Recommended Language

Proposed Language and Name Changes:

1. Area A: ~~Education~~ Leadership & Success (DONE)

The courses that meet the requirement for the Leadership & Success area are developed for first-year students to enhance their academic and social integration into college. The content is designed for topics such as goal setting, time management, critical thinking, stress management, and study skills. In addition, the content includes information about services and resources available to equip the learners with an understanding of how to make informed decisions related to their academics, career, transfer, and personal success. The courses also provide a support group for students in a critical transition by examining problems common to new students. Leadership courses focus on skills of leaders and courageous innovators; with a focus on adaptive leadership, strategic innovation, change management among other topics such as creativity, emotional intelligence, ethical decision-making, leadership styles, and effective communication as the catalyst to leadership.

1. Area B: Writing (DONE)

A first-semester course in English reading and written composition must include substantial instruction and practice in expository essay writing and research at the college level. Courses should also require a considerable amount of reading of significant literature.

1. Area C: Communication (DONE WITH PRIOR DEF)

Instruction approved for fulfillment of the requirement in oral communication is to be designed to designed to emphasize the content of communication as well as the form and should provide an understanding of the psychological basis and the social significance of communication, including how communication operates in various situations. Applicable courses should view communication as the process of human symbolic interaction focusing on the communicative process from the rhetorical perspective: reasoning and advocacy, organization, accuracy; the discovery, critical evaluation and reporting of information; reading and listening effectively as well as speaking and writing. This must include faculty-supervised, faculty-evaluated oral presentations in the presence of others (physically or virtually).

1. Potential Course changes?

MKTG P124, is there a focus on communication based on the definition above?

1. Area D: Mathematics (Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning?) (DONE)

The Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning requirement shall be fulfilled by completion of a one-term course in transfer level mathematics or statistics, with a stated prerequisite of intermediate algebra or equivalent. Courses outside the discipline of math using the application of statistics may be used to fulfill this requirement, as long as the course has intermediate algebra or equivalent as a prerequisite. An appropriate course in statistics must emphasize the mathematical basis of statistics, probability theory and estimation, application and interpretation, uses and misuses, and the analysis and criticism of statistical arguments in public discourse.

1. Natural Sciences (Overarching Definition)

Courses in the natural sciences emphasize the processes, principles, concepts, and perspectives of the scientific disciplines. Students develop knowledge of scientific theories, methodologies, and data about both living and non-living systems. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the scientific method and the potential limits of scientific endeavors. Additionally, students will understand the role that scientific knowledge and processes play in human activities.

Area E: Biological Science (DONE)

The facts and principles that form the foundations of the biological sciences should include the examination of living systems; cells; heredity; evolution; interdependence of organisms; matter and energy; organization in living systems; and behavior of organisms.

1. Area F: Physical Science (DONE)

The facts and principles that form the foundations of the physical sciences should include an examination of the physical universe and non-living systems; the structure and properties of matter; and interactions of energy and matter.

Science Lab Definition:

Laboratory courses provide an experimental foundation for the theoretical concepts introduced in the natural science lectures. Students have an opportunity to verify concepts; become familiar with experimental apparatus, the scientific method, and methods of data analysis; make experimental observations and draw valid conclusions; identify experimental uncertainties; communicate scientific information; and be exposed to new scientific concepts and techniques.

1. Area G: History/Political Science (Language is still pending)
2. Area H: Social/Behavioral Science (Language is still pending)
3. Area I: Analytical Thinking (DONE)

Instruction will focus on independent, creative, and critical thinking to make informed and logical judgments of the arguments of others in order to arrive at reasoned and meaningful arguments and positions, and formulate and apply ideas to new contexts. The minimal competence to be expected at the successful conclusion of instruction in critical thinking should be the ability to evaluate scholarly sources, distinguish fact from judgment and belief from knowledge, use elementary inductive and deductive processes, and recognize common logical errors or fallacies of language and thought.

