GENERAL EDUCATION REVIEW UPDATE  
Idaho State University

Idaho State University has been in the process of revising the institution’s general education requirements since 2003. Idaho State University’s current General Education Requirements have been in effect with no significant revision since 1980 (the current Goals appeared in the undergraduate catalog during 1981-1983 and can be found at http://www.isu.edu/academic-info/current/general.html#Goals). During the Spring 2011, the revised General Education Proposal was reviewed/approved by the following:

- The proposal was submitted to the Faculty Senate for input on February 14, 2011.
- The Council of Deans approved the completed revised General Education proposal, with one revision, on March 1, 2011.
- A motion was made and seconded at the Undergraduate Curriculum Council on March 3, 2011 “to schedule workshops to begin Phase II of original charge concerning the General Education Requirements program, beginning with Central Academic Advising (CAA), and with the understanding that CAA staff will then help disseminate the information system-wide.” The Council voted unanimously for this motion. Phase II includes a review of catalog copy regarding General Education and the review of proposals for new courses to be added to the General Education program.
- The proposal was approved by the Provost on March 4, 2011.
- The proposal was approved by the President on March 7, 2011.
- The proposal was submitted to the State Board of Education Office on April 4, 2011.

The new requirements collapse twelve Goals into eight Objectives, which each have a menu of courses that can fulfill them. The old Goal structure had only a few courses that could fulfill each goal.

The new requirements are consistent with Idaho State Board of Education policy and will provide greater flexibility to students while supporting rigor through the implementation of assessment plans for every course. The new requirements provide a more relevant and meaningful General Education experience by emphasizing critical thinking, writing, and life-long learning. Because of its added flexibility, the new structure will reduce time-to-degree for many students, especially those in the professional colleges.

The new structure is slated to go into effect during the 2012/2013 academic catalog year. As approved by Curriculum Council, Phase II of the project, which includes changes to the catalog and the introduction of new General Education courses, has begun and will be ongoing throughout the Fall 2011 semester. We will be working on the implementation of the new General Education Objectives and associated curriculum and catalog issues throughout the next year.