

Adopted: March 2, 2021

**ACADEMIC SENATE  
of  
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY  
San Luis Obispo, CA**

**AS-913-21**

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AREA F  
IN THE GENERAL EDUCATION 2020 TEMPLATE**

- 1 WHEREAS, The Chancellor's Office imposed a revised Executive Order in December 2020 on *CSU*  
2 *General Education Breadth Requirements*; and  
3  
4 WHEREAS, This Executive Order creates Area F Ethnic Studies within CSU General Education;  
5 therefore be it  
6  
7 RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly approve the creation of Area F Ethnic Studies as  
8 indicated in the attached modification to the *Template for General Education 2020*.  
9  
10 RESOLVED: That it be implemented for all students following the 2021–2022 and subsequent  
11 catalogs.

Proposed by: General Education Governance Board  
Date: January 26, 2021



## TEMPLATE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION 2020

revised January 2021

### Standard GE Template

The Standard GE Template includes the following distribution of courses:

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking		
A1	Oral Communication	4
A2	Written Communication	4
A3	Critical Thinking	4
Total Units in Area A		12

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning		
B1	Physical Science	4
B2	Life Science	4
B3	Laboratory Activity	in B1 or B2
B4	Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning	4
Upper-Division B		4
Total Units in Area B		16

Area C: Arts and Humanities		
<i>Lower-division courses in Area C must come from three different prefixes.</i>		
C1	Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater	4
C2	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	4
Lower-Division C Elective – <i>Select a course from either C1 or C2</i>		4
Upper-Division C		4
Total Units in Area C		16

Area D: Social Sciences		
<i>Courses in Area D must come from at least two different prefixes.</i>		
D1	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement)	4
D2	Lower-Division D	4
Upper-Division D		4
Total Units in Area D		12

Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development		
Lower-Division E		4
Total Units in Area E		4

Area F: Ethnic Studies		
Area F		4
Total Units in Area F		4

GE Electives in Area B, C, and D		
GE Electives – <i>Select courses from two different areas; courses may be at either lower- or upper-division levels.</i>		8
Total Units in GE Electives		8

TOTAL UNITS IN GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM		72
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## TEMPLATE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION 2020

revised January 2021

### GE Template for High-Unit Programs

This GE template includes the following distribution of courses for qualifying high-unit programs<sup>1</sup>:

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking		
A1	Oral Communication	4
A2	Written Communication	4
A3	Critical Thinking	4
Total Units in Area A		12

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning		
B1	Physical Science	4
B2	Life Science	4
B3	Laboratory Activity	in B1 or B2
B4	Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning	8
Upper-Division B		4
Area B Electives		8
Total Units in Area B		28

Area C: Arts and Humanities		
<i>Lower-division courses in Area C must come from three different prefixes.</i>		
C1	Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater	4
C2	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	4
Lower-Division C Elective – <i>Select a course from either C1 or C2</i>		4
Upper-Division C		4
Total Units in Area C		16

Area D: Social Sciences		
D1	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement)	4
Area D Elective – <i>Select either a lower-division D2 or an upper-division D course</i>		4
Total Units in Area D		8

Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development		
Lower-Division E		4
Total Units in Area E		4

Area F: Ethnic Studies		
Area F		4
Total Units in Area F		4

TOTAL UNITS IN GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM		72
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<sup>1</sup> "Consistent with EO 1100-R (2.2.5), Cal Poly recognizes the need to offer consideration to high-unit major degree programs. Cal Poly's definition of a high-unit program in the GE template included herein is equivalent to our definition of "engineering programs" from the prior GE template: all programs within the College of Engineering along with the other ABET accredited programs of ARCE and BRAE. Only these programs will be considered high-unit major degree programs."

Source – AS-873-19: "[Resolution on Template for General Education 2020](#)"



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Thomas Gutierrez

**Date:** March 12, 2021

**From:** Jeffery D. Armstrong

**Copies:** Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore  
Al Liddicoat  
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Philip Williams  
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Bruno Giberti  
Cem Sunata  
Gary Laver  
Denise Isom

**Subject:** Response to AS-913-21 Resolution to Establish Area F in the General Education 2020 Template

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By way of this memo, I approve the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution.

I appreciate the speed and flexibility with which the Academic Senate and the General Education Governance Board have implemented the new CSU General Education breadth requirements, while retaining the elective freedom of Cal Poly's new GE 2020 curriculum.

The addition of Area F will help the university achieve Strategic Priority 3, which is to "Enrich the Campus Culture of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion," and its goal to "prepare all students for their future through an education that includes diversity learning and reflects the principles of Inclusive Excellence."

Please extend my thanks to the members of the Academic Senate and the General Education Governance Board for their attention to this important curricular matter.