

KBOR Systemwide GE Framework and Proposed WSU GE Program

Mathew Muether (Gen. Ed. Com., Chair) Jan 30, 2023



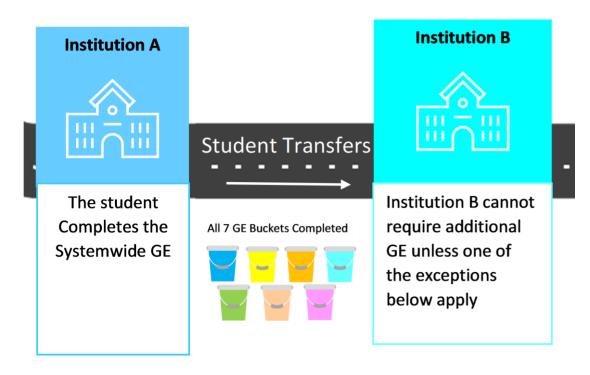
What is the KBOR system-wide GE Framework?

https://www.kansasregents.org/academic_affairs/general-education

What is the KBOR GenEd policy and what are its goals?



 "At the end of FY 2020, the Board expressed a strong desire to develop a more robust system-based approach to facilitate student transfer. Building on this vision, in FY 2021 and 2022, the Board established a goal to develop a systemwide general education (GE) package under a common framework. When framing this goal, the Board instructed Board staff to develop a system-based GE package that would maximize the application of credit throughout the system, simplify processes for transfer students, and remove barriers for transfer students."



The policy revisions and additions pertaining to GE and the application of transfer GE credit were approved by the Board on June 15, 2022.

Does WSU have to comply with this policy?



 Yes. "State universities are required to comply with every aspect of both policies."

Request to Deviate from the Systemwide GE

Scenario: An institution wishes for a specific major to include GE requirements that deviate from the systemwide GE requirements.

Who is Impacted: Both native and transfer students

When will the online request form be available: By mid-to-late November 2022

Step One	Step Two	Step Three	Step Four
Institution Identifies Major and Areas It Wishes to Modify	Institution Completes and Submits Request	GE Council Reviews and Issues Recommendation	KBOR Reviews and Issues a Response
The institution identifies a major in which it wishes to deviate from the systemwide GE requirements.	The institution will complete and submit an online request to deviate from the systemwide GE. A link to the online request form will be available soon.	The GE Council will review and issue a recommendation to approve or deny this request.	The Board President and CEO will review the request and recommendation from the GE Council and issue a response to the institution.
	The criteria for this request are detailed in Chapter III.A.18.c.		

Specific Example That Could Trigger a Request

A major wishes to eliminate the communications bucket, and, in turn, only require 31-32 total credit hours to complete the GE.

The Seven Buckets Framework

 The systemwide GE program framework is to the right and is comprised of 34-35 credit hours organized in six discipline-based "buckets" and an institutionally designated bucket. A student who satisfies all seven buckets will complete the systemwide GE program.

Bucket #1: English Discipline Area



6 Hours of English Courses



3 Hours of Communications

4-5 Hours from One Subject

Bucket #3: Mathematics & Statistics Discipline Area Bucket #4: Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area



3 Hours of Math or **Statistics Courses**

These will be defined with the math pathways work.



Bucket #5: Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area



6 Hours in at Least Two Courses from Two Subject Areas Anthropology

Criminal Justice

Economics

Ethnic and/or Gender Studies

Geography

Political Science

Psychology Social Work

Sociology

Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the

social sciences area.



Astronomy Biochemistry

(must include a lab)

Biology

Anatomy

Bucket #2: Communications Discipline Area

Botany

Chemistry

Earth Science

Ecology **Environmental Science**

Geology

Meteorology

Microbiology

Physical Geography

Physical Sciences

Physics

Physiology

Zoology

Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the natural and physical sciences

Bucket #6: Arts and Humanities Discipline Area



6 Hours in at Least Two Courses from Two Subject Areas Art *

Communications

Cultural Studies Dance*

English

General Humanities

History

Literature

Modern and Classical Languages

Music*

Philosophy Religion

Theater*

Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the arts and humanities

*The application of performance courses in this subject area is at the discretion of the institution.

Bucket #7: Institutionally Designated Area



6 Hours Determined by the Institution.

This area provides flexibility for each institution to define requirements to account for societal issues, local needs, and institutional priorities (Intermediate Algebra shall not be applied toward meeting this area).



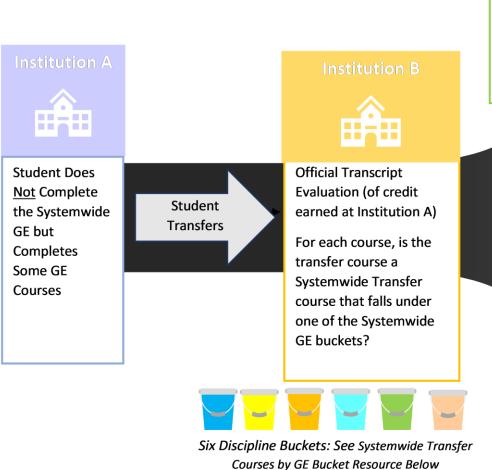
Transfer Policy

Students who did not complete System-wide GE



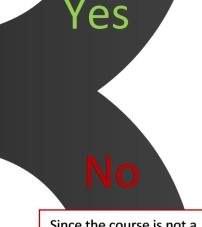
How Does this Work for Transfer Students Who Did Not Complete the Systemwide GE?

