



# Reimagining OHIO General Education

Faculty Senate | September 9, 2019  
University Curriculum Council | September 10, 2019

# Agenda



Background  
Information

Reasons for  
Reform



Timeline

Principles





# Reimagining OHIO's General Education Program

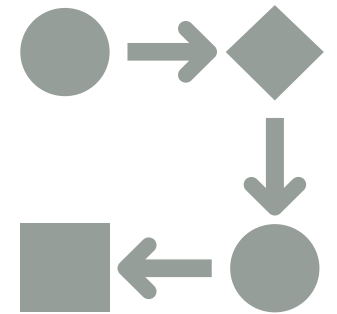
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

*May 2014:*  
Faculty Senate  
passed  
"Resolution for  
the endorsement  
of the General  
Education  
common goals"



Established  
General Education  
Common Goals

Directed steps for  
implementation



**Common  
Goals for  
Baccalaureate  
Programs at  
Ohio  
University  
(Spring 2014)**

## REQUIRED GOALS

### Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World

- Broad, basic understanding
- Knowledge and skills from major

### Intellectual, Practical, and Professional Skills

- Critical inquiry and analysis
- Written and oral communication
- Quantitative literacy
- Interpersonal Skills

### Citizenship as embodied by Personal, Social, and Professional Responsibility

- Intercultural knowledge and competence
- Ethical reasoning and action

### A Culminating Experience

## RECOMMENDED EXPERIENCES

Experiential  
learning

Study of  
languages

Community  
engagement

Intensive study  
of a social issue

Participation in  
communities of  
learning

# Tasks

(Spring 2014)

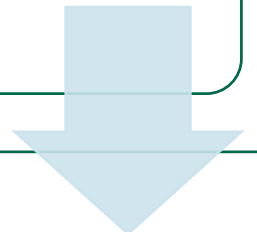
Establish learning outcomes representing concrete milestones in achieving the Common Goals;



Propose changes to general education in order to meet outcomes; and



Incorporate the common goals learning outcomes and their measurement into those changes.





# OHIO COMMON GOALS

(Spring 2018)

42 Learning Outcomes

# What's Next? (2019-20)

## Reimagining OHIO's General Education Program

Establish learning outcomes representing concrete milestones in achieving the Common Goals;



**Propose changes to general education in order to meet outcomes; and**

Incorporate the common goals learning outcomes and their measurement into those changes.





# Reimagining OHIO's General Education Program

WHY DO WE **NEED** TO REFORM  
OHIO'S GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM?

# Need for General Education Reform

Achieve OHIO Common Goals learning outcomes

Communicate the intent and value of general education to stakeholders

Align with HLC and ODHE expectations for teaching, learning, and assessment

Align curriculum and intentions for deeper learning

Update a 40-year-old program to capture revisions and initiatives adequately

# Achieve OHIO Common Goals

## Research Question

- Do the stated learning outcomes for OHIO's current general education ( $n=62$ ) match the learning outcomes for the Common Goals ( $n=42$ )?

## Answer = NO

- Written Communication (6) = YES
- Critical Thinking (5) = It depends
- Ethical Reasoning (5) = It depends
- Quantitative Literacy (5) = NO
- Teamwork (5) = NO
- Oral Communication (5) = NO
- Intercultural Knowledge (6) = NO
- Integrative Learning (5) = NO

# Communicate Intent and Value

## Students

- Does not fully explain the purpose of general education
- Does not connect the true value general education to their overall educational goals
- Does not encourage them to explain learning to others

## Employers

- Does not specify students' knowledge and skills using easily understood language
- Does not provide a clear sense of our graduates' value as employees

## Competitors

- Is not differentiated by easy-to-understand outcomes
- Is behind others' general education reforms (e.g., Ohio State, Miami, Cincinnati, and Akron)

# Align with HLC and ODHE Requirements

## HLC Accreditation

- "Outstanding Opportunity" in gen ed assessment (2015 HLC site visit)
- Cannot be assessed meaningfully
- Requires evidence of successfully completing cycles of assessment and improvement based on assessment

## State-level (ODHE)

- State requirements
- ODHE *Good Principles for General Education*

# Align Curriculum and Intentions for Deeper Learning

System

- Current categories organized by what classes students should *take* rather than what students should *learn*.
- Most learning outcomes (63%) do not meet ICC standards for learning outcome language.

Development

- Some curricular components are missing (e.g., teamwork, oral communication, and ethical reasoning).
- Curricular improvements are not being developed systematically.

Evaluation

- Learning outcomes are not measured.
- Potential deficiencies in learning cannot be identified.

## Update a 40-year-old program

	OHIO in 1979	OHIO in 2019
UG Enrollment	11,685	28,000+
OHIO In-State Tuition	\$352	\$6,306
OHIO Room/Board	\$623	\$6,666
Course Instruction Codes	67	166
A&S UG Major Programs	23	71
Athens Campus Concerts	Doobie Brothers, Eddie Money, & Styx	Josh Turner, Lee Brice, & Lyle Lovett
Consumer Tech	Sony Walkman	Augmented Reality



# Reimagining OHIO's General Education Program

WHAT IS THE **TIMELINE** TO REFORM  
OHIO'S GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM?



# Timeline (2019-20)

September

- Principles for General Education Reform

October

- Proposed General Education Model(s)

November

- Updates & Feedback

December

- General Education Model: First Reading

January

- General Education Model: Second Reading & Vote

# What? THAT FAST??? NOW?!?



Will create longer disruption if OneOHIO solidifies around current Gen Ed structure



Opportunity to improve recruitment by implementing what we believe in



HLC has given us a timeline for completing Gen Ed assessment and improvement cycle

# OHIO UNIVERSITY

## GENERAL EDUCATION PRINCIPLES



# Leadership Team & Advisory Group

## Reimagining General Education Leadership Team

1. **Cynthia Cogswell**, *Director of Strategic Planning & Assessment, Division of Student Affairs*
2. **Todd Eisworth** (MATH), *Lead, Quantitative Literacy Assessment Faculty Learning Community*
3. **Katie Hartman** (BUS), *Chair, UCC General Education Committee*
4. **Sara Helfrich** (EDU), *Chair, UCC & Vice-Chair, Faculty Senate*
5. **Elizabeth Sayrs**, *Dean, University College; Senior Vice Provost, Undergraduate Education and Student Success*
6. **Beth Quitslund** (ENG), *Co-Chair, UCC Individual Course Committee*
7. **Sarah Wyatt** (PBIO), *Chair, Faculty Senate Professional Relations Committee*

## Advisory Group

### 32 members

- Faculty Senate (5)
- University Curriculum Council (4)
- Common Goal Faculty Learning Communities (4)
- Faculty reps (5)
- Administration (7)
- Student Services (3)
- Student Affairs (2)
- Student Senate (2)

QUESTIONS?

## Open Discussion Hours

- September 12 (Thurs) 1:30-2:30pm, Multicultural Center Conference Room (Baker)
- September 16 (Mon) 3:00-4:00pm, Baker University Center 230
- September 17 (Tues) 12:00-1:00pm, Baker University Center 230