

General Education Assessment Committee: Annual Report

2024-2025 Academic Year

Submitted by: Cynthia Carver, GEAC Chair and Susanne Condrón, OIRADA

May 27, 2025

Established by the University Senate in May 2020, the General Education Assessment Committee (GEAC) oversees the assessment of the General Education program and General Education courses. It is a group that works in concert with the General Education Committee (GEC), and it is charged with:

- functioning as the assessment committee for a university-wide program of general education,
- coordinating and advising on the planning and implementation of general education assessment by academic units;
- advising and cooperating with the General Education Committee in planning and carrying out assessment of the University's general education program and communicate through the regular exchange of minutes with the General Education Committee;
- advising the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction, the University Assessment Committee, and the General Education Committee on the findings of their program assessment and on their implications for specific program reviews and for maintaining and improving the quality of general education curricula and instruction;
- reporting to the University Senate and the Assemblies of the organized faculties on the findings of the general education assessment program and their implications for maintaining and improving the quality of undergraduate general education curricula and instruction at the University; and
- coordinating with the General Education Committee to establish priorities for each academic year; meeting jointly, as needed but at least once each semester, with the General Education Committee; and providing information on General Education assessment for preparation of the General Education Committee's annual report.

2024-2025 Committee Members

- Cynthia Carver (SEHS) – CO-CHAIR
- Jacob Cayanus (CAS) – CO-CHAIR (Fall 2024)
- Ali Ahmad Malik (SECS)
- Thomas Blanchette (CAS)
- Nancy Bulgarelli (UL)
- Patricia Cameron (SON)
- David Fausone (SHS)
- Tom Giberson (SEHS, Winter 2025)
- Lan Jiang (CAS)
- Patrick Kennedy (SON)
- Karl Majeske (SBA)
- Richard Olawoyin (SECS)
- Annie Sullivan (CAS)
- John Cebelak (Registrar, ex officio)

- Emily Lunger (Student Congress)
- Virginia Munn (Grad Student)
- Tammy Tollon (OIRADA, ex officio)
- Susanne Condrón (OIRADA, ex officio)

Committee Meetings

The GEAC met regularly throughout the 2024-2025 academic year:

- September 26, 2024
- October 24, 2024
- December 12, 2024
- February 19, 2025
- March 20, 2025
- April 16, 2025

GEAC meetings focused primarily on assessment report reviews and on discussions about committee work more generally, including clarification of review criteria and approach to conducting reviews, updating our communication plan for notifying departments of upcoming reviews, reviewing assessment award nominations, and planning for our annual GEAC assessment workshop. All meetings were held virtually.

Major Projects and Initiatives

The core task of the GEAC is to collect, review, and provide feedback on departments' General Education assessment reports. During the 2024-2025 academic year, the committee met six times to review 20 general education assessment reports and five new general education assessment plans. In addition to these efforts, the GEAC pursued several additional projects and initiatives, including:

- Assessment Workshop: We held a virtual assessment workshop on January 30, 2025. The purpose of the workshop was to provide information about the General Education assessment process and its importance as well as the role of assessment in continuous improvement. Additional information on writing the report and what should be included was addressed.
- General Education Assessment Award: We established a process for reviewing reports submitted for the annual Excellence in General Education Assessment Award. A subcommittee was formed to review the reports and discuss developing a rubric to help review the reports. The committee nominated the Economics Department for the 2025 General Education Assessment Award.
- Committee Member Training: We participated in the assessment orientation sessions that OIRADA developed for new committee members joining the UAC or GEAC before the start of the fall semester.
- Revised Communication Plan: We updated the communication plan for departments undergoing review so that they receive timely notifications of the assessment schedule.
- Reorganized GEAC Shared Drive: We reorganized the GEAC Share Drive to facilitate retrieval of documents by committee members.
- GEAC Review Procedures: We updated GEAC Review Procedures to aid review teams in identifying concrete, actionable steps for continuous improvement.

- Joint GEC/GEAC Co-Chair Meetings: The GEC and GEAC chairs met Oct 8, 2024 and April 2, 2025 for joint meetings. Additionally, Co-Chair Cayanus attended fall GEC meetings and Chair Carver attended winter GEC meetings.