This remains largely unchanged. A student who transfers without the KBOR GE notation must meet WSU GE requirements and each course may be reviewed.



for More Information

The Systemwide Transfer course is applied toward satisfying GE credit hour requirements in the applicable bucket at Institution B unless one of the exceptions noted below apply.



Since the course is not a Systemwide Transfer course, the application of the course towards satisfying a GE requirement is at the discretion of Institution B

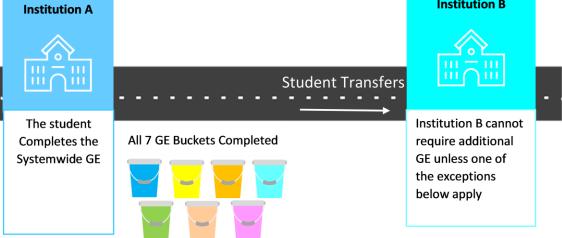
Students did complete System-wide GE



 Each KBOR institution determines that a student has satisfied the system-wide GE requirements.
 KBOR mandates that a student transferring to WSU from any KBOR institution with this notation will have satisfied the requirements for GE at WSU

How does this Work for Transfer Students Who Completed the Systemwide GE?

Institution B



Some important details about accepting the KBOR GE notation for transfer students



Grading

- If a receiving institution requires all its native students to earn a "C" or higher in a specific GE course(s), it cannot require a transfer student who completed the systemwide GE to retake and ultimately earn a higher grade in such a specific GE course in which he/she earned a "D" Grade; however, it should be noted that if the student is pursuing a program with a grade standard that is required to meet selective admission criteria or is necessary to meet programmatic accreditation or licensure standards, the student may be required to retake a GE course and ultimately earn a higher grade.
- Performance Courses (see the Arts and Humanities Bucket)
 - If a receiving institution prohibits native students from using a performance course (e.g., piano I) to apply toward the six-credit-hour arts and humanities bucket, it cannot enforce the same standard when a transfer student completed the systemwide GE.

Largest Open Concern Needing Clarification



This statement below has led to the most confusion and concern by the committee. Adademic Affairs is seeking.

- An incoming transfer student who completed the systemwide GE can be required to complete additional GE when the student:
 - pursues a major for which the Board President and CEO has granted permission to <u>continue requiring – and not waive – a specific course requirement</u> that is classified in the GE area of the degree; or
 - pursues a major at the receiving Kansas public institution for which the Board President and CEO has granted permission to <u>deviate from the systemwide GE requirements</u>.

Additional statements on KBOR webpage

10. If a program wants to require a course that was previously listed in the general education portion of the degree, can it include it in the major portion of the degree?

Yes, so long as it is required for both native students and transfer students and it is listed in the major portion of the degree (outside the 34-35 credit hour GE framework).

11. Is an institution prohibited from offering a program-specific or institution-specific English/writing course in the GE?

No, but certain provisions must be met when requiring this type of course for transfer students. An institution is not permitted to require transfer students who completed the systemwide GE or did not complete the systemwide GE but earned an acceptable grade in English Composition I and II to take such a course unless it has been approved by the Board President and CEO to continue requiring – and not waive – such a course....

Request to Continue Requiring - and not waive - a Specific GE Course Requirement for Transfer Students

Scenario: If an institution wishes for all transfer students to complete a GE course in a specific discipline bucket – even when the transfer student completed the systemwide GE or the discipline bucket requirement through systemwide transfer coursework – it shall submit a request as detailed below.

Who is Impacted: Transfer students

When will the online request form be available: By mid-to-late November 2022

Step One	Step Two	Step Three
Institution Identifies Major and Course	Institution Completes and Submits Request	KBOR Reviews and Issues a Response
The institution identifies a major, all majors under a college, or all majors under a degree in which it wishes to not waive a specific course requirement that is classified in its GE when: a) a transfer student did not complete such a specific course prior to transferring; and b) a transfer student has completed the Systemwide GE OR completed the discipline bucket requirement through systemwide transfer coursework.	The institution will complete and submit an online request form to continue requiring – and not waive – the specific GE course requirement for transfer students. A link to the online request form will be available soon. The criteria for this request are detailed in Chapter III.A.2.g.v.	The Board President and CEO will review the request and issue a response to the institution. Note: Per the policy, after initial review, additional information on how such a requirement would financially impact transfer students may also be required.

Specific Example That Could Trigger a Request

A chemistry program requires all native majors to take a specific science course in the natural and physical sciences bucket. When a transfer student has not completed such a course before transferring, it does not wish to waive such a course requirement – even when the transfer student completed the science bucket or completed the systemwide GE.



