



## ***CSCU General Education Transfer Credit Alignment Requirements and Timeline***

1. Provost
  - a. Assign Faculty Lead for their institution
  - b. Determine best method for campus feedback
  - c. Submit campus feedback report by ***Friday, November 10, 2023***
  - d. Submit TAP Framework30 Mapping for all Transfer Tickets (Appendix B) by ***Friday, November 10, 2023***
    - i. Appendix B will be required for TAP. Regardless of the recommendation all institutions must indicate how the revised FW30 will be mapped to their General Education Requirements for any students completing Transfer Tickets.
2. Faculty Lead
  - a. Responsible to inform appropriate Faculty group(s) on the recommendation
  - b. Collect feedback
  - c. Organize feedback and submit to Provost
    - i. Timeline will be determined by the institution to meet the deadlines above
3. Suggested Feedback Plan
  - a. Assign Faculty Lead involved with the Safe Course Task Force or General Education Committee
  - b. Introduce the recommendation to the General Education Committee
    - i. General Education Committee may solicit input from others, but must do so within allotted time period for feedback collection
  - c. Consensus on the following
    - i. Approve, no feedback and complete Appendix A and B
    - ii. Approve, with feedback to consider and complete Appendix A and B
    - iii. Reject, feedback required and complete Appendix B

## **Safe Courses: CSCU General Education Transfer Credit Alignment Based on Category-to-Category Mapping**

### **Overview:**

*Work Group requested by:*

- *Charged by the CSCU Interim Provost and Senior VP of Academic affairs*

*Group Members:*

- *Sarah Selke (TRCC, Co-Chair); Braxton Carrigan (SCSU, Co-Chair); Joseph Berenguel (ACC); Steve Mendes (NCC); Justine Gamache (CCSU); Kristina Kosnoff (MCC); Lindsay O’Grady (COSC); Edward Moore (CCSU); Mark Lynch (GCC); Amy Royal (NVCC); Christopher Paulin (MCC); Jeffery Buskey (ECSU); Kelly Pittman (TXCC); Francine Rosselli-Navarra (CSCU); Steve Marcelynas (CSCU)*

*Scope of work:*

- A. *Alignment of Connecticut State Community College Framework30 (FW30) categories with general education requirements at the CSCU four-year institutions based on learning outcomes.*
- B. *Documented verification of the completion of the Framework30 posted on students’ transcripts.*
- C. *Automatic Acceptance to any four-year CSCU institution with the completion of the Framework30 and an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.*
- D. *A sub-committee of the CSCU Transfer Council should be created to provide oversight of CSCU General Education alignment.*

*Estimated start and finish:*

- *Spring 2022 to Spring 2023*

***For the purposes of this recommendation, the CT State General Education requirements refers to the general education portion of the Associate Degree. In most cases, this will consist of seven categories of the Framework30 or 21 credits. The Framework30 (FW30), references the entire ten category package typically designated for degrees designed for transfer.***

***What:***

- A. ***Category-to-Category alignment based on similar general education outcomes will provide students, faculty, and staff the information necessary to select courses that meet general education requirements throughout the CSCU System. Based on Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), each Framework30 (FW30) Category will be evaluated to identify similarities and opportunity to be paired with a comparable category at the CSCU four-year institutions. For example, based on the SLOs for Social and Behavioral Sciences (Framework30) all courses vetted for that category will meet the requirement for SA II Social Science or SA III Behavioral Sciences (CCSU), T1 Social Sciences (ECSU), Social Structure, Conflict and Consensus (SCSU), Gen Ed Elective/Exploration (WCSU), Social/Behavioral Science (COSC). The “safe course” list will consist of all courses vetted for that particular FW30 category and will seamlessly transfer to its associated category at the receiving CSCU four-year institution. Mapping will also demonstrate how courses from the CSCU four-year institution may be applied in a reciprocal approach to the FW30.***
- B. ***Document the completion of the Framework30 on students’ transcripts to verify the satisfactory completion of aligned (mapped) General Education categories at the receiving institution.***

- C. ***Grant guaranteed acceptance to CSCU four-year institutions for any student who completes the Framework30 and has a cumulative 2.5 or better overall GPA.***
- D. ***Currently, the Framework Implementation and Review Committee (FIRC) has been charged with the oversight and assessment of the FW30. Starting in Fall 2023, CT State will adopt 21 to 31 credits of the FW30 as the general education requirement for all degrees. With that, assessment and oversight of general education will fall under CT State governance and nullify the need for FIRC.***

**Why:**

- A. ***Current practice for students completing general education requirements for the purpose of transfer is complicated and labor intensive for both students and advisors. Each institution has its own method of meeting NECHE's standard for General Education. This creates discrepancies that are difficult to navigate if a student is unsure of their transfer destination. Faculty and Staff who advise students do not have appropriate resources required to assist with guiding students toward courses that will be accepted and applied toward degree completion. This results in time lost in researching course equivalents rather than discussing student success.***
- B. ***Verification of the completion of the Framework30 has been a barrier toward documenting the completion of aligned (mapped) General Education categories and application of courses at the receiving institution. The current practice requests that a student submit a DegreeWorks evaluation for the purpose of course application toward general education requirements. This is an additional burden on the student, requires more time and attention on the part of the receiving institution, and allows for error. In addition, students who transfer prior to the completion of an Associate Degree have historically been excluded from the benefits provided by the FW30. This recommendation would extend the benefits that were originally intended for only graduating TAP students to all CT State students who complete the FW30.***
- C. ***Currently, students must complete an Associate Degree to be granted guaranteed acceptance to a four-year institution. This recommendation would allow another benchmark for students, faculty, and staff to aim for while working toward the overall completion of a baccalaureate degree.***
- D. ***A standing body of CT State and CSCU four-year institution faculty will need to be established to provide oversight of "Safe Courses" and overall general education alignment within the CSCU System. It is recommended that this group be established by the CSCU Transfer Council and be responsible to continue the work and intent of "Safe Courses."***