Plans for 2025-2026

Led by Co-Chairs Cynthia Carver and Thomas Blanchettee, we have several projects that will be new or ongoing in the coming year. Our plans include:

- Timely Assessment Reviews. We would like to do a better job in the coming year of turning around our assessment reviews. It will help that one co-chair is returning.
- Assessment Workshop(s): We welcome working with OIRADA to plan an assessment event for the upcoming academic year. Additionally, we intend to continue offering a fall workshop and hope to add winter “office hours” for faculty to attend and learn more about the review process, specifically using data for continuous improvement and drafting strong assessment plans.
- Revise Feedback Letters. We intend to streamline the current templates used to provide departments with feedback. Our aim through these letters is to provide concrete feedback that is aligned with the scoring rubrics used to assess course reviews and assessment plans.
- Committee Member Training Materials: Strengthen training materials and support for new and continuing committee members.
- Use Sub-Committees to Facilitate the Work: Develop procedures for organizing awards and workshop sub-committees to increase efficiency and timeliness of these committee activities.
- Revisit WIM/WIGE Reporting Procedures. Working with GEC and GEPRACH, consider changes to course review procedures for Writing Intensive courses.
- Professional Learning: Develop understanding of assessment tools that are being considered for General Education revision (i.e., VALUE rubrics).

Course Assessment Reviews

Table 1 presents the 35 assessment reports in the General Education Student Learning Outcomes (GESLO) areas that were received or reviewed by GEAC during 2024-2025 and their associated ratings on a three-point scale (“Minimal”, “Developing/Progressing”, “Mature, without significant issues”).

Table 1. Assessment reports in the General Education Student Learning Outcomes (GESLO) areas received or reviewed by GEAC during 2024-2025 (35 Courses)

Department	Course	Decision
ARTS (1)		
Modern Languages and Literature	LIT 2909	Developing/Progressing
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (8)		
Modern Languages and Literature	1140 - Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish	Developing/progressing
Communication, Journalism, Public Relations	COM 1500	Developing/progressing
FORMAL REASONING (1)		
Philosophy	PHL 1070	Developing/progressing

Department	Course	Decision
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE (7)		
Economics	ECN 2020 (also SS)	Mature
Anthropology	AN 1111 (also SS)	Mature
Film Studies	FLM 2320	Developing/progressing (ULO)
Modern Languages and Literature	FRH 1600 (also WC)	Developing/progressing
	SPN 1300	Developing/progressing
Religious Studies	REL 1200, REL 1250	Received, not yet reviewed
LITERATURE (15)		
Modern Languages and Literature	LIT 1000	Developing/progressing
	LIT 1820	Developing/progressing
English	ENG1300, ENG1500, ENG1700, ENG1800, ENG2300, ENG2500, ENG3600, ENG3610, ENG3620, ENG3650, ENG3660, ENG3690, FLM2100	Received, not yet reviewed
SOCIAL SCIENCES (2)		
Communication, Journalism, Public Relations	COM 2400	Mature
	JMS 2600	Developing/progressing
WESTERN CIVILIZATION (1)		
Philosophy	PHL 1310	Developing/progressing

Departments have the opportunity to assess their General Education Capstone courses at the same time that they assess their programs, since the learning outcomes and assessment approaches are often inter-related. These “Integrated” Program and General Education Capstone assessment reports are reviewed by the University Assessment Committee (UAC) due to their role in reviewing and providing input for Program Assessment reports. Table 2 lists the departments and associated Gen Ed Capstone courses that were reviewed by the UAC during 2024-2025.

