

Academic Program Review Recommendations: 2023-24 Annual Progress Report

The purpose of the Annual Progress Report is to facilitate the tracking of progress made on program recommendations/goals and to identify and explain the addition of any new program goals not listed in the most recent Review.

1. Name of Program: General Education

[2021 General Education Program Review](#)

[2022-23 General Education Program Review Progress Report](#)

2. List goals from most recent [Program Review](#) and report on progress for each goal. For goals that have not yet been met, please describe your department's plans for moving those goals towards completion. (Label each goal as **Completed, Ongoing, Cancelled, or Postponed** [include anticipated term/year for resuming activity]): 2021 goals

Recommendation 1: Meet the recommendations of the individual programs in their appended reviews.

2022-23 Update: Each Chair is responding individually to this question:

[2022-23 General Education - Arts, Culture and Communication](#)

[2022-23 General Education - Math](#)

[2022-23 General Education - Science](#)

[2022-23 General Education - Social Science & Education](#)

2023-24 Update: Each Chair is responding individually to this question:

[2023-24 Arts, Culture, Communication](#)

[2023-24 Math](#)

[2023-24 Science](#)

[2023-24 Social Science](#)

Recommendation 2: It has taken over two years to complete this General Education Program Review, largely due to our lack of a functional Gen Ed Dean and the fact that all five Chairs have never done a Review. We recommend that a GenEd Dean oversee this process and that work be done incrementally rather than hurriedly accomplished in one term.

2022-23 Update: At this time, it's unclear whether this goal will be met, as our current Gen Ed Dean is leaving in January. She has not overseen the process of this MidTerm review .

2023-24 Update - CANCELED We do not need a Gen Ed Dean at this time. It is less chaotic to work directly with the VPIS.

Recommendation 3: The Gen Ed Mission is maintained in the transition to GP

2022-23 Update: The Gen Ed Mission (I believe) is:

General Education (Gen Ed) refers to the foundation of skills, knowledge, habits of mind, and values that transcend the boundaries of specialization and provide all students with a common language and skills. Gen Ed is intended to develop students as well-rounded critical thinkers and communicators, rather than trained specialists; the goal is to transmit a common cultural heritage. At Columbia Gorge Community College, this educational foundation is defined by CGCC's Institutional Learning Outcomes and is developed primarily through a set of general education course requirements that all students take, regardless of their major. Ultimately, the mission of the Gen Ed program at CGCC is to provide our students with a common experience and set of skills that prepare them for success in their majors, as citizens of the US and the world and in their personal and professional lives after graduation.

AAC - In the ACC department, Guided Pathways has had a couple of unfortunate effects to the Gen Ed mission, including that students are unable to see (in the MY CGCC account) or register for courses that fall outside their prescribed pathway--but might very well contribute to their development as "well-rounded, critical thinkers and communicators." GP has also been responsible for combining the Art Department with the Writing, Foreign Languages and Literature Department--which has created problems and confusions inside and outside the department.

MTH - It is the intention of GP to merge math and science at the end of the current dept chair tenure. This is a mistake. These are totally different disciplines and if the intent is to combine just to do scheduling and not grow any department, then this is a travesty.

SS/ED - For SocSci & Ed, GP must remain flexible for the next year or two as State-held CCN and MTM Committees work to develop standard transferable coursework for Psychology, Anthropology, and

Sociology. Upon completion of that committee work it is expected there will be 2-year transfer degree programs for Sociology and Psychology established, creating potentially new pathways.

Also, as the college works to “contract” with a new OPU for our Elementary Education Program - OSU dropped their program - there may be required changes in that program, also.

