GUIDELINES USED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IN REVIEW OF
PROPOSED IGETC COURSES

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In reviewing proposed courses, the segments used the specifications for the IGETC Curriculum that were sent to the community colleges in November 1990. The following guidelines were used to guide CSU and UC faculty decisions regarding 1992-93 proposed course additions for IGETC. These guidelines are consistent with the general education policies developed by the CSU General Education-Breadth Advisory Committee and the University of California Committee of Educational Policy (UCEP) and Board on Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS).

Community colleges may find the following guidelines helpful when they begin preparation of course list updates for 1993-94. The guidelines are organized according to subject area. General issues are also listed.

GENERAL ISSUES:

Minimum unit value—The faculty determined that a course must have a minimum unit value of 3-semester or 4-quarter units in order to meet the requirements of the IGETC. (Laboratory courses intended to accompany lecture courses are an exception to this guideline). It is not acceptable to take three one-(1-) unit courses to fulfill a 3-unit requirement, because as a rule three one-(1-) unit courses will not together provide the depth or rigor of a single 3-unit course.

Courses that focus on personal, practical, or applied aspects—Material taught in courses applicable to IGETC should be presented from a theoretical point of view and focus on the core concepts and methods of the discipline. Courses such as Everyday Legal Problems, Psychology of Intimate Relations, or Child Development: Implications for Child Guidance are examples of courses that focus on personal, practical, or applied aspects and do not meet the specifications of IGETC.

Courses introductory to professional programs—Courses that are introductory to professional programs, such as Introduction to Business, Set Design for Theatre, and Writing for Commercial Markets do not have sufficient breadth to meet general education requirements.

Advanced placement exams—Acceptable scores of 3, 4, or 5 can be used to satisfy any of the IGETC subject areas. An acceptable score on an English exam may be used to meet the English composition requirement but may not be used to meet the critical thinking-English composition requirement.

Independent Study or Topics Courses—Independent study and special topics courses are not acceptable for IGETC. Since content of independent study or special topic courses varies from term to term, the applicability of these courses to IGETC cannot be determined.
ENGLISH COMMUNICATION
English as a Second Language courses cannot be used to fulfill the English composition requirement. Writing courses designed to meet the needs of a particular major, e.g., Writing for Accountants, cannot be used to meet the composition requirement.

MATH/QUANTITATIVE REASONING
Courses approved to fulfill this requirement must focus on quantitative analysis and the ability to use and criticize quantitative arguments. Symbolic Logic, Computer Programming, and survey courses such as a Math in Society, were deemed unacceptable to fulfill the math/quantitative reasoning requirement.

ARTS
IGETC requires that courses meeting this requirement have as their major emphasis the integration of history, theory, aesthetics, and criticism. Courses that focus on technique or performance were not approved to meet this requirement (e.g., Beginning Drawing, Beginning Painting, and Reader’s Theatre and Oral Interpretation).

HUMANITIES
Acceptable humanities courses are those that encourage students to analyze and appreciate works of philosophical, historical, literary, and aesthetic and cultural importance. The faculty of the two segments determined that courses such as English composition, Logic, Speech, Creative Writing, Oral Interpretation, Reader’s Theatre, and all elementary foreign language courses were skills or performance courses that do not meet the specifications of IGETC. Advanced foreign language courses were approved if they included literature or cultural aspects. Theatre and film courses were approved if they were taught with an emphasis on historical, literary, or cultural aspects.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Only courses that are taught from the perspective of a social or behavioral science were approved. Consequently, courses such as Physical Geography and Statistics did not meet IGETC specifications for this area and were not approved. Community colleges may resubmit these courses in a more appropriate area. As noted in the General Issues section, courses with a practical, personal, or applied focus were not approved. Administration of Justice Courses may be approved on an individual basis if they focus on core concepts of the social and behavioral sciences.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Acceptable courses must focus on teaching the basic concepts of the biological sciences. Human Nutrition, Horticulture, Forestry, Health, and Human Environment courses were determined to have a narrow or applied focus and were therefore unacceptable for this area. Courses that emphasize the major concepts of the discipline, including biochemical and physiological principles, will be considered.

PHYSICAL SCIENCES
Courses (such as Energy and the Way We Live) that do not focus on the core concepts of a physical science discipline are not acceptable.