

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 6 – F
DATE: March 27-29, 2018

SUBJECT

General Education Revisions

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:7](#) – Baccalaureate General Education Curriculum

[BOR Policy 2:26](#) – Associate General Education Requirements

[AAC Guideline 8.3](#) – Associate Degree General Education Curriculum Requirements

[AAC Guideline 8.4](#) – Baccalaureate General Education Curriculum Requirements

[AAC Guideline 8.1](#) – General Education Implementation Guidelines

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

In [August 2014](#) the Board of Regents approved the creation of a taskforce to advance recommendations for General Education Redesign in the Regental system. A set of comprehensive recommendations came forward from the taskforce in [April 2016](#), and during subsequent meetings major revisions were made to a number of the Board policies affecting General Education. The major work was finalized in [March 2017](#) when substantive program modifications were approved by the Board for all active degree programs in the system.

As this process unfolded, new requests for General Education courses had been placed on hold, and per Board policy only come forward to the Board once each year for consideration. Over the past two years, eight new course requests have surfaced from BHSU and USD for new General Education courses. When such requests are submitted by the campuses, the General Education committee obtains feedback from discipline faculty across the system, and then uses that information to advance a recommendation forward to AAC for consideration. Campus faculty representing Social Sciences, Humanities & Fine Arts, and Natural Sciences were asked to review the courses in their discipline area and provide feedback for the committee.

At their February 2017 meeting, the General Education Committee discussed the eight new courses and recommended that six be added to the current slate of courses offered in the

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I move to approve adding the six new courses to the system General Education goals as presented beginning Fall 2018.

system. This recommendation was further supported by AAC, and the six being advanced for consideration by the Board include:

Goal #3 Social Sciences

[SOC 151 Social Issues in Sustainability](#)

[SPCM 201 Interpersonal Communication](#)

[WMST 247 Intro to Women, Gender & Sexuality](#)

Goal #4 – Humanities & Fine Arts

[PHIL 240 Intro to Ethics, Law & Society](#)

Goal #6 – Natural Sciences

[ISCI 151 – Integrated Science I/Lab](#)

[ISCI 153 – Integrated Science II/Lab](#)

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

One goal for the Board has been to maintain a limited set of General Education courses for the system. During the past four years, a total of eight courses have been removed through the approved matrix (function of the obsolete course review process). The addition of these six courses does not unnecessarily expand the slate of courses for students to select from. Approval would allow students to select one of these courses to meet the General Education goals beginning in Fall 2018.

Board staff recommend approval of the new course additions.

ATTACHMENTS

None