Proposed WSU GE Policy

WSU Implementation



- "At the latest, this will need to take effect on each campus for first-time students and transfer students who begin in the Fall of 2024." "Nothing prohibits an earlier implementation.
- Aug 16, 2022 the Faculty Senate President charged the general education committee to produce a new WSU GenEd policy which complies with the KBOR systemwide framework. A subcommittee consisting of 4 members of the GenEd committee (M. Muether, B. Lockard, J. Wolcott, R. Myose), a representative from the registar's office (S. Fiscus), the Associate VP for Academic affairs (L. Glenmaye), and a representative from LAS advising (P. Phillips) was formed to produce the policy and met 5 times this past semester.
- The policy was approved by the full GE committee on Jan 23 to bring forward to the Faculty senate for consideration.

Proposed WSU GE Program

- The KBOR framework leaves little room for variation except in the institutional bucket (#7). In general, we aimed for compliance and maximal flexibly while supporting the unique FYS and diversity components of our existing program.
- The committee found in reviewing the framework that WSU's existing GE program largely complied with the new policy. The next slide will highlight the differences.



General Education Program

General Education (GE) Requirements at Wichita State follow the KBOR system-wide GE program framework and are comprised of 34-35 credit hours organized in six discipline-based "buckets" and an institutionally designated bucket. A student who satisfies all seven buckets will complete the GE program.

Bucket #1: English Discipline Area



English 100 or 101 and English 102

Bucket #3: Mathematics & Statistics Discipline Area



Math 111, 112 or 131* or any math/stat course that requires a MATH 111 or MATH 112 prerequisite. (123, 144, 242, 242H, STAT 370)

Bucket #5: Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area



Choose from at Least Two Subject Areas:
Anthropology
Criminal Justice
Economics
Entrepreneurship
Ethnic Studies
Geography
Political Science
Psychology Sociology
Social Work

(full course list on next pages)

Bucket # 6: Arts and Humanities Discipline Area



Choose from at least Two Subject Areas:
Communication**
English**
History
Modern and Classical Languages
Linguistics
Philosophy
Religion
Women's Studies
Art History
Dance
Musicology / Composition Studio Arts
Theatre
(full course list on next pages)

Bucket #2: Communication Discipline Area



Communication 111

Bucket #4: Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area



Anthropology (101 with 106)
Biological Sciences (106 with 107, 210, 211, 220, 223
Chemistry (103, 211, 212, 523, 531)
Geology (102 for 4 cr.hr., 111, 302, 312 570, 574)
Physics (195 with 196, 111, 210, 213, 214, 313 with 315, 314 with 316)
Health Sciences (290)

Choose One Subject (must include a lab):

Bucket #7: Institutionally Designated Area



3 hours of First-Year Seminar*** (May satisfy #5, #6 requirement.)

3 GE hours with Diversity designation (May satisfy #4-#6 requirement)

If above requirements are satisfied in buckets #4-#6, students must take additional Gen Ed approved courses to reach a total of 6 cr. hr. in bucket #7. (May include disciplines not included in buckets #1-#6. See full list on next page. No repeat courses.)

*MATH 131 does not fulfill the prerequisite for any further math course. MATH 131 does not meet degree requirements in all colleges.

**Excludes courses from #1-#3

***Students who have earned an Associate Degree or 30 credit hours prior to high school graduation and before starting classes at WSU as a degree-bound student, may be exempt from taking a First-Year Seminar course.

Changes from current GE policy.

KBOR Framework Requirements

- •Total required credits hours in the Gen ed program are reduced from 36 to 34-35.
- •The Fine art Discipline has merged with humanities. Students now pick two subjects within this larger bucket.
- Math and Statistics have been separated to a district discipline from Natural Sciences.
- •All students are required to take a NS Lab.
- •There is no requirement for course number 300 and above, however they are not excluded and can still receive GE attribution.
- •An additional 3 cr. hr. of social and behavioral sciences are required. Students must select from 2 subject areas in this bucket.



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Changes from current GE policy.

Institutional Requirements (What we think can go into bucket #7)

- Institutional requirement of at least 3 GE cr. Hr. of diversity designated coursework has been added. These may be satisfied through the discipline specific requirements.
- •There is no restriction of the amount of major or program requirements which can be applied to GE, but student must fulfill the two-subject requirement in buckets #5 and #6.



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Does the University maintain its authority to approve individual courses for GenEd?



 Yes. We will continue to approve GE coursework following the existing GE process. We also have the authority to set the discipline for each approved course.

How will the diversity attribute be determined for GE courses?



• The GE committee recommends the formation of a standing diversity committee to review the diversity attribute for all courses including GE courses.

Conclusion



- The GenEd Committee has provided new GE policy which complies with the KBOR framework.
- In addition to the policy proposal, we have also provided:
 - Differences to the previous policy.
 - A FAQ to answer some of the most common questions.
 - Full listing of WSU GenEd courses divided into buckets.
 - Sample student programs.



Thank you.