

Philosophy of Santa Ana College General Education (SAC-GE)

General Education requirements at Santa Ana College reflect the conviction that those who receive degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts, and methodologies, both unique to and shared by various disciplines. Recognizing the need for students to embrace and adapt to increasingly and rapidly changing local, national and global conditions, the college seeks to ensure that students develop the necessary skills, knowledge, and curiosity to better themselves and their communities.

The subject matter of General Education courses is designed to be general, broad and introductory rather than specialized, narrow, or advanced. General Education courses form a pattern of learning experiences designed to provide educational opportunities that lead to the following learning outcomes for students:

- The ability to comprehend and communicate ideas logically, creatively, correctly, and effectively in speaking and writing.
- Skills in creative and critical thinking, including analysis, synthesis, evaluation, problem-solving, decision-making, and quantitative reasoning.
- The skills necessary to identify informational needs; to seek, to access, to evaluate and to apply information effectively, using print materials and technology creatively, effectively and responsibly.
- An understanding of the complexities presented by the cultural, social, and environmental diversity of the world.
- Responsibility for ethical and active participation in a diverse society.
- The basic skills necessary for lifelong learning, fitness, creative expression, aesthetic appreciation, personal growth, interpersonal skills, and development of intellectual curiosity.
- Acquisition of the knowledge and skills necessary in chosen disciplines and careers.

1. ~~Language and Rationality~~ English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (SCC draft still has Language and Rationality)

Courses in ~~language and rationality~~ English composition, oral communication, and critical thinking develop the principles and applications of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression, and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol system the student uses.

1A. English Composition

Courses in this category enable students to write clearly and effectively, particularly to conduct an analysis, present a point of view, or express an idea or opinion; to read critically and perceptively in a variety of fields and from a variety of texts; and to reason logically and coherently, recognizing and avoiding common fallacies of thought. In addition to their intrinsic value, these courses train students in skills essential to many other disciplines.

1B. Oral Communication and Critical Thinking

Courses that fulfill this requirement may be designed to provide theoretical and practical instruction in critical thinking in a general sense. More specifically, such courses emphasize knowledge and skills that enable students to reach factual or judgmental conclusions concerning any topic without fallacy and based on solid reasons. Thus, students are instructed in general principles concerning the interpretation of evidence and deductive and inductive inference. Critical thinking courses enable students to move beyond the passive collection of evidence or data and engage students in active analytical and evaluative thinking. In addition to their intrinsic value, these courses train students in skills essential to many other disciplines.

Courses that fulfill this requirement may also emphasize the study of the nature and processes, and effects of human symbolic interaction, both verbal and nonverbal. These courses should provide theoretical and practical instruction in mass communication theory. They should also require that students research, outline, and deliver

a platform presentation. Courses in this category should enable students to listen critically and express a position reasonably.

2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

Courses in this category enable students to develop mathematical thinking skills, construct logical arguments, and make valid inferences. In addition to their intrinsic value, these courses train students in quantitative skills essential to many other disciplines.

3. Arts and Humanities

Courses in arts and humanities study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. They assist in developing an awareness of the ways in which people throughout the ages and in different cultures have responded to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation, and in developing aesthetic understanding and an ability to make value judgments. This category includes introductory or integrative courses in the arts, foreign languages, literature, philosophy and religion.

3A. Arts

Courses that fulfill this requirement should enable students to examine and respond to the world as it has been represented over time and across cultures in visual, aural, tactile, and dramatic forms; to express their ideas and attitudes in an artistic medium; and to appreciate the contributions that the fine arts have made in establishing and preserving our cultural and historical traditions.

3B. Humanities

Courses in humanities enable students to understand human diversity and tolerance for different perspectives, ideas, and values while demonstrating critical thinking about basic responses to the human condition. Cross-disciplinary approaches, anti-ethnocentric global consciousness, and an emphasis on the diversity and unity of culture are emphasized. Students will learn how the arts, literature, philosophy, language, and science can both reflect and challenge historical formations and power structures while demonstrating critical thinking as students develop their interpretations regarding such formations and structures. Students will learn to apply evidential and logical reasoning in the formation of arguments, analyze data and documents, understand the nature of texts and non-textual sources, comprehend conjuncture and social change over time, apply historical learning and critical methodology to contemporary issues in the U.S. and the world stage, and engage with scholarship and with peers in critical discussion and informed debate.

1. Social and Behavioral Sciences

Courses in the social and behavioral sciences focus on people as members of society. They assist in developing an awareness of the methods of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences. Critical thinking is stimulated about the ways people act and have acted in response to their societies, and appreciation is developed of how societies and social groups operate. This category includes introductory or integrative survey courses in cultural anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, cultural geography, and related disciplines.

4A. American Institutions

American history must cover significant events over approximately a century, nationwide, and with a global context. It should analyze the roles of ethnic and social groups and show how events connect across politics, economics, social movements, and geography. Similarly, studies on the U.S. Constitution and California's government must include political philosophy, government operations, citizen rights, and state-federal dynamics.