Table 2. Integrated Program and General Education Capstone Assessment Reports reviewed by UAC during 2024-2025 (4 Courses)

Department	Program	Course
Biological Sciences	Biomedical Sciences	BIO 4972
School of Business	SBA Capstone	MGMT 4350
Physics	Physics Capstone	PHY 4970, PHY 4995

Course Assessment Plan Reviews

In addition to course-level assessment reports, the GEAC is responsible for reviewing assessment plans connected with new courses up for review by the GEC. Co-chairs reviewed the assessment plans listed in Table 3:

Table 3: Assessment Plans Reviewed 2024-2025 (5 courses)

Department	Course	GESLO	Review Decision
Human Development & Child Science	EC 4950	Capstone	N/A - Accreditation mapping
Physics	PHY 4997	Capstone	Minimal
Clinical and Diagnostic Science	CDS 4400	Capstone	Developing/Progressing
Biology	BIO 4974	Capstone	Minimal
Modern Language	ML 1100	Global Perspective	Developing/Progressing

Status of Assessment Reports

Table 4 lists the status of assessment reports that were due for review this year. Many departments continued to have challenges with adhering to established timelines and planned assessment approaches. We hope our revised timeline for communication with departments will help with this.

Table 4. Status of assessment reports due to GEAC during 2024-2025 (Language and Culture, Global Perspective, Literature)

Department	Courses	Status
LANGUAGE & CULTURE		
Linguistics	LIN 1101	unknown
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE		
Art, Art History, and Design	AH 1003 (also Arts)	Working on reports this summer
Economics	ECN 1600, ECN 3260	courses not offered during 2024-25, will collect data during 2025-26
History	HST 2010	unknown
Interdisciplinary Health	NTR 3140	plans to submit summer 2025
International Studies	IS 2005, IS 2060, IS 2100, IS 2121, IS 2200, IS 2300, IS 2400, IS 2500, IS 2600, IS 2700, AN 2130	Requested additional time to collect data during 2025-26
Management & Marketing	MGT 1100	submission pending
Dance	DAN 4630	Working on reports this summer
Music	MUS 1017, MUS 4326	Requested extension to Fall 2026 semester, previous reports were submitted off-cycle in Fall 2022
Political Science	PS 1600	unknown
Religious Studies	REL 1150	Plans to submit summer 2025
Women and Gender Studies	WGS 3040, WGS 3060, WGS 3810	Plans to submit Fall 2025
Writing	WRT 3060	submission pending

Table 5 lists the status of assessment reports that were due for review in prior years and not yet received. Many of the departments with overdue reports submitted their reports off-cycle and are in the process of incorporating curricular changes that were proposed in their prior assessment. A minority have been unresponsive to requests for assessment reports.

Table 5. Status of assessment reports due to GEAC in prior years (Arts, Western Civilization)

Department	Courses	Status
ARTS		
Art, Art History, and Design	AH 1001, AH 1002, AH 1003, ART 1000, ART 2100, ART 2500, ART 3200	submission pending
Communications & Journalism	COM 2702, JMS 3603	unknown
Dance	DAN 1373, DAN 1375, DAN 1378, DAN 3380	Working on reports this summer
English	FLM 1150	Due 2023-2024. Requested extension to submit in Fall 2024 semester, not received as of 5/25
Music	MUE3000, MUE3003, MUE3018, MUE3028, MUE3030, MUS1000, MUS1001, MUS1002, MUS1005, MUS1006, MUS1007, MUS1010 (also GP), MUS1011, MUS1012, MUS1014, MUS1331	Requested extension to Fall 2026 semester, previous reports were submitted off-cycle in Fall 2022
Theatre	THA1000, THA3001, THA3002, THA3006	unknown
WESTERN CIVILIZATION		
History	HST1300, HST1400, HST1100, HST1200, HST2380, HST2280	unknown
Communications & Journalism	JMS 3607	unknown
Music	MUS 1003	Requested extension to Fall 2026 semester, previous reports were submitted off-cycle in Fall 2022
Philosophy	PHL1300, PHL1330	Requested extension to May 2026

The assessment schedule with data collection and reporting timelines for courses in each knowledge area is included in Table 6.

Table 6. General Education Assessment Schedule

Collect data	Review Year	Knowledge Area
2023–24	2024–25	Language & Culture, Global Perspective, Literature
2024–25	2025–26	Formal Reasoning, Natural Science & Technology, Social Science, Writing Foundations
2025–26	2026–27	Capstone
2026–27	2027–28	Arts, Western Civilization