



R470, General Education



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R470, General Education¹

R470-1 Purpose: This policy creates guidelines to assure consistency in the structure and essential learning outcomes of general education requirements for undergraduate degree programs and reciprocity in recognition of general education requirements between Utah System of Higher Education ("USHE") degree-granting institutions.

R470-2 References

- 2.1 Utah Code § 53B-1-101.5(1) and (8), Definitions
- 2.2 Utah Code § 53B-2-106(3)(c), Duties of Degree-granting Presidents
- 2.3 Utah Code § 53B-16-102, Changes in Curriculum
- 2.4 Utah Code § 53B-16-105, Common Course Numbering, Transferability, General Education
- 2.5 Board Policy R401, Approval of New Programs, Program Changes, Discontinued Programs, and Program Reports
- 2.6 Board Policy R471, Lower division Major Requirements and Transfer of Credits
- 2.7 R470 Appendix, Essential Learning Outcomes
- 2.8 Importance of General Education Issue Brief, General Education Task Force

R470-3 Definitions

- 3.1 **"Basic Instruction"** means instruction offered by technical colleges in areas such as reading, language arts, and mathematics that is necessary for student success in a chosen technical education or job-related program. Basic instruction does not include college-level general education courses or introductory college-level disciplinary courses but may parallel developmental education offered by degree-granting institutions.
- 3.2 **"Competencies"** mean the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors that demonstrate accomplishment of learning objectives within a specific course or program.
- 3.3 **"Essential Learning Outcomes"** means the requisite competencies of a course or program, including intellectual ideas, bodies of knowledge, and academic skillsets and mindsets.
- 3.4 **"General Education"** means a required set of shared essential learning outcomes, the

¹ Approved August 19, 2005. Replaces R463, Credit by Examination; R465, General Education; R467, Lower Division Major Requirements; R471, Transfer of Credit and R472, Course Numbering. Amended March 25, 2011, September 16, 2016, and March 31, 2017. Repealed and replaced December 1, 2023.

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