

# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## Policy Manual

**SUBJECT:** Baccalaureate General Education Curriculum

**NUMBER:** 2:7

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### A. PURPOSE

To provide for the requisite oversight that the general education component of all baccalaureate programs shall consist of the System General Education Requirements. Students may only select general education courses from a limited approved list to meet the System General Education Requirements. These requirements are effective for students entering Fall 2017.

### B. DEFINITIONS

None

### C. POLICY

#### 1. System General Education Requirements Course/Credit Distribution

System General Education Requirements shall include 30 credits of course work. At least 3 credit hours shall be earned from each of 6 goals (total of 18 credits) set out in section 3 below. Each institution shall identify 12 credit hours of additional course work from the six goals. The distribution of courses/credits will be maintained as guidelines managed by the Academic Affairs Council and approved by the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs.

<i>System Goal</i>	<i>BHSU</i>	<i>DSU</i>	<i>NSU</i>	<i>SDSM&amp;T</i>	<i>SDSU</i>	<i>USD</i>
<i>Goal #1: Written Communication</i>	6	6	6	6	6	6
<i>Goal #2: Oral Communication</i>	3	3	3	3	3	3
<i>Goal #3: Social Sciences</i>	6	6	6	6	6	6
<i>Goal #4: Arts and Humanities</i>	6	6	6	6	6	6
<i>Goal #5: Mathematics</i>	3	3	3	3	3	3
<i>Goal #6: Natural Sciences</i>	6	6	6	6	6	6
	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

#### 2. Approved Courses to meet System General Education Requirements

The limited list of courses approved to meet each of the established system goals will be maintained as guidelines managed by the Academic Affairs Council and approved by the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs. Proposed changes to the courses permitted to meet System General Education Requirements are approved by the Board of Regents each year during the March meeting. The list of courses approved to meet each of the

established system goals will be closely monitored by the System General Education Committee and Academic Affairs Council to ensure course relevance, program coherence, and breadth of student choice.

### **3. System General Education Goals and Requirements:**

The General Education Committee will specify student learning outcomes for each of the general education goals listed in this section using appropriate faculty input. The specific student learning outcomes will be maintained as guidelines and managed by the Academic Affairs Council in consultation with the System General Education Committee and approved by the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs. The six System General Education Goals are:

GOAL #1: Students will write effectively and responsibly and will understand and interpret the written expression of others.

GOAL #2: Students will communicate effectively and responsibly through listening and speaking.

GOAL #3: Students will understand the organization, potential, and diversity of the human community through study of the social sciences.

GOAL #4: Students will understand the diversity and complexity of the human experience through study of the arts and humanities.

GOAL #5: Students will understand and apply fundamental mathematical processes and reasoning.

GOAL #6: Students will understand the fundamental principles of the natural sciences and apply scientific methods of inquiry to investigate the natural world.

### **4. Transfer of System General Education Requirements**

Students who complete the System General Education Requirements at any SD Board of Regents institution and then transfer to another SD Board of Regents institution will have fulfilled the System General Education Requirements at the new institution even if the receiving institution has different credit/course distribution and approved course lists. All prerequisites for associate and baccalaureate programs must be completed as determined by the student's degree plan. See SDBOR policy 2:5 for additional guidance on transfer of general education credits.

### **5. System General Education Committee**

Each university shall appoint at least one representative to the System General Education Committee. Additional representatives may be drawn from all SDBOR universities as needed to conduct assessments and accomplish committee work. Two members of the System Assessment and Testing Committee will also serve on the System General Education Committee. The System Vice President for Academic Affairs (or designee) and a member of the Academic Affairs Council (or designee) will serve as ex officio members. The Committee shall:

5.1. Advise the Academic Affairs Council on matters related to general education, including student learning outcomes, curriculum, policy, guidelines, and processes to ensure faculty oversight of the general education curriculum

5.2. Conduct the assessment of System General Education Requirements as described in BOR policy 2:11

**6. Assessment of System General Education**

As specified in SDBOR policy 2:11, all universities shall participate in a shared process to assess and evaluate the achievement of the goals and student learning outcomes of the System General Education Requirements. This collaborative assessment and evaluation process will use a random sample of course syllabi, student work, and system-standard rubrics or measures to evaluate performance against standards.

**7. Student Completion of System General Education Requirements**

In general, System General Education Requirements will be completed in the first 90 credit hours of a baccalaureate degree program.

**FORMS / APPENDICES:**

None

**SOURCE:**

BOR January 1985; BOR June 1992; BOR March 1995; BOR May 1996; BOR December 1997; BOR August 1999; BOR January 2000; BOR January 2001; BOR June 2001; BOR October 2001; BOR March 2003; BOR June 2003; BOR March 2005; BOR December 2005; BOR March 2006; BOR October 2006; BOR December 2006; BOR June 2007; BOR December 2007; BOR March 2008; BOR December 2008; BOR August 2009; BOR December 2009; BOR June 2010; BOR December 2010; BOR December 2011; BOR March 2012; BOR June 2012; BOR December 2012; BOR May 2013; BOR December 2013; BOR April 2014; BOR October 2014; BOR December 2014; BOR December 2015; BOR March-April 2016; BOR August 2016; BOR May 2017; BOR May 2019.