



2015 Revision of gtPathways Competencies
(with comments from April 2015 Fac2Fac)
June 3, 2015 – faculty version

DRAFT

Proposed gtPathways Competencies by gtPathways Content Area Category

Content Area Category	Current Competency	Revised Competencies	
WRITTEN COMMUNICATION			
CO1 Introductory Writing	Critical Thinking Written Communication Reading	Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Information Literacy – Required Creative Thinking – Optional <u>Oral Communication – Optional</u>	Comment [IKM1]: Written Communication faculty asked if they should require Ethical Reasoning?
CO2 Intermediate		Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Information Literacy – Required Oral Communication – Required <u>Optional</u> Creative Thinking - Optional	
CO3 Advanced Writing		Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Information Literacy – Required Oral Communication – Required <u>Optional</u> Creative Thinking - Optional	Comment [IKM2]: Math faculty agreed to move forward with these competencies. Two concerns were (1) finalizing the content and (2) getting adjuncts up-to-date on strategies discussed.
MATHEMATICS			
MA1 Mathematics	Mathematics Critical Thinking	Quantitative Literacy – Required Problem Solving – Required Information Literacy - Optional (but required in statistics courses)	Comment [IKM3]: N&P Science faculty said to "Add the word 'communicate' in the revised competencies" but Ian doesn't know what this means. Comment [IKM5]: N&P Science faculty pointed out several problems this choice presents: (1) What if one institution chooses a different competency than another for the same class? (2) Allow for diversity in competencies that are chosen, depending on the discipline, but keep competencies consistent. "If we are forced to take the new competencies, we want the 'or,' not an 'and.'" Comment [IKM4]: N&P Science faculty want to keep the current Critical Thinking competency because the new CT competency is too prescriptive and the current one provides greater flexibility for interpretation given the breadth of courses offered in these two categories. Faculty report they already have rubrics to use.
NATURAL & PHYSICAL SCIENCES			
SC1 Science course with lab	Mathematics <u>Critical Thinking</u>	Quantitative Literacy – Required Information Literacy – Required Problem Solving or Critical Thinking – (choose one) Required Written Communication – Optional Oral Communication – Optional Creative Thinking – Optional <u>Inquiry and Analysis – Required?</u>	
SC2		Quantitative Literacy – Required	





Content Area Category	Current Competency	Revised Competencies
Lecture course w/out lab		Problem Solving or Critical Thinking – (choose one) Required Information Literacy – Optional Inquiry and Analysis – Required?
HISTORY & SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES		
HI1 History	Critical Thinking Written Communication or Technology	Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Civic Engagement – Required <u>Optional</u> Information Literacy – Required Oral Communication – Optional
SS-1 Economic or Political Systems		Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Civic Engagement – Required Information Literacy – Required Global Learning – Optional
SS-2 Geography		Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Information Literacy – Required Global Learning – Required Civic Engagement - Optional
SS-3 Human Behavior, Culture or Social Frameworks		Written Communication – Required Critical Thinking <u>or Problem Solving</u> – Required Information Literacy – Required Civic Engagement <u>or</u> Global Learning Optional <u>Required</u> <u>Creative Thinking?</u>
ARTS & HUMANITIES		
AH-1 Arts and Expression	Critical Thinking Written Communication Reading or Technology	Written Communication – Required Oral Communication – Required Creative Thinking <u>or</u> Critical Thinking <u>Required</u> Global Learning - Optional
AH-2 Literature and Humanities		Written Communication – Required Oral Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required Information Literacy - Optional Global Learning - Optional <u>Creative Thinking – Optional</u> <u>Civic Engagement - Optional</u>
AH-3 Ways of Thinking		Written Communication – Required Oral Communication – Required Critical Thinking – Required

Comment [IKM6]: N&P Science faculty think this competency fits better with science courses. Can they adopt it?

Comment [IKM7]: SS faculty think 4 competencies is too many (3 is sufficient, with 2 of them required and a choice between 2 others for the 3rd one). Several pairs of "either/or" might be better (e.g., Civic Engagement or Global Learning). Think Quant Lit might be a good optional competency for economics and sociology. Some support for Creative Thinking and Global Learning across the SS areas. Want freedom to emphasize certain outcomes that are discipline appropriate.