4B. Social Science

Social and behavioral science explores human behavior within society, fostering critical thinking about societal interactions and dynamics. Students gain insight into various disciplines such as anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, cultural geography, and related fields, developing an understanding of societal operations and group behavior.

5. Natural Sciences

Courses in the natural sciences examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena. They assist in developing an appreciation and understanding of the scientific method and encourage an understanding of the relationships between science and other human activities. This category includes introductory or integrative courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, physics, physical geography, physical anthropology, and other scientific disciplines.

6. Ethnic Studies

~~Courses meeting the Ethnic Studies/Women's Studies requirement focus on the cultural perspectives of the African American, the Asian American, the Chicano/Latino, and the Native American and women in the United States. They assist students to deal constructively with issues of difficult differences and to develop respect for and become aware of the views, interactions, and contributions of these ethnic groups and women to U.S. society and culture. This category is interdisciplinary and includes introductory courses that incorporate the voices of these historically excluded groups. This interdisciplinary category includes introductory courses incorporating historically excluded groups' voices. (Last line changed to match SCC.)~~

7. Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development

The courses in this category are designed to equip human beings for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological and psychological entities. In a social context, students will benefit from studying about themselves and how they function at different stages of life. Instruction is intended to include consideration of such matters as human behavior, sexuality, nutrition, health, stress, key relationships of humankind to the social and physical environment, and implications of death and dying. Physical activity courses could be included, provided that they include some components of the above-listed topics.

~~D. Cultural Breadth~~

~~Courses meeting the cultural breadth requirement represent both global and national perspectives and recognize the value of systemic historical and cross-cultural examinations of race, ethnicity, gender, and global issues.~~

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~~International Perspective~~

~~Courses in International Perspective include an emphasis on global perspectives in a cultural context. All courses need to address not just specific aspects of culture but also a component addressing the basic concepts of culture including how culture influences environment, behavior, structure, and function of society. These courses also include a multi-country perspective.~~

Plan 1: Santa Ana College General Education Requirements for the Associate Degree (AA/AS), 2025-2026

This plan does not apply to Associate Degrees for Transfer (AA-T and AS-T).

Courses completed at Santiago Canyon College which meet the requirements for categories 1-7 at Santiago Canyon College will automatically meet the identical requirements at Santa Ana College.

GE credit will not be awarded for both the honors and regular version of a course.

Courses may be listed in more than one GE area but will only be granted GE credit for a single area.

1. English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking (minimum 6 semester/8 quarter units):

1A English Composition (minimum 3 semester/4 quarter units)

English 101 or 101H

1B Oral Communication and Critical Thinking (minimum 3 semester/4 quarter units)

Communication Studies 100, 101 or 101H, 102 or 102H, 103 or 103H (per Plan B/C placement), 113, 140, 145, 150, 152

Counseling 144

Critical and Academic Reading 150

English 102 or 102H, 103 or 103H

Philosophy 110 or 110H, 111

2. Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning (minimum 3 semester/4 quarter units)

Business 130 (F '19 or later completion) (per Plan B placement, meets CSU admission requirement)

Mathematics 105, 140, 140S, 145, 150, 162, 170, 180, 185, 204, 219 or 219H, 219S, 280, 287

Psychology 210

3. Arts and Humanities (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units, take once course from either 3A or 3B)

3A Arts

Art 100 or 100H, 101, 102, 103 (per Plan B/C placement), 104 (per Plan B/C placement), 105, 106 (per Plan B/C placement), 110

Dance 100 or 100H, 101, 104, 105

Digital Media 101, 102, 103, 104, 107, 113, 164

Interdisciplinary Studies 121

Journalism and Media Studies 103

Music 101 or 101H, 102 or 102H, 103 (per Plan B/C placement), 104, 105, 110, 111

Theatre Arts 100, 105, 120, 123

3B Humanities

American Sign Language 110 or 110H, 111 or 111H, 116, 210 or 210H, 211

Anthropology 104 or 104H

Chinese 101, 102

Digital Media 105

English 102 or 102H, 104 or 104H, 231, 232, 233A, 233B, 233C, 241, 242, 243, 245 (per Plan B/C placement), 246 (per Plan B/C placement), 270, 271, 272, 278 (per Plan B/C placement)

French 101, 102, 201 or 201H, 202 or 202H

History 150, 151, 153, 163 (150-163 per Plan B/C placement)

Interdisciplinary Studies 200
Italian 120, 121
Japanese 101, 102
Journalism and Media Studies 105, 110, 111
Kinesiology, Professional 170
Philosophy 106 or 106H, 108, 112, 118
Spanish 101 or 101H, 102 or 102H, 195A, 195B, 201 or 201H, 202 or 202H
Vietnamese 101, 102

4. Social and Behavioral Sciences (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units, take one course from either 4A or 4B)

