I. California State University (CSU) Requirements

   a. General education breadth requirements are specified in the California Code of
      Regulation, Title 5, Article 40405 and the current California State University
      Executive Order. Students must complete:

      i. The CSU General Education Breadth Requirements including a
         minimum of nine units of general education courses at CSU Fullerton
         (CSUF); or

      ii. The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)
         plus a minimum of nine units of upper division general education
         courses at CSUF; or

      iii. The University of California Campus Lower-Division general
         education requirements (Title 5, Section 40405.3) plus a minimum of
         nine units of upper division general education courses at CSUF.

   b. In fulfilling options i, ii, or iii, students must complete a minimum of 48 units,
      nine of those units must be completed at CSU Fullerton, and at least nine of
      those units must be at the upper division level taken no sooner than the term in
      which the upper division status is attained (completion of more than 60 units).
      These unit requirements can be altered for high unit-programs.

II. CSU Fullerton Unit and Distribution Requirements (51 units minimum)

    The General Education Program at California State University, Fullerton, is
    divided into six major Areas: A. Core Competencies, B. Scientific Inquiry and
    Quantitative Reasoning, C. Arts and Humanities, D. Social Sciences, E. Lifelong
    Learning and Self-Development, and Z, Cultural Diversity.
a. Area A: Core Competencies (Nine Units Minimum)
   Students shall complete one course of at least three units in each of the following categories: Oral Communication (A.1), Written Communication (A.2), and Critical Thinking (A.3)

b. Area B: Scientific Inquiry (12 Units Minimum)
   Students shall complete one course of at least three units in each of the following categories: Physical Science (B.1), Life Science (B.2), and Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B.4). Students shall complete 0-3 units in the category Explorations in Mathematics and the Natural Sciences (B.5). Students shall also complete a laboratory experience (0-3 units, B.3).

c. Area C: Arts and Humanities (12 Units Minimum)
   Students shall complete one course of at least three units in each of the following categories: Introduction to the Arts (C.1), Introduction to the Humanities (C.2), Explorations in the Arts or Humanities (C.3), and Origins of World Civilizations (C.4).

d. Area D: Social Sciences (15 Units Minimum)
   Students shall complete one course of at least three units in each of the following categories: Introduction to the Social Sciences (D.1), World Civilizations and Cultures (D.2), American History, Institutions, and Values (D.3), American Government (D.4), and Explorations in Social Sciences (D.5)

e. Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development (three unit minimum):
   Students shall complete one course of at least three units in this area.

f. Area Z: Cultural Diversity (three unit minimum): Some courses in Areas C.3, D.5, and E also satisfy the Area Z Cultural Diversity requirement (i.e., they double count). These courses are marked with a star (*) in appropriate university publications or websites.

g. In order to fulfill the distribution requirements, students may only use nine units or three courses from a single department, excluding courses in GE Area A, Core Competencies, and Area C.4, Origins of World Civilizations.

III. CSUF Academic Standards for General Education

a. Courses in area A.1, A.2, A.3, and B.4 shall be completed with a grade of C- or higher in order to meet the requirement. These courses shall include a statement that “A grade of “C-” (1.7) or higher is required to meet this General Education requirement. A grade of “D+” (1.3) or below will not satisfy this General Education Requirement.”

b. Courses in areas B.1, B.2, B.3, B.5, C.1-C.4, D.1-D.5, E, and Z shall be completed with a grade of D or higher in order to satisfy the General Education Requirement. If a General Education course is required by a major
the standard for fulfilling the major requirement may be higher than that required to fulfill the General Education requirement.

IV. Exceptions to General Education Requirements

a. Individual Students

i. In the case of an individual student, the campus may grant a partial waiver of one or more of the particular requirements of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 40405.1, to avoid demonstrable hardship, such as the need to extend the time required for completion of the degree in the case of a senior-level transfer student.

ii. Students who have completed a baccalaureate or higher degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association are exempt from additional general education requirements

iii. Students who have completed equivalent academic preparation as determined by the appropriate academic authority are exempt from additional general education requirements.

b. Degree Programs

i. Adjusting Unit Distributions

1. CSUF is authorized to adjust the number of units assigned to any of the required distribution areas (A-E) if campus requirements and breadth distribution requirements unduly exceed any of the minimum GE Breadth Credit Requirements.

2. The total number of general education units required shall not be fewer than 48 units.

3. Departments wishing to alter the number of units assigned to the required distribution areas shall submit a proposal to the Office of Academic Programs. The proposal shall indicate how the department/program curriculum will continue to meet the General Education Learning Goals and Outcomes. Prior to submission to the Office of Academic Programs, the proposal must have a majority vote of approval from the department/program and received positive written recommendations from the department/program curriculum committee, the department/program chair, the college curriculum committee and the college dean. Once received by the Office of Academic Programs the proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee and Academic Senate. The General Education
Committee will make a recommendation to the Academic Senate. The recommendation of the General Education Committee must be approved by a majority of the voting members of the committee. The Academic Senate shall recommend proposals to the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs and President.

ii. Exceptions to Breadth Requirements

1. In the case of high-unit degree programs (those programs requiring more than 120 units), the Chancellor can grant exceptions to one or more requirements. To request an exception from one or more requirements beyond adjusting the unit requirements, the department or program must submit a proposal to the Office of Academic Programs. The proposal shall indicate how the department/program curriculum will continue to meet the General Education Learning Goals and Outcomes despite the exception and contain a full academic justification. Prior to submission to the Office of Academic Programs, the proposal must have a majority vote of approval from the department/program and received positive written recommendations from the department/program curriculum committee, the department/program chair, the college curriculum committee and the college dean. Once received by the Office of Academic Programs the proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee and Academic Senate. The General Education Committee will make a recommendation to the Academic Senate. The recommendation of the General Education Committee must be approved by a majority of the voting members of the committee. The Academic Senate shall recommend proposals to the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs and the President. If the recommendation is to request an exception, the proposal and recommendations shall be submitted to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Source: General Education Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 6, 2016
Supersedes UPS 411.202 dated 6-23-15
and ASD 15-61