General Education: The “Why’s” & “How’s”

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UHWO General Education Core & Focus Requirements for students

Foundations (12 credits)

Diversification (19 credits)

Focus (multiple courses to fulfill)
## General Education Core

### Foundations

- **Written Communication (FW):** 3 credits (overseen by Writing Committee)
- **Symbolic Reasoning (FS):** 3 credits
- **Global & Multicultural Perspectives (FG):** 6 credits from two different lists A, B, C

*Designations are course-based*
*5/5 year approval (new/renew)*
*A course can have one Foundation designation*
*Cannot double dip with Diversification or Focus*
*Designations not automatic (must apply)*
*Must meet appropriate Hallmarks*

### Diversification

- **Arts, Humanities, Literature (DA, DH, DL):** 6 credits from two different subject areas
- **Social Sciences (DS):** 6 credits from two different subject areas
- **Natural Sciences (DB, DP, DY):** 7 credits
  - 3 credits of biological sciences (DB)
  - 3 credits of physical sciences (DP)
  - 1 credit of laboratory (DY)

*Designations are course-based*
*5/5 year approval (new/renew)*
*A course can have only one Diversification designation*
*A course may have a Diversification and Focus designation*
*Designations not automatic (must apply)*
*Must meet appropriate Hallmarks*
Focus Designations

Focus

- Oral Communication (OC): 1 class
- Contemporary Ethical Issues (ETH): 1 class
- Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues (HAP): 1 class
- Writing Intensive (WI): 3 classes at upper division level (minimum two classes must come from coursework outside capstone class)

- Designations are instructor-based
- Divisional approval available for ETH, OC, HAP (Full time faculty as lead faculty) for some courses (e.g., major core courses)
- 3/5 year approval (new/renew)
- Multiple Focus designations allowed per course (e.g., WI/HAP/ETH)
- Designations not automatic (must apply)
- Must meet appropriate Hallmarks
Why get GenEd Core and Focus designations?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student benefits</th>
<th>Faculty benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students need them to graduate (current shortage of ETH in particular)</td>
<td>Fill your classes</td>
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<td>Students have more options to meet requirements</td>
<td>Help address shortage of Focus designations across campus</td>
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<td>Students expand/explore knowledge/horizons through GenEd Core courses they would not otherwise take</td>
<td>Create diverse opportunities for students to meet requirements</td>
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<td>Students earn Focus while taking courses they would already take for their major</td>
<td>OC/WI capped at 20-30 students</td>
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<td>Expose students to your subject areas/topics</td>
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<td>Bring in potential majors</td>
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<td>Enhance teaching skills (e.g., through OC/WI activities)</td>
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General Education Information and Proposal forms location

- Laulima > [UHWO Faculty Info](#) > Resources > 5a_General Education (OC, ETH, HAP)

- General Education Forms-Applications: Proposal forms
- Gen Ed Requirements, Samples, Hallmarks: Includes descriptions and purposes of designations and examples of properly filled-out forms
- Master Gen Ed designation listing
Proposals: What to Include

- Proposal form
  - Focus designation (OC, ETH) can be either divisional or individual (divisional only under certain circumstances)

- Hallmarks
  - Percentages should be clear in Hallmarks section
  - Best Practice: be clear enough in the proposal form without the committee having to refer to the syllabus
  - Will go over in small groups after presentation

- Syllabus/course outline
  - Percentages should be clear in syllabus

NOTE: Foundations (FG, FS, FW) and Diversification (DA, DH, DL, DS, DB, DP, DY) designations are NOT automatic and must be applied for
Where/when to submit proposals

**WI**
- Submit to Writing Committee contact (digital)
- Summer: **February 1**
  - Fall: **February 15**
  - Spring: **October 1**
- Check [WI master list](#) for approvals/expiration

**HAP**
- Submit to HAP Board Chair (digital/hard copy)
- Summer/Fall: **2nd Friday of February** (final)
  - Spring: **2nd Friday of September** (final)
- Check [GenEd master list](#) for approvals/expiration

**All others**
- Submit to [uhwoge@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhwoge@hawaii.edu) and GenEd Chair (digital/hard copy)
- Summer/Fall: **2nd Friday of February** (final)
  - Spring: **2nd Friday of September** (final)
  - (September 9 for Spring 2017)
- Check [GenEd master list](#) for approvals/expiration
CRFs

- Check all approved and pending GenEd Core/Focus on CRF
- Check GenEd master list for active designations and renew semesters; check WI master list for WIs
- Check Schedule of Classes to be sure your Core/Focus designations are correct
- Draft Schedule of Classes goes live October 15
Hallmarks

- Symbolic Reasoning (FS)
- Global & Multicultural Perspectives (FG)
- Arts, Humanities, Literature (DA, DH, DL)
- Social Sciences (DS)
- Natural Sciences (DB, DP, DY)
- Oral Communication (OC)
- Contemporary Ethical Issues (ETH)
- Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues (HAP)
- Written Communication (FW) and Writing Intensive (WI) overseen by the Writing Committee
Hallmarks

Ethics

E1. Contemporary ethical issues will be presented and studied in a manner that is fully integrated into the main course content.

E2. The disciplinary approach(es) used in the class will give students tools for the development of responsible deliberation and ethical judgment.

E3. Students will achieve basic competency in analyzing and deliberating upon contemporary ethical issues to help them make ethically determined judgments.

E4. The equivalent of one semester credit-hour or 30% of a 3-credit course will be devoted to contemporary ethical issues.

E5. A minimum of 8 hours of class time will be spent in discussing contemporary ethical issues.

Oral Communication

O1. Each student will conduct or participate in a minimum of three oral communication assignments or a comparable amount of oral communication activity during the class. In addition, for lower division courses, at least 25% of the final grade for a 3-credit course will be a function of the student’s oral communication activities (30% for a 4-credit course; 40% for a 2-credit course; 65% for a 1-credit course); for upper division courses, at least 30% of the final grade for a 4-credit course will be a function of the student’s oral communication activities (40% for a 3-credit course; 60% for a 2-credit course; and 100% for a 1-credit course).

O2. Each student will receive explicit training, in the context of the class, in oral communication concerns relevant to the assignment or activity.

O3. Each student will receive specific feedback, critiquing, and grading of the oral communication assignments or activities from the instructor.

O4. If instructor feedback primarily involves individual or paired students, enrollment will be limited to 20 students. If instructor feedback primarily involves groups of students, enrollment will be limited to 30 students.
Hallmarks: HAP

**H1.** The content should reflect the intersection of Asian and/or Pacific Island cultures with Native Hawaiian culture.

[Note: A sizable number of weekly classes must cover topics linked to Native Hawaiian cultural issues. It is useful to link this description with the syllabus.]

**H2.** A course can use any disciplinary or multi-disciplinary approach provided that a component of the course uses assignments or practica that encourage learning that comes from the cultural perspectives, values, and world views rooted in the experience of peoples indigenous to Hawai‘i, the Pacific, and Asia.

[Note: It is expected that a sizable amount of readings, videos, guest speakers, field trip, etc. will involve indigenous perspectives or the “native voice” – for example, written by or presented by indigenous people. This “native voice” must reflect both Native Hawaiian and the intersecting region (Asia or Pacific).]

**H3.** A course should include at least one topic that is crucial to an understanding of the histories, or cultures, or beliefs, or the arts, or the societal, or political, or economic, or technological processes of these regions; for example, the relationships of societal structures to the natural environment.

**H4.** A course should involve an in-depth analysis or understanding of the issues being studied in the hope of fostering multi-cultural respect and understanding.
Hallmarks
Small group break-out