4A American Institutions

History 118, 120 or 120H, 121 or 121H
Political Science 101 or 101H, 235 (per Plan B/C placement)

4B Social Science

Anthropology 100 or 100H, 125 (per Plan B/C placement)
Asian American Studies 150
Black Studies 150
Chicano Studies 150
Child Development 107, 110, 221 matches SCC placement
Communication Studies 206 or 206H (per Plan B/C placement)
Criminal Justice 101 or 101H
Economics 120, 121
Ethnic Studies 102 or 102H, 150 or 150H
Geography 100 or 100H, 102 or 102H, 140, 155
History 101 or 101H, 102 or 102H, 123, 124 or 124H, 125, 127, 146, 150, 151, 153, 163, 181 (123-181 Plan B/C placement - 150, 151, 153 Plan B only placement)
Kinesiology, Health Education 112
Kinesiology, Professional 150 (per Plan B placement)
Law 100
Paralegal 100
Political Science 205, 206
Psychology 100 or 100H, 170 (per Plan B/C placement), 260, 270
Sociology 100 or 100H, 150
Women's Studies 101 (per Plan B/C placement), 102 (per Plan B/C placement)

5. Natural Sciences (minimum 3 semester/4 quarter units)

Anthropology 101, 101L
Astronomy 109, 110, 140
Biology 109 or 109H, 109L, 111, 115, 149, 177, 190, 190L, 200, 211, 239, 259, 275
Chemistry 109, 115, 119, 209, 210, 219 or 219H
Earth Science 110 or 110H, 115, 150 or 150H
Environmental Studies 140, 200, 259
Geography 101, 101L, 130
Geology 101, 101L, 140, 150 or 150H, 201
Physical Science 115, 117, 118

Physics 109, 210, 217, 279
Psychology 201 (Numbered 200 prior to Fall 2023)

6. Ethnic Studies (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units)

Note: All courses below must have been completed Fall 2021 or later in order to fulfill Area 6

Asian American Studies 150*
Black Studies 150*
Chicano Studies 150*
Ethnic Studies 102 or 102H, 150* or 150H

* Numbered 101 prior to Fall 2022

7. Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development (minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter units)

Take one course from each group. No more than one unit may be counted from 7B.

7A Lifelong Understanding

Child Development 107
Counseling 100, 116, 124, 125, 128
Entrepreneurship 100
Fashion Design Merchandising 103
Interdisciplinary Studies 155
Information Studies 100
Kinesiology, Health Education 101 or 101H, 102, 103, 104, 108
Kinesiology, Professional 125, 160
Mathematics 030
Nutrition 115 or 115H, 120 (matches SCC placement)
Philosophy 111
Psychology 140, 160, 230
Sociology 112
Study Skills 109

7B Lifelong Understanding – Activity

Dance 102, 122A, 122B, 125A, 125A, 125B, 201A, 201B, 206A, 206B, 219A, 219B
Kinesiology, Activities 107A, 107B, 107C, 123, 140A, 150A, 155A, 160A, 169A, 169B, 170A, 200A, 200B, 200C, 211A, 211B, 220A, 220B, 220C, 226A, 230A, 260A, 260B, 260C, 265A, 265B, 265C, 270A, 290A, 290B
Kinesiology, Adapted Activities 201A, 202A, 202B, 205A, 208A, 208B, 211A, 211B
Kinesiology, Aerobic Fitness 140A, 143A, 144A, 146A, 146B, 150A, 156A, 156B, 157A
Kinesiology, Aquatics 201A, 201B
Kinesiology, Fitness 112A, 112B, 112C, 114A, 114B, 115A, 115B, 115C, 147A, 147B
Kinesiology, Intercollegiate Athletics 125, 128, 133, 171, 201, 202, 204, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 223, 227, 230, 231, 232, 235, 240, 261, 262, 270, 271, 281, 291, 293
Kinesiology, Professional 155, 165, 175, 195, 200, 275

(can some of these categories be shortened to for example “any courses from KNAC, KNAD” etc?)

This requirement (F) is met for Fire Technology (as long as Fire Technology 121 and 121L are taken as part of the program), Nursing, and Occupational Therapy Assistant by completion of the major.

Green font = courses in cultural breadth that were already in another GE category

Purple font = proposed category for courses previously included in Cultural Breadth that were not already listed somewhere else in Plan A

Renaming Gen Ed Plans

May 6, 2024

Suggested names for the GE Plans	Notes to consider
SAC – General Education or SCC – General Education	There are technical limitations within Ellucian and it would help if we have one name for the shared plan. Right now, Plan A is transcribed as “LOCAL” in both Colleague and student transcripts
SAC/SCC – General Education	May not meet technical limitations
Plan 1 - Assoc. Degree General Education	Differentiates from Plan A – can meet technical limitations
Plan 2 - CalGETC	Numbering system creates flow and consistency.
Plan 3 - ???	Should we decide to create another option, etc.

Some notes worth mentioning:

- Plan A is shared with SCC, so we will have to mutually agree on a title.