

Memo

Date: January 31, 2007
To: Dr. Sharon H. Nelson, Associate Dean
From: Jung-Soo Yi, Curriculum Committee* Chair
Subject: GE Area VI Discussion on January 09, 2007

Area VI requirement aims to connect the GE requirement with the students' major programs and strengthening general education. To examine how effectively this goal is being met, six courses were reviewed for fall 2006. Each category including number of students completing exam and adequate responses was discussed.

In the fall of 2006, COLA offered six courses from Area VI: AFS 200, ATH 241, ATH 242, HST 220, PHL 200, and TH 250. The goal for Area VI is a 100% with 80% still considered acceptable. With some variations among courses, two courses reached acceptable scores (AFS 200; 90% and ATH 241; 89%), two were reported to be under 80% (ATH 242; 73% and PHL 200; 68%), and for two courses no information was reported (HST 220 and TH 250). The committee was pleased with two courses reaching acceptable scores, but two courses not reaching the desirable scores need to be carefully monitored to see what outcomes they would produce in following quarters. With these results, it requires to have further course offerings and reviews before making a conclusion of effectiveness for these courses in Area VI requirements.

Instructors of two courses reaching desirable scores commented that most students see a connection between Area VI courses and other courses they have taken at this university. Even instructors of those two courses not reaching desirable scores made positive comments about students' progress in the courses. They mentioned that most students demonstrate understanding of marker questions and improved their study skills with overall adequate responses.

Although more reviews and monitoring are required for each course, the members of the curriculum committee concluded that the GE Area VI is going in the right direction and should continue to do so until further improvement would be necessary with suggestions from instructors and committee members.

*Committee: Jung-Soo Yi (Chair), Charles Funderburk, Pam Knauert-Lavarnway, Barry Milligan, Benjamin Montague