2023-24 Update – Ongoing: ACC - In some sense, GP and the Gen Ed Mission stand at two poles of the higher education spectrum. with GP encouraging students to narrow their focus as expediently as possible, and Gen Ed promoting a wider exploration of subjects that “transcend the boundaries of specialization.” This mission is supported by requiring courses that provide students with the “foundation of skills, knowledge, habits of mind, and values” that ultimately lead to “a common language and skills.” In the ACC department, the College often cancels Gen Ed classes due to low enrollment, if they are not singularly required for graduation. This can make it difficult to fulfill this mission.

We have also seen some disgruntlement from other programs over the requirement of Gen Ed electives and even foundation courses like WR 121. We strongly believe that Gen Ed is the backbone of the College and the various degrees that we confer. WR 121 is a foundational course that supports students in every course of study and career they choose to follow.

MTH – Ongoing: Concern about merging the math and science departments under one department chair is ongoing. As mentioned in the AAC updates and the SS/ED updates when two different disciplines are merged under one department chair, one discipline tends to suffer due to lack of one chair’s capability and ability to manage and grow two separate disciplines.

SS/ED – Ongoing: Flexibility must be maintained

Additional goals added from previous Program Review Updates:

2022-23 Update:

AAC - 1. The ACC Department would like to create a Program goal that the Art Department be restored so that Studio Art, Art History, Digital Art and Music/Theater Art could all be housed in their own, independent department.

2023-24 Update – Ongoing: This request has been denied without further appeal. We continue to believe that it does not make pedagogical sense to house the Arts with Writing, Literature and Communication, and that it impedes the health and development of the Arts Program, which has the potential to thrive at CGCC .

MTH - 2. The Math Department is hoping to create new upper division (200) courses to entice high school students to spend at least a year with us after high school. Many of the HS students are taking dual credit and go onto 4-year schools and don’t need our calculus. Those students that are coming here from the high school take the lower level math and then stop.

3. The department is also hoping to bring back some type of computer science., either through the MTM or some other means.

2023-24 Update - MTH -The Computer Science MTM has been approved and the computer science courses are now starting to be offered Winter '25. This MTM has two pathways with different requirements. The requirements that we are able to meet are for all of the OU schools. We do not offer math for the SU schools. The two schools that most students transfer to are SU schools (Oregon State U and Portland State U) Computer Science is the third largest area at 4.72% enrollment area. With this information the department is putting on their agenda to create the math courses necessary to support these students. We would like to have them ready to go to curriculum by the end of the academic year.

SS/ED - 4. Soc.Sci/Ed would like to start development of transfer degrees in both Sociology and Psychology as the work with CCN and MTM for both areas comes to completion this year. Elementary Education would like a completed agreement with one or more select OPU for progress and transition of the program to giving our students a direct pathway to an Elementary Teaching Credential.

2023-24 Update - We have an established two-year degree (AAOT) and MTM for Elementary Education. There has also been a new MTM/CCN pathway for Human Development/Human Services; it is still so new there isn't a lot of information currently available.

The areas within Social Science are being challenged to change and adapt on an almost constant basis due to MTM/CCN requirements, the loss of perceived importance to the tech trades (CTE/RET), the loss of Instructors in focus areas (ElemEd, PolSci, ECE), increased competition for student numbers (FYE, other elective offerings outside of SocSci, issues outside of Instruction), and the college's focus on those programs that are more publicly visible. A strong and vital SocSci department and programs are vital for all students who value a true higher education; it is these offerings that expose students to the wider world around them, to the history of how this current world came to be, how our system of democracy works, and also to the important personal issues of self-awareness, self-esteem, personal behaviors and, therefore, will better understand others that they will love with, live with, and work with going forward.

3. List any additional goals added since the most recent Program Review, include the rationale for each new goal, and describe any actions taken or planned to be taken in the pursuit of each new goal. (Label each goal as Completed, Ongoing, Cancelled, or Postponed [include anticipated term/year for resuming activity]):

SS/ED:

1. Instructors from the psychology department will provide APA tutoring for 2-3 weeks during final research paper time.

SCI:

- 1. Native Spanish speaking science tutor.**