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THE PRINCIPLES OF GENERAL EDUCATION FOR BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

The goals of general education—as various as “to write and speak with clarity and precision,” “to understand the important modes of human thought that are the foundations for science and philosophy and art and social behavior,” and “to understand the traditions that have informed one's own and other cultures of the world”—are broad and abstract. Therefore, they cannot be comprehended or pursued apart from a set of principles that must animate any curriculum offered for their fulfillment. The IPFW curriculum shall be measured by the following principles:

1. General education should provide a basis for life-long learning.
2. General education should foster intellectual skills that transcend the boundaries of discrete disciplines. Some general education courses might center on a specific discipline; others might be interdisciplinary.
3. From general education, students should gain both substantive knowledge and appreciation of different methodologies; they should also experience the integration of knowledge and method.
4. General education should extend throughout a student's curriculum as means to learning in depth and to integrating learning from all parts of the curriculum.
5. The responsibility for developing, teaching, and maintaining general education courses and general education curricula belongs to all faculty, departments, divisions, and schools.
6. A core general education curriculum should be required of all baccalaureate degree-seeking students; additional general education requirements may be imposed at the discretion of the schools.

THE GENERAL EDUCATION CORE

The General Education Core shall comprise a Foundation Requirement, four Area Requirements, and an Advanced Study requirement, totaling 36 credits for each student; exemption from some courses shall be possible through regular placement procedures. The definitions below establish (1) the relationship between the general education core and the general education goals, and (2) criteria for determining whether a specific course qualifies as a general education offering. Each proposal to include a course in the general education core shall show which general education goals set forth in Fort Wayne Senate Document SD 88-33 the course is designed to meet.

2. Approve courses for incorporation in the areas of the general education core

3. Conduct an ongoing review of the goals and operations of the program, with biennial reports and recommendations to the Educational Policy Committee and the chief academic officer as appropriate.

The subcommittee shall be composed of seven Faculty and the chief academic officer or her/his designee. The elected representatives shall be elected by the Senate in such manner that at least four of the major academic units shall be represented. Members shall serve three-year terms, staggered so that approximately one-third of the membership shall rotate annually. The subcommittee shall elect a chair annually from among its elected members.