

## FAQ About the Revised General Education Assessment Plan

### 1. What does it mean that we are “revising the Gen Ed Assessment Plan?”

In an effort to assist the General Education Committee and SLAC to collect assessment data for the 280+ general education courses designated as such, here at SUNY Broome, the Gen Ed Committee has established a “Revised General Education Assessment Plan.” This helps to ensure we are able to collect data for the upcoming site visit by Middle States in a timely manner, ensure a reasonable assessment schedule for the General Education and SLAC Committees, and for faculty teaching those courses to implement their revised assessment plans prior to our upcoming Middle States visit.

It is simply not manageable for our campus to collect or provide meaningful feedback to faculty with the number of general education courses we have on our campus in time to provide valuable data for our Middle State self-study and site visit.

### 2. What does it mean if my course IS on this list?

If your course is on this list, it means that your course was selected to be included within the revised general education assessment plan due to a variety of factors: 1). The course has been offered numerous times, with numerous sections, as evidenced by the Frequency Study, completed by the Institutional Effectiveness & Enrollment Planning Office, in which courses and sections over a period of one year were added, 2). The course encompasses the needs of numerous program requirements from across our campus, as evidence by a program review of required general education courses, conducted by the Chair of SLAC, and 3). The course is a general education course that the majority of the students on our campus are likely to take to meet general education requirements.

### 3. What does it mean if my course is NOT on this list?

If your course is not on this list, it does not mean it is not included, or will not be counted as a general education course at SUNY Broome. It does not mean you do not need to revise your assessment plan to ensure it is aligned with SUNY Broome ILOs, Middle States or SUNY General Education guidelines or collect data.

You are still expected to follow the assessment plan you established when your course became a general education course and to complete assessments, as indicated on the assessment schedule you submitted to the Gen Ed Committee/SLAC. For our upcoming Middle States site visit in 2021, we are focusing *more closely* on revising the assessment plans to ensure we have data collected for those courses on the list.

### 4. If my course is not on this list, does that mean my course is getting cut as a General Education course?

The General Education Committee cannot and will not “cut” any courses designated as General Education at SUNY Broome. These courses have been approved to be listed as a general education course by our college and SUNY. The committee will continue to support those courses and provide facilitation in the assessment process. Our focus for our upcoming Middle States site visit will be on courses on the “Revised General

Education Assessment Plan” list to assist the committee and faculty make this a manageable process, and to meet the expectations of our accrediting body.

Departments can decide for themselves if they would like to have one or more of their general education courses “deactivated” as a general education course. There is a process in place for this. The deactivation proposal process and forms can be found on the General Education website:

<https://mycollege.sunybroome.edu/web/general-education-committee>

## **5. If my course is not on this list, does that mean students can't take it as a general education course?**

Of course not! Your students can still take the course to fulfill general education requirements. The revised assessment plan does not affect courses students can take or any transfer credits in using your general education course. It is only a way for us to make assessment data collection more manageable for the campus. It will not affect your students.

## **6. What are the expectations for general education courses at SUNY Broome?**

All general education courses at SUNY Broome must be assessed on a regular basis. Courses should be assessed in all modalities (in class, online, blended, Fast Forward). Assessment plans should map to: SUNY Broome ILOs, Middle States Standards, and SUNY General Education Guidelines.

With the recent revision of our SUNY Broome ILOs, established assessment plans must be revised in order to ensure they map to the new ILOs, as well as the expectations of Middle States and SUNY General Education Guidelines.

## **7. What is the plan for the General Education Committee going forward?**

As the General Education Committee moves forward in working within the newly established SUNY Broome ILOS and the revised general education process, we will be requesting meetings with departments to assist faculty in revising their assessment plans to ensure they map to all accreditation and institutional requirements. We are happy to assist in developing these new plans and work with you to implement *meaningful* and *measurable* assessment plans.

We will also be working on developing a process to be able to provide faculty on campus with meaningful feedback about submitted assessment data. Middle States' expectations state that there must be a feedback system to “close the loop” with regard to assessment. As we move forward, we are looking forward to working with the campus on helping to “close the loop” and provide feedback which will be helpful to your department. Implementing a feedback system also allows your department and program to have meaningful data about your courses, which you can use to make suggestions to administrators with regard to equipment, facilities, or faculty you need to help you successfully meet Middle States and SUNY General Education guidelines. You will also be able to use this data for your program reviews.