

MINUTES
General Education Committee
October 28, 2025
1:00pm-2:30pm
Montecito Room

Members present: Heather Keaney (Professor of History), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director, Library & Information Services), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Dave Wolf (Professor of Kinesiology), Telford Work (Chair, Professor of Religious Studies)

Absent: Michelle Hardley (Secretary, Registrar)

I. Prayer – Telford Work

II. Approval of the minutes from September 30, 2025
The minutes were approved.

III. RS-114 – The World of the New Testament – Add to Common Skills and Emphasis: Justice Reconciliation and Diversity
The course was approved. Senate will be considering who will be approving JRD courses, in light of questions about qualifications. Tatiana ran the submission by Carmel Saad before it came to the GE committee, but the committee will not treat that as a required element of the submission procedure.

IV. TA-140 – Race and Gender on the American Stage – Add to Common Skills and Emphasis: Justice Reconciliation and Diversity
The committee did not see in the rationale or course structure the outcome, certification criterion 1, or (to a lesser extent) 2 satisfied. The rationale would be clearer if it included the professor's own words, not just citations of texts or assignments. Heather Keaney will have a conversation with Madeline Fanton.

V. Exploring the Physical Sciences and Exploring the Life Sciences Syllabus Audit
Tatiana introduced the syllabus review process. Committee members will need to finish our reviews by November 25.

VI. Discussion on the October 2 Faculty Forum Table Notes
Committee members' comments included these: Educate faculty on the GE's mission and structure, especially new faculty at the end of their first year before getting first advisees. Add/integrate GE in the Admissions web pages, and help advisors and

admissions educate students and prospective students. (Telford will talk to Mike McKinness about it.) Evaluate the impact of GE requirements on transfer students. Encourage students to take written communication courses earlier. Pay attention to our growing population of non-Christian students especially regarding Common Contexts RS courses. Advocate for a committee member to be invited into Wayfinding, especially at the end of first year or beginning of the second. Consider paired courses that combine GE areas.

VII. Oral Comm Courses: Call for Submissions?

The committee will solicit applications for the new written communications and oral communications courses at the end of fall semester 2025, so teachers can work on applications. That message will feature a link to the new WC/OC guidelines and 'express' submission forms.

Respectfully submitted,
Telford Work