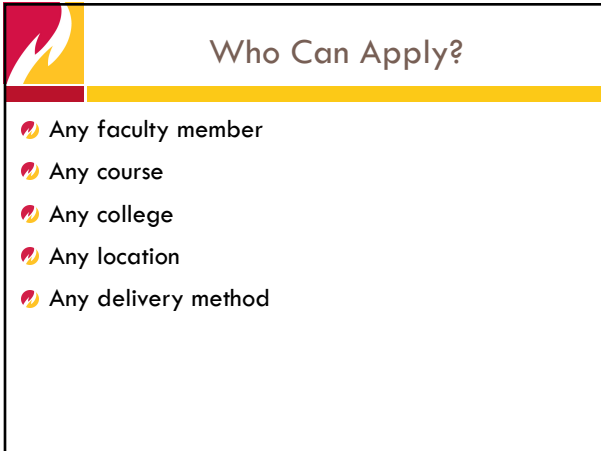




Certification and Re-Certification
of Courses in Our Revised
General Education Program

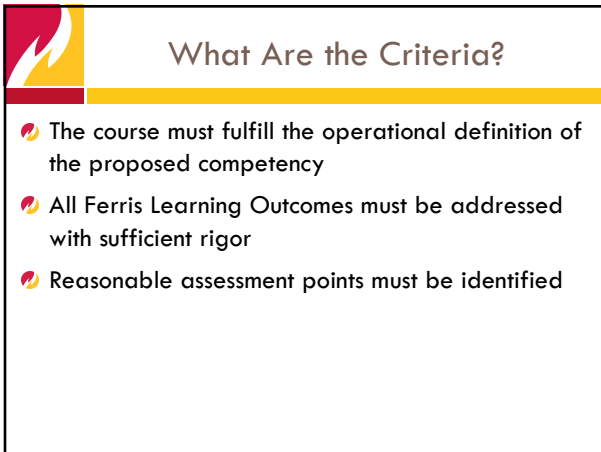
Dr. Clifton Franklund,
General Education Coordinator

08/21/2017




Who Can Apply?

- Any faculty member
- Any course
- Any college
- Any location
- Any delivery method




What Are the Criteria?

- The course must fulfill the operational definition of the proposed competency
- All Ferris Learning Outcomes must be addressed with sufficient rigor
- Reasonable assessment points must be identified




Anatomy of a Competency

- Operational Definition:** Natural sciences are academic disciplines that collectively use empirical evidence to comprehend and explain the physical world. At Ferris State University, these disciplines include Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Geology, and Physics.
- Hallmark of a Bulldog:** Ferris graduates use empirical evidence to make informed decisions about scientific issues.
- Relevance:** Scientific investigation is how we come to a deeper understanding of the natural world, make discoveries that affect humankind, and develop solutions to many problems. Well-informed citizens need to both comprehend the scientific process and critically evaluate information presented in the popular media.
- Ferris Learning Outcomes**
 - SCI1: Utilize concepts** – Students correctly apply, analyze, or evaluate information using discipline-specific facts and concepts.
 - SCI2: Design experiments** – Given a problem, students formulate a potential solution or hypothesis and design a valid experiment to test it.
 - SCI3: Analyze issues** – Students use scientific concepts and principles to critically analyze historical or contemporary issues or policies.
 - SCI4: Communicate data** – Students clearly communicate scientific findings using a variety of formats (words, graphs, tables, statistical inferences, formulae, etc.) as appropriate.



What Do I Need to Apply?

- Applications require three PDF documents
 - A copy of your course syllabus
 - A completed form G (for UCC purposes)
 - A completed Competency Implementation Plan (CIP form)
- Email these to GeneralEducation@ferris.edu




Competency Implementation Plan

- An application form has been created to simplify and standardize this process
- A form is available for each of the eight Core Competencies
- One form must be filled out for each attribute that you would like considered (e.g. Culture + Diversity)




Is There Any Help Available?

- You can send requests for help to GeneralEducation@ferris.edu
- General Education Coordinator
- General Education Subcommittees
- General Education Advisory Groups (new...)




Who Evaluates My Application?

- All received applications will be routed to the appropriate General Education subcommittees
- Their recommendations are sent to the General Education Committee
- The General Education Committee makes a recommendation to the Associate Provost of Operations




How Are Decisions Made?

- The General Education Committee and Subcommittees each use decision forms
- All recommendations are anonymous and kept electronically as PDF
- All decisions will be publicly available




How Can I See the Status of My Application?

- A log of all applications will be kept online beginning this fall
- Dates of all actions will be recorded
- PDF decision forms will be archived



Can I Appeal a Decision?

- Short answer = Yes
- The applicant should address the concerns of the committees and resubmit their course for consideration using a new CIP form




When Are Courses Re-Certified?

General Education courses are re-certified on a five year cycle


Semester	Competency
Fall 2019	Communication
Spring 2020	Natural Sciences
Fall 2020	Culture
Spring 2021	Quantitative Literacy
Fall 2021	Self and Society
Spring 2022	Collaboration
Fall 2022	Diversity
Spring 2023	Problem Solving
Fall 2023	-----
Spring 2024	-----

 **Who Re-Certifies the Courses?**

- The process mirrors the certification process
- The appropriate sub-committee evaluates the status of each course in the competency
- Their recommendations are passed to the General Education Committee
- Their recommendations are passed to the Associate Provost of Operations

 **What Criteria Are Used?**

- Record of registering and reporting assessment data for all learning outcomes
- Continuing to fulfill the operational definition of the Core Competency
- Examples of appropriate assessment instruments used in the past
- Reflections concerning the use of assessment results to improve student learning in the course over time

 **Questions or Comments?**

Thank You!

