

Proposal for Environmental Sustainability and Global Citizenship (ESGC) Requirement

From: ESGC Subcommittee of the Academic senate Paul Setziol, Cynthia Kaufman, Monika Thomas, and Kristin Sullivan

History: As a result of a request from a group of students, two years ago the Academic Senate unanimously passed the concept of a graduation requirement in Environmental Sustainability and Global Citizenship. Last year the General Education Review Steering Committee took up consideration of it, and it will be part of the package of changes to G.E. that will be up for a faculty vote the week of November 10th.

Proposed Language for the Requirement:

1. Add an additional requirement of “One course completed that meets the Environmental Sustainability and Global Citizenship requirement” to De Anza’s G.E. Pattern.
2. Courses will be certified as meeting the Environmental Sustainability and Global Citizenship requirement when at least two of the following outcomes are embedded within the various areas of the course outline. Course outline content must show evidence that through the course, the student will: :
 1. Explain the interconnectivity of economic prosperity, social equity and environmental quality.
 2. Identify the most serious environmental, equity and social justice problems globally and locally and explain their underlying causes and possible consequences.
 3. Explain some significant ways they can make a difference in making a positive impact, locally, at a state level, or globally in making the world more environmentally sustainable and socially just.
 4. Analyze how the well-being of human society is dependent on sustainable social and ecological systems.
 5. Demonstrate an understanding of how their personal activities impact the environment and their communities by participating in actions to create a more environmentally sustainable and equitable future.

Proposed process for the requirement:

1. There will be a sub-committee of the Curriculum Committee that will review courses to be included in this requirement. That sub-committee will contain at least two members who have some expertise in the areas of environmental sustainability and/or global citizenship
2. The requirement would go into effect when the academic senate determines that number of sections, the number of departments offering those sections, and the number of seats available ensures students easy access to qualifying courses without slanting the overall GE pattern in any particular divisional or departmental direction.
3. The requirement will be an overlay, like the Intercultural Studies, meaning that courses can count for this as well as other G.E. requirements.

Responses to frequently asked questions:1. *Why should we do this?*

This aligns the college's curriculum with one of its core competencies "Civic capacity for global, cultural, social and environmental justice." Asking faculty modify courses to meet with requirement will enhance our means of meeting this core competency.

2. *Doesn't this add an extra burden for our students, and make them less likely to get a De Anza associate Degree while they are here.*

A. While there might be some students who chose not to get a De Anza A.A. because of this requirement, we are making a trade-off between quantity on the one hand and quality on the other.

B. When De Anza put in its diversity requirement it was head of many of the colleges and universities. Even though it was an additional step for student to accomplish, at that time we decided that this additional step for our students was a good idea, as it fit with our mission. As with the diversity requirement, while there are some colleges and universities that have such a requirement, we will be ahead of the many colleges.

C. This will be easier for students to achieve, unlike with the diversity requirement, which must be met with courses in a single department, this requirement will be offered in a variety of departments.

3. *Won't this unfairly impact the enrollment of G.E. courses that do not count for it?*

Departments will be eligible to have any and all courses that meet the criteria count for this requirement.

Progress to date:

The following is the status of course that have already been identified by their owners as possibilities to count for this requirement. This is before the requirement has passed. We believe many more courses will come forward once the requirement has passed.

Class(s)	Primary Faculty	Status
ICS/Phil 17	Cynthia Kaufman	Commitment from faculty and Chair
GEOG 1, 4	Purba Fernandez	Commitment from faculty and Chair
Econ 2	Monika Thomas	Commitment from faculty and Chair
POLY 1	Nicky Yuen	Commitment from faculty and Chair
BIO 6c, 11, 15	Bruce Heyer Jeff Schinske	Commitment from faculty
HUMI 10	Sal Breiter	Commitment from faculty and Chair
WMST 1	Marc Coronado	Commitment from faculty and Chair
ES 1,2,3,6,	Kristin Sullivan	Commitment from faculty and Chair
ESCI 19, 20, 21, 30	Kristin Sullivan	Commitment from faculty and Chair