1. Area J: Multicultural Studies (DONE with prior language)

Porterville College requires students to take courses that are inclusive of multicultural perspectives found in American and global society. This requirement may be satisfied through studying either American ethnic groups or world cultures.

1. American Ethnic Groups and Subgroups

This requirement includes courses that lead to an understanding of the meaning of ethnic groups and culture within American society. Courses will focus on historical, theoretical, or analytical issues relevant to understanding the development and importance of race, culture, ethnicity and/or gender of the ethnic group or subgroup. This exploration can be accomplished through the study of, but not limited to, the following ethnic subgroups of American society: African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Chicana/o or Latino/a Americans and subgroups based on region, gender, or culture within American society. Courses meeting this requirement should include the study of the ethnic group or subgroup through integrative and comparative viewpoints in relation to the larger context of American history, society, and culture.

2. World Cultures

Students may develop a multicultural perspective through a study of world cultures and their relationship to America in a global society. The study of history, society, and culture of a foreign country or region and its relationship to America can demonstrate the interdependence of all nations in a global political, economic, and social infrastructure. Courses meeting this requirement include the study of non-western regions or civilizations, and countries or regions that are or were the home of significant numbers of American immigrants.

1. Area K: Health/Kinesiology

Courses that meet the General Education objectives of Health & Kinesiology draw on findings from the biological, behavioral, and social sciences to study humans from psychological, sociological, and physiological perspectives.

This requirement is designed to equip learners for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological beings. Physical activity may be included, if it is an integral part of the study elements described herein.

Content may include topics such as student success strategies, human behavior, sexuality, nutrition, physical and mental health, stress management, information literacy, social relationships and relationships with the environment, as well as implications of death and dying or avenues for lifelong learning. Courses in this area shall focus on the development of skills, abilities and dispositions.

1. Area L: Arts & Humanities (Language is still pending)

Other Potential Changes:

1. Humanities increased to 3 units to meet Title 5 language
2. Area E: Biological & Area F: Physical Sciences could be combined (requiring only 3 units instead of 6)
3. Area C: Communication & Area I: Analytical Thinking could be combined (requiring only 3 units instead of 6)
4. Do we need an Area A: Leadership and Success? (Potential reduction of 1 unit)
5. Do we need an Area G: History/Political Science? (Potential reduction of 3 units)
6. Do we need an Area K: Health/Kinesiology? (Potential reduction of 3 units)
7. Could we change area K to 1 unit?
8. Combine Area H: Social/Behavioral Science and area J: Multicultural Studies into a new category (name pending) that has 2 subcategories. See example below. Add language “Choose 1 course from group a and 1 course from group b. At least 1 course in group a or b must fulfill the Ethnic Studies requirement. These are indicated by asterisks (\*).”
   1. Social/Behavioral Science

Table

Description automatically generated*

1. Eliminate multicultural studies and replace it with Ethnic Studies (3 units). This group would only contain ethnic studies courses and courses crosslisted with ethnic studies.

We also discussed the following course changes:

1. Area C: Potentially remove MKTG P124, is there a focus on communication based on the approved definition?
2. Area D

Add:

* Include the language “Intermediate Algebra (previously Math P051) or equivalent or higher” an another option (another checkbox)
* Potentially remove courses:
* CHEM P101A (5), P101B (5) PHYS P102A (4), P102B (4), P104A (4),P104B (4)
* ENGR P120 ENGR P132

1. Area I: Analytical Thinking

Add:

* English 101B

Remove:

* AGRI P104 (Maybe add to local area H: Social/Behavioral Sciences, add to CSU area D, IGETC area 4, WHY? comparable course is counted in CSU area D for CSU Stanislaus)
* BSAD P150, P155, and P160
* INFS P001
* INFS P100
* Maybe PHIL P110? Is there an investigation of fallacies and logic models?
* Math and Engineering
* What is it about the Nursing Degree Program that meets the definition above?

1. Area J: Multicultural Studies

Remove: ANTH P104

1. Could we add language to the Catalog explicitly stating PsyTech and Nursing fulfilling both areas E AND K? Maybe an update to the catalog language?