Comment [IKM8]: History faculty want to significantly revise this competency or have their own CT competency just for History.

Comment [IKM9]: See History faculty notes for more. In sum, History faculty could reject this competency knowing that it's addressed in other content areas. Some were in favor of most of the competency, some rejected most or all of it.

Comment [IKM10]: History faculty feel Oral Comm is not relevant to their curriculum and, because history courses tend to be large, are not appropriate venues for demonstrating Oral Comm.

Comment [IKM11]: SS3 faculty think technology, diversity and adaptability are missing from any of the required competencies.

Comment [IKM12]: S&BS faculty feel Information Lit's outcomes are already included in Written Comm and Critical Thinking so it's not necessary to require it separately.

Comment [IKM13]: SS3 had question about how these apply to disciplines.

Comment [IKM14]: AHUM faculty agreed Oral Communication should be required (would be more open to it if broader description) in all 4 area subcategories- BUT SERIOUS CONCERNS for implementing and who is responsible for execution - maybe should be separate...

"Discussed: Critical Thinking being required in AH1. Discussed how Creative Thinking and Oral Communication cover Critical Thinking and thus, should remain optional."

AHUM faculty did not get to Information Literacy.





Content Area Category	Current Competency	Revised Competencies
		Creative Thinking – Optional Information Literacy - Optional Global Learning - Optional
AH-4 World Languages		Written Communication – Required Oral Communication – Required Global Learning – Required Civic Engagement – Optional Information Literacy - Optional

General Questions/Concerns That Came Up:

1. Do we have to include all of the sub-components of the competency to get gtPathways approved? (N&P S) Faculty deliver content but may not be equipped to assess all of these competencies and unclear about where the assessments will be done. How will faculty assess these at the course level? Concerned about how manageable the assessment will be. (History)
2. What needs to be on a syllabus for reviewer to feel confident that competencies are being addressed? Could ask people to address specifically the competencies in a form, matrix, or separate sheet. (History)
3. Whose job is it to help students develop into [civically] engaged students? Job is to teach knowledge and understanding but maybe not the actual engagement. Gives you tools of discernment. (History, but Ian asked the question of them).
4. Would some currently approved courses be removed from gtPathways if don't meet the new competencies/content?
5. What will the new approval process/forms look like (esp. with regard to how many learning outcomes are entailed in the set of competencies)?
6. Great concern if ALL learning outcomes within each competency required. We need to be able to select discipline and course-appropriate outcomes within each competency. Many faculty from 2 yr inst. seem to feel that current expectation is that all courses will address all outcomes (i.e., every row in the competency's rubric). General agreement that disciplines need to be allowed to choose/emphasize the learning outcomes appropriate for the course/discipline (especially if additional competency areas are required): (insistence that need to add the "Meets most, not all" statement to the competency statement).
7. SS faculty, as a whole, like the Global Learning comp for social & behavioral science courses. However, there is some concern that some courses that are deliberately focused on national issues shouldn't be forced into global topics. Ian's question: Even though a SBS course is focused on national issues, it's still a part of and influenced by the rest of the globe so why wouldn't this competency still be relevant? Maybe the question is one of extent?





8. Why doesn't Information Literacy mention technology? Shouldn't technology be mentioned somewhere in the LEAP VALUE rubrics? "If a new technology competency is created or if the information literacy is changed to include technology then this group might consider adding it to the SS3 set of competencies." (SS3) "A missing competency is adaptability overall and adaptability in technology." (SS3)

9. Can Written Communication and Oral Communication be combined? They have some of the same student learning outcomes. If so, how much of Oral Comm has to be included in Written Comm?(Comm)

10. Faculty in the "Psych, Anth, Sociology" areas of Social & Behavioral Sciences question how Civic Engagement or Global Learning applies to their disciplines. This surprises me (and I have a master's in cultural anthropology). Anybody have any thoughts on this?

