Minutes of Essential Studies Committee, May 7, 2012

1. A meeting of the Essential Studies Committee was held on May 7, 2012 in the Badlands room. Brett Goodwin presided.

2. In attendance: Sebastian Braun, Sherrie Fleshman, Yeo Howe Lim, Fred Remer, Janna Schill, Bridget Thompson, Anne Walker, Harmon Abrahamson, Joan Hawthorne, Tom Steen, Sharon Bruggeman, and Christina Fargo. Guests: Tom Rand, & William Woodworth

Absent: Mary Baker, April Bradley, Dorothy Keyser, Suzanne Anderson, Kristin Emmons, John Mitzel, and John Tompkins.

3. Announcements
   - Summer student petitions will be handled by the Petition sub-committee and reported during the first meeting in the fall 2013.
   - First ESC meeting Fall 2012 - Thursday, August 16, 9-10:30 am; Education Building, Room 294
   - Revalidation Workshop - Friday, September 7, 1-2:30 pm; Memorial Union, River Valley Room
   - Correction requested by the department to change prefix from PXW 103 to PH 103 was acknowledged.

4. Approval of the Minutes from April 30, 2012 – Harmon Abrahamson moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

5. Student Petitions
   - Student #25 – Essential Studies Communication Requirement
     Harmon Abrahamson moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

   - Student #26 – Essential Studies Fine Arts Requirement
     Harmon Abrahamson moved to deny the request. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

6. Revalidations
   - Mechanical Engineering 370
     - Breadth of Knowledge: Social Science
       Brett Goodwin moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

   - Anthropology 170
     - Breadth of Knowledge: Math, Science, & Technology
       Department requested extension for provisional status until Spring 2013. Fred Remer moved approval of provisional revalidation until February 2013. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.
Revalidations – continued

- Indian Studies 350
  - Breadth of Knowledge: Social Science
  - Special Emphasis: United State Diversity
- Indian Studies 121, 201, 203, & 207
  - Breadth of Knowledge: Social Science & Humanities
  - Special Emphasis: United State Diversity

Harmon Abrahamson moved approval of IS 350 as a Social Science and provisional revalidation of IS 121, 201, 203, & 207 until Spring 2013. The department will then need to choose one breadth of knowledge category, Social Science or Humanities. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

- Philosophy 221
  - Breadth of Knowledge: Math, Science, & Technology
  - Special Emphasis: Quantitative Reasoning

Sherrie Fleshman moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

7. Carryover courses for AY 2012-2013

- Validation
  - Religion 480
- Revalidations
  - Philosophy 410
  - Philosophy 420
  - Theatre Arts 110
  - Theatre Arts 250
  - Theatre Arts 270

8. Student Senate Resolution

- William Woodworth, Residence Hall Senator, announced that the University of North Dakota Student Senate is not in support of the proposed General Education Requirement changes. *See attached resolution.

9. Policy proposals on credit awarded to students still under the GER’s.

- Plan A: The Catalog Proposal
- Plan B: The Cross-Walk Proposal
- Plan C: Compromise Proposal

Joan Hawthorne moved to approve Plan “C” with the following addendums:

Add statement to “Item #6” – GEs are the default.
Add to item “Item #3” – “We strongly urge advisors & students to choose listed GER courses which are also currently approved as ES courses under similar categories.”

The motion was seconded. Tom Rand made a friendly amendment to make an addition to item #5A, as per the General Education program description in the catalog, “Students cannot fulfill the world cultures requirement by taking a CLEP or Foreign Language Placement and credit test.” The motion was seconded, voted upon, and carried unanimously.

** See attached Policy.

10. Meeting adjourned 11:25 AM.

Recorded by Sharon Bruggeman, Secretary of Essential Studies
Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Kristin Emmons – Off Campus Senator, Jacob Gapp – Off Campus Senator, Sean McClain – Off Campus Senator, Adam Swigost – Arts and Sciences Senator, William Woodworth – Residence Hall Senator

Sponsors: Ryan Fraase – University Apartment Senator, Hannah Trosen – Undecided Academia Senator

CC: Logan Fletcher - Student Body President, Eric Watne - Student Body Vice President, Tony Trimarco - Student Government Advisor; Brett Goodwin – Essential Studies Committee Chair, Lori Reesor – Vice President of Student Affairs

Date: April 29th, 2012

Re: General Education Requirement Catalog

Whereas, there is a portion of the body at UND that is under the General Education Requirement system, and

Whereas, those students have spent a lot of time and money advancing their education, and

Whereas, switching to the Essential Studies system requires students to spend additional time and money to meet the new criteria, and

Whereas, this can prolong a student’s time to graduate, and

Whereas, changing the catalog in which a student entered creates academic disadvantage and unnecessary hardship on the student body, and

Whereas, changes in the catalog cause undue confusion and extreme issues with academic advising, and

Whereas, students are attempting in good faith to comply with requirements and changing those requirements is a show of a lack of integrity within the University’s curriculum standards,

Therefore, be it resolved, that all students who entered the University under the General Education Requirements system be allowed to graduate under those requirements, and

Therefore, be it furthest resolved, that the University of North Dakota Student Senate is not in support of the proposed General Education Requirement changes.

