

# General Studies Course Review & Proposals for Course Addition to GS Curriculum

## General Studies Student Learning Outcomes

**Communication:** Upon completion of the General Studies Program at WLU, students will communicate with clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness.

**Analysis:** Upon completion of the general studies program at West Liberty, students will apply appropriate concepts and methods to analyze, evaluate, and interpret information or texts, implementing suitable strategies to solve problems or relate analyses as appropriate.

**Self and Cultural Awareness:** Upon completion of the general studies program at West Liberty, students will reflect objectively on the human condition through investigation, appreciation, and evaluation of the products, perceptions, expressions, and interrelations of various cultures.

Additional information about rubrics, GSAC committee members, and the GS mission statement are available on the Office of University Effectiveness website:

<https://westliberty.edu/university-effectiveness/general-studies-assessment-committee/>

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## Scoring criteria

- Courses will be reviewed using the GSAC Course Review Rubric, and are expected to score at least the minimum level of “**meets assessment implementation requirements.**” Rubric scores of “working toward assessment requirements” on rationale, assessment method, plan for consistency or syllabi are unlikely to be considered without revision.
- New courses are expected to meet the rigor and consistency of GS assessment and MAY be held to a higher standard than long standing courses that are in the process of revision.

## Alignment to the Rubrics

- Analysis SLO course proposals are expected to assess a minimum of 4 of the 8 elements on the analysis rubric.
- Self and Cultural Awareness SLO course proposals are expected to assess a minimum of 3 of the 6 elements on the self and cultural awareness rubric.
- Communication SLO course proposals are expected to meet ALL elements of either the writing or oral communication rubrics. Communication skills are fundamental for all graduates and, as such, are held to more rigorous standards of assessment.
- Assessment methods may include more than one assignment.

## Syllabi

- **Include all general studies alignments and assessments.** Courses that are currently being taught should include a syllabus that has been adjusted to include the elements below.
- **Include the specific general studies student learning outcome** on the course syllabus and identify it as such. Use of complementary action verbs in the course objectives to support the alignment to the general studies objectives is strongly suggested and helps to support the rationale for inclusion.
- **Indicate the assignment, class activity, or exam being used for general studies assessment.**
  - The assignment or embedded questions must be included in the proposal.
  - The assignment or embedded questions must also support the course goals.
  - Courses with multiple instructors should include a sample of what instructors are expected to use, and a skeleton syllabus is recommended.

## What if all requirements of the rubric are not met?

- GSAC will return the proposal with suggested revisions
- GSAC is a recommending body, and the final decision is the purview of the University Curriculum Committee.