

Foothill College
College Curriculum Committee
Report on Progress Regarding Local General Education Requirements

The College Curriculum Committee has been deeply engaged in discussions on proposed changes to the local General Education (GE) requirements in alignment with state guidelines. The focus areas include reconsidering the inclusion of Lifelong Learning, updating the Natural Sciences lab requirement, and refining the Math & Quantitative Reasoning area. The committee is navigating differing opinions, particularly on Lifelong Learning, reflecting wider debates at the state level. Collaboration with De Anza College and incorporating student feedback are crucial parts of this ongoing process. Proposed changes aim to align with the State's direction, remove outdated requirements, and ensure that courses facilitate students' progress towards their degrees efficiently.

In all three of the below categories, the primary argument for removal centers around completion speed. The primary argument for retention tends to reference our stated mission of “equipping our students with critical thinking skills... and engaging in a life of inquiry.”

1. Lifelong Learning

- a. The state has directed us to remove the requirement.
- b. ASCCC has directed us to make all efforts to retain this requirement.
- c. CCC is split, but leaning towards removal. It is our suggestion to respond to ASCCC's request by using marketing and other efforts to encourage students to continue to take these classes, despite them no longer being required.

2. Natural Sciences (Area 5) Lab

- a. There is some desire to keep the lab requirement, but the general consensus is to remove the lab requirement.
- b. Little actual change, as most affected courses have embedded labs.

3. Math & Quantitative Reasoning (Area 2)

- a. There is a strong desire from many to keep existing math classes.
- b. The current working suggestion is to move as many as possible from Foothill Area V to the new Area 2, thus retaining their degree relevance.

The College Curriculum Committee welcomes any and all discussion of the above changes. We plan to discuss processes next, with specific focus on two changes that need to be considered around logistics of course offerings:

1. Transition Process for current approved FHGE Courses
2. Process of updating local GE forms