

University of West Florida
General Summary of Faculty Input
Florida General Education Reform Project

As a response to the request for faculty input regarding statewide general education reform, a survey was sent to all UWF personnel in regular faculty lines. A total of 91 faculty responded, representing a 24% response rate. In the survey faculty were asked to provide open-ended responses to the proposed learning outcomes and courses in each of the five mandated areas in general education: Communication, Mathematics, Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. A complete compilation of the verbatim responses from the faculty is attached.

Although the 440 responses varied greatly, there were some fairly consistent trends as follows:

- The learning outcomes in all 5 areas received a great deal of faculty attention, including statements that they were “weak”, “immeasurable” and “inappropriate”. Responses were quite varied and difficult to specifically categorize.
- Faculty stressed the importance of including speech in the Communication area.
- Faculty reacted negatively to the exclusion of some type of business course in Social Sciences, often specifically mentioning Economics.
- Questions were raised about the proper home for History (Humanities or Social Sciences).
- ENC 1102 (Composition II) was frequently mentioned as a necessary course in Communication.
- Two math courses (MGF 1106 and 1107) were often noted as weak and inappropriate for general education.
- A course in Theatre was noted as an omission in the Humanities list.

Finally, a brief series of specific questions were asked in a multiple choice format, two pertaining to the reform effort:

- When faculty were asked if they would recommend that UWF approve the general studies reform recommendations as currently written 60.4% responded NO, 24.2% were UNSURE and 15.4% responded YES.
- When asked if the general studies curriculum should be comprised of 30 sh or 36 sh, 77.8% of the faculty responded 36 sh and 22.2% responded 30 sh.

It is hoped that these results will be helpful as the Steering Committee considers possible revisions to the draft recommendations.