

GENERAL EDUCATION - INSTRUCTIONS

Courses approved for the General Education Curriculum can be found at www.gened.uga.edu (under “Browse”). If you submitted a course last year and do not see it listed under the approved courses, we were unable to find the evidence we needed to make a decision. The application process now includes more detailed information on the criteria and what should be included in the application. Evidence that supports inclusion of a course as satisfying a General Education ability should be provided in the Course Objectives/Expected Learning Outcomes section of the course in the CAPA system. These can be quickly updated online at (<https://www.capa.uga.edu/Capa/Syllabus/Login.html>).

Please keep in mind that we are not asking you to assess all your courses and whether they address any of these abilities; we are asking you to identify the courses in your department that *substantively* develop any of these General Education abilities. For example, we realize that many courses have writing or address ethical issues; but we would like to identify those courses that have *substantive* writing (defined as writing with required revision) or are focused *primarily* on ethical reasoning (and not just a lecture or two on ethics). We hesitate to state that some absolute percentage of a course is required for fulfilling this “substantive” requirement. We realize that this is a subtle task—we recognize that many classes have writing assignments, and it might be difficult to imagine a university class that does not teach critical thinking. But many of our courses are primarily focused on content, or assign writing assignments that are graded after the semester ends, and, while those courses are valuable, we would not include them in this inventory. In fact, we anticipate that each department may have only a few courses that will substantively address these abilities.

In addition to our being able to assess whether our students are, in fact, acquiring these important abilities through the course of their time here, we will also be able to provide information to individual departments to help them determine if their students are acquiring these abilities in their majors. Departments might want to use this information in developing new courses or changing major requirements. At this time, there are no plans to institute course requirements to satisfy these general education abilities, although this inventory may provide evidence as to whether such requirements might be proposed in the future.