

**Florida Gulf Coast University**  
**Creative Course Design in General Education Faculty Grant Competition**  
**Call for Proposals**

**Purpose**

Creative Course Design in General Education grants support faculty initiatives designed to enhance student learning and achievement within the FGCU General Education Program. These grants are intended to fund activities above and beyond regular faculty responsibilities, and to foster creativity and innovation in general education course design. Project proposals focusing on interdisciplinary content and/or teaching across disciplines are particularly encouraged.

**Awards**

Grant awards are in the amount of \$2500 for a new course proposal or \$1500 for a substantive redesign of an existing course. Award amounts are per proposal, regardless of the number of faculty applicants per proposal. Grants are competitive, and awarded at the discretion of the FGCU General Education Council.

**Eligibility and Criteria**

Any full-time FGCU faculty member who teaches undergraduate courses on a regular basis may apply for a Creative Course Design in General Education faculty grant. An application may be submitted by one or more individual faculty members, and must include a letter of support signed by the dean of the appropriate academic unit. In accordance with university procedure, all course additions and changes must be approved through the normal curricular review process.

A proposal may focus on developing a new General Education course, or significantly enhancing the content and pedagogy of an existing General Education course that has been taught at least three times on a regular basis. The proposal should also describe how the course will enhance student learning for one of the state-mandated General Education Subject Areas (see Attachment 1), and how it will enhance and assess student learning for at least one of the FGCU General Education Competencies (see Attachment 2).

**Proposal Format and Submission**

The text of the proposal should be two-four pages in length, and include the following items:

- Names for all grant applicants;
- Proposed course title, Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS) number, and catalog description;
- Addresses one General Education Subject Area;
- Description of course objectives for enhancing student learning of the General Education Subject Area;
- Addresses at least one General Education Competency;
- Description of course objectives for enhancing student learning in each General Education Competency;
- Plan and criteria for assessing student achievement of each General Education Competency;
- Criteria for assessing student achievement of each General Education Competency;
- Description of creative and innovative course design features;
- Letter of support from the dean of the appropriate academic unit, confirming support for the new/redesigned course, and for offering it during the following academic year.

Proposals must be submitted no later than January 31, 2009 (see timetable below). Submissions must be made through one of the following faculty representatives on the General Education Council:

College of Arts and Sciences	Margaret Cavin Doug Harrison, Council Chair Eric Otto
College of Education	Dayle Upham
College of Health Professions	Halcyon St. Hill
College of Professional Studies	Scott Anstadt
Lutgert College of Business	Dean Stansel
Library Services	Danielle Rosenthal

### **Proposal Evaluation and Funding**

All proposals will be reviewed for approval by the General Education Council using the Proposal Checklist and Evaluation Form (see Attachment 3). Grant funding is provided by the Office of the General Education Program Director. No applications will be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date listed below.

### **2009 Project Timetable**

January 31, 2009	5:00 p.m. - deadline for submission of grant proposals.
March 1, 2009	Grant awards announced.
November 1, 2009	Deadline for course add/change proposal to be submitted to the University Undergraduate Curriculum Team, for inclusion in the 2010-2011 FGCU catalog. Prior to submission, approvals from the appropriate college curriculum team and the General Education Council are required.
March 1, 2010	First year progress report due, including a proposed syllabus outlining the General Education Subject Area and one or more Competencies to be addressed.
AY 2010-2011	Course taught, and General Education Competency assessment completed.
May 2011	Final report due.

## General Education Subject Areas

### The 2007 Florida Statutes

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Title XLVIII  
K-20 EDUCATION CODE

Chapter 1007  
ARTICULATION AND ACCESS

[View Entire Chapter](#)

#### **1007.25 General education courses; common prerequisites; and other degree requirements.**

- (1) The department shall identify the degree programs offered by public postsecondary educational institutions.
- (2) The department shall identify postsecondary career education programs offered by community colleges and district school boards. The department shall also identify career courses designated as college credit courses applicable toward a career education diploma or degree. Such courses must be identified within the statewide course numbering system.
- (3) The department shall identify those courses that meet general education requirements within the subject areas of communication, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. The courses shall be identified by their statewide course code number. All public postsecondary educational institutions shall accept these general education courses.

## GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES

(Approved by the General Education Council on November 2, 2005)

### Competency 1: Quantitative Reasoning

- Solve mathematical problems;
- Analyze and interpret quantitative data;
- Summarize data into graphic and tabular formats;
- Make valid inferences from data;
- Distinguish between valid and invalid quantitative analysis and reasoning.

### Competency 2: Oral Communication

- Select a topic, and develop it for a specific audience and purpose, with respect for diverse perspectives;
- Organize and deliver a clear and effective presentation, with command of verbal and nonverbal communication;
- Use active listening skills in interpersonal settings;
- Participate in and lead group discussions effectively.

### Competency 3: Written Communication

- Employ the conventions of standard written English;
- Select a topic, and develop it for a specific audience and purpose, with respect for diverse perspectives;
- Select, organize, and relate ideas and information with coherence, clarity, and unity;
- Develop research skills including the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and accurately present and document information;
- Apply critical reading skills.

### Competency 4: Critical Thinking

- Define a problem using appropriate terminology;
- Select and organize information;
- Identify assumptions and underlying relationships;
- Synthesize information, and draw reasoned inferences;
- Formulate an appropriate problem solving strategy;
- Evaluate the feasibility of the strategy.

**Creative Course Design in General Education Faculty Grant Competition  
Proposal Evaluation Form**

Applicant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This worksheet can assist the proposal writer in the preparation and development of a complete grant proposal. A similar form will be used by General Education Council proposal evaluators to assess the merits of a grant application. Yes/No answers are used to indicate whether or not an item has been included in the proposal. Numerical ratings (1 = lowest, 5 = highest) are for use in those categories marked by an asterisk (\*).

PROPOSAL CRITERIA:	Yes	No	1-5
1. Names for all grant applicants			
2. Proposal for new general education course			
3. Proposal for substantive redesign of existing general education course			
4. Course title, SCNS number, and catalog description			
5. Addresses General Education Subject Area			
6. Course objectives for enhancing student learning General Education Subject Area*			
7. Addresses at least one General Education Competency			
8. Course objectives for enhancing student learning in each General Education Competency*			
9. Plan for assessing student achievement of each General Education Competency*			
10. Criteria for assessing student achievement of each General Education Competency*			
11. Description of creative and innovative course design features*			
12. Letter of support from the dean of the appropriate academic unit*			

Evaluator Comments: