will consist of 2 Tier 1 GE courses with the FYE INT course
2. For students with a minimum of 6 credits of dual credit Tier 1 GE courses
 - FYE cohort may consist of Tier 1 GE course, Tier 2 GE course and the FYE INT course
3. For either situation there is an option to take a FYE within the major
 - FYE cohort of 1-2 major classes, the FYE INT course and a Tier 1 GE course (if necessary)

Second Year

The second year will include a SYE 'block', two courses taken during one semester that will build on outcomes introduced during the first year. These two courses are not necessarily a cohort of courses, although faculty may choose to collaborate. The first course will be a writing intensive course within the major. The second course will be a Tier 2 GE course that builds on one of the outcomes introduced during the first year.

Transfer Students

Transfer students would be required to take an INT 399 course that is similar in design to the INT 299 course incorporated into the FYE. This INT 399 course would serve two purposes: 1) to introduce students to the culture of the MSU campus and the community through similar activities as the INT 299 course (including an engagement piece) and 2) assigning 'coursework' that will provide a starting point for their GE assessment (essentially providing the baseline for the student coming into MSU to determine what growth has occurred in their GE assessment).

Final Year

In the final year, each student will need to enroll in a capstone experience. This will be a capstone experience within the major. The capstone will also serve to collect evidence of student performance related to the outcomes.

The Grid

See next page...

General Education Courses												
Tier I Courses		SYE	CSS1	CSS2	CSS3	CSS4	PSR1	PSR2	PSR3	IP1	IP2	
Engl 110												
Engl 120												
Comm 110												
Math												
FYE INT												
HIST Elective												
Tier II Courses												
FC1 (Humanities)												
FC2 (Laboratory Science)												
FC3 (Social Science, may include one Tier II History course)												
Electives												
Graduation Requirements												
Wellness/PD												
Writing within the Major												
		X										
Senior Capstone												
Number of courses with outcome			3	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	

CCS 1 Students will learn to raise vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely.

CCS 2 Students will learn to locate, evaluate, select, and assess relevant information, use abstract ideas to interpret information effectively, and come to well-reasoned conclusions.

CCS 3 Students will learn to think open-mindedly within alternative systems of thought, recognizing and assessing their assumptions, implications, and practical consequences.

CCS 4 Students will learn to communicate effectively with others when figuring out solutions to complex problems.

PSR 1 Students will recognize their relationships to communities and understand and evaluate differing value systems associated with community issues.

PSR 2 Students will and engage in appropriate and meaningful actions, practices, or commitments responding to community needs.

PSR 3 Students will explore and practice healthy behaviors that foster emotional, physical, intellectual, interpersonal, spiritual, and environmental balance and well-being.

IP 1 Students will demonstrate through coursework an understanding of diversity both globally and within the United States. Opportunities for this include courses certified by the

IP 2 Students will demonstrate through an applied experience an understanding of diversity both globally and within the United States.