[Signature]
Student Body President, Logan Fletcher
Essential Studies

Policy for Granting Credit to Students under the Old Program: General Education Requirements (GERs)

Approved by the Essential Studies Committee, May 2012

Background

We still have quite a large number of students who are under the old General Education Requirements (GERs), and we need to help them complete their programs of study in a timely fashion (we estimate about 2,000 students under GER’s, and they go back to 1967). We need a policy about granting credit as we move through this transition period from the GER’s to Essential Studies (ES was implemented for freshmen in Fall,2008 and for transfers in Fall,2009.)

Consequently, the Essential Studies Committee reviewed the situation, and after receiving input from several different groups—student government, advisors, the Registrar’s Office, and the Office of ES—the Committee discussed different options. Following that discussion, the ESC explored a compromise plan, which resulted in the policy here (approved unanimously, 7 May 2012).

The Policy

1. Students under the GER’s follow the catalog list of General Education courses that was in place when they started at UND.
   a. This is the basic principle that guides all decisions concerning whether or not a particular course should count toward meeting the GERs student’s requirements in GE.
   b. The entry catalog is the one that was in place in the semester of the student’s first enrollment at UND (not during application or admission).

2. Students who entered UND in academic year 2007-08 follow the 2007 online list of GER courses that is found at: [http://und.edu/academics/registrar/general-education-courses.cfm](http://und.edu/academics/registrar/general-education-courses.cfm)
   a. This was when the list of GERs courses was no longer included in the catalog.

3. The catalog rule (#1 above) applies to all GERs students both in the past and in the future.
   a. If a GERs student is asking for credit for coursework done in the past, the advisors and Registrar’s Office will use the catalog list to decide if that course counts or not.
   b. If a GERs student is looking to take a course in the future, the GERs list in the student’s entry catalog is the source of information to use.

4. GERs students do not use the list of ES approved courses except in the case of #5 (following).

5. In cases where no GERs courses from the entry-year catalog are taught any longer to fulfill a specific GER, the following options apply:
   a. If no GERs courses are available to meet the World Cultures requirement, then the student may choose to take an Essential Studies course that is validated for either Global Diversity (“G”) or U.S. Diversity (“U”). Students cannot fulfill the World Cultures requirement by taking a CLEP or Foreign Language Placement and credit test.
   b. If no GERs courses on the list are available for the third course in Communication (a requirement in the GERs program), they may choose to take an ES program course that is designated with either an “A” (Advanced Communication) or an “O” (Oral Communication).
   c. In either of these cases (5a and 5b), credit toward the GER follows the ES rule that the course counts in the semester in which it is taken.
      • For example, if a GERs student elects to take an ES “O” course to meet the third communication course requirement, that Oral Communication course must be on the approved list in the semester that the student takes it.
6. This policy means that GERs are the” default” requirements—no need for students to do anything other than follow their entry catalog. However, students under the GERs may elect, by individual request, to use the ES requirements instead of the GERs for all their outstanding requirements. If a GERs student does elect to use the new ES program, that choice must be made in writing and kept on file with the student's college or program advisor, and it must be sent to the Registrar's Office to be coded in the student's record for the degree audit. The courses already taken under GERs will transfer into the ES requirements according to the following:
   a. GERs World Cultures courses can be counted either toward fulfillment of the ES Global (“G”) or U.S. (“U”) Diversity requirement.
   b. GERs Communication courses can be counted either toward fulfillment of the ES Advanced (“A”) or Oral (“O”) Communication requirement.
   c. This choice must be clearly indicated in writing at the time that the student is transferring from GER to ES requirements.
   d. All ES rules apply from the time the switch is made.

On Choosing Courses: The Essential Studies Committee strongly urges students and advisors to choose GERs courses which are also currently approved as ES courses, under similar categories.

For Help: The Registrar’s Office provides several services for students and advisors to use to quickly find out if alternative or substitute courses might count toward their GERs requirements. One is the electronic degree audit; another is consultation with a Registrar’s staff member. In the case of transfer courses—the source of many of the GERs questions—a dedicated staff member is ready and available to visit with students or answer questions from advisors.