**Value Proposition:**

- A. ***Safe courses will provide transparency on how CT State General Education requirements will be applied to a CSCU four-year institutions degree. Each course that a student uses to complete a General Education requirement at CT State will be used to meet a General Education requirement at the receiving institution (or, in rare cases, progress a student toward completion). By mapping CT State General Education categories directly to General Education requirements at the CSCU four-year institutions will eliminate any guess work associated with course transferability and application toward a degree. Allowing any course in a particular FW30 category to meet the requirement of the reciprocal category at the receiving institution will simplify advising and reduce risk of lost credits. CT***

***State Faculty and Staff can be assured while assisting students that they are not guiding them toward excess credit hours.***

***B. Students are required to submit official transcripts from CT State to any receiving institution. Verification of the completion of the FW30 on that academic record will no longer require students to send additional documents. This will also simplify the process by which the receiving institution verifies and marks as complete the aligned (mapped) general education categories.***

***C. Students would be incentivized to complete the entire Framework30 and have a better understanding of where they stand while applying to the CSCU four-year institutions. Completion of the FW30 with a cumulative 2.5 GPA or higher would allow for acceptance to any CSCU institution while also providing transparency on how courses will be applied toward potential degree options.***

***D. A standing body of faculty with the sole purpose of addressing issues related to transfer of general education requirements will not only ensure the success of Safe Courses, but it will also allow provide a method to address any other issues related to concerns regarding this area of curriculum.***

**How:**

***A. Each CSU and COSC will verify the proposed mapping to the FW30 categories (see Appendix A). Institutions will have a timeframe, set by the CSCU Provost, to approve the mapping or suggest edits. Once FW30 mapping is submitted, all courses in the designated FW30 category will be coded (i.e. course-to-course equivalency or assigned attribute) to meet the requirement for the general education category at the CSU or COSC.***

***B. Due to changes in the FW30 starting in Fall 2023, all CSCU four-year institutions must update the TAP Composite Common Package sheet (Appendix B) by a deadline set by the CSCU Provost. Implementation of documentation of the completed FW30 on students' transcript will be determined by a Work Group of Registrars and other appropriate staff.***

***C. Guaranteed Acceptance will be granted with verification of completion of the FW30 and overall cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher. Students with courses in progress toward the completion of the FW30 will be granted acceptance with a 2.5 or higher. Students' acceptance may be impacted if final transcripts indicate that a course was not completed or if their overall GPA falls below a 2.5.***

***D. Upon recommendation approval, the CSCU Transfer Council will be notified of the request. The Transfer Council will discuss the matter and have a sub-committee convened no later than the end of the Fall 2023 semester.***

**When:**

- Upon recommendation approval, the CSCU Provost should immediately distribute Appendix A and B to the CSCU Chief Academic Officers. Based on their governance or general education structure, each institution will determine the appropriate way to review the suggested mapping and align general education requirements by category.***

- The CSCU Provost will need to determine deadlines for the following:***
  - Submission of finalized FW30 mapping***
  - Submission of finalized TAP Composite Common Package form***

## CSCU General Education Transfer Credit Alignment

### Appendix A

#### Framework30 (Fall 2023)

#### CATEGORY-TO-CATEGORY MAPPING

Verify or edit mapping of the Framework30 category to the appropriate category of your Institution's General Education Requirements. Every category should be mapped. "Or" statements can be used (see SCSU). To avoid duplication of credit, a category can only be used once.

<i>Framework30</i>		<i>COSC</i>	
Written Comm I	3	Written Comm 1	3
Written Comm II	3	Written Comm 2	3
Arts and Humanities <sup>1</sup>	3-4	Arts & Humanities	3-4
Social and Behavioral Sciences	3	Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
Historical Knowledge	3	Historical Knowledge	3
Scientific Reasoning <sup>2</sup>	4	Scientific Reasoning	4
Scientific Knowledge and Understanding <sup>2</sup>	3-4	Scientific Knowledge/Understanding	3-4
Oral Communication	3	Oral Communication	3
Continued Learning and Information Literacy	3	Information Literacy	3
Quantitative Reasoning <sup>3</sup>	3		3

1. **Arts and Humanities:** Most of the courses within Arts and Humanities category will be considered Safe Courses, with the exception of Elementary I World Languages and ESL level 4 & 5 courses. While these courses remain in the category for the purposes of fulfilling a degree requirement at CT State, these courses will not suffice for credit in the general education of all CSU 4-year institutions. Therefore, we recommend that each course be clearly indicated as such and GPAs advise students accordingly.
2. **Scientific Reasoning / Scientific Knowledge and Understanding:**  
Unless specified by the receiving institution's academic program:
  1. Students who have completed **one four-credit lab science course and one three-credit non lab course or two four-credit lab science courses**, will have met the science general education requirements at the receiving institution
  2. Students who have completed one three credit science will be required to take **one four-credit lab science course** at the receiving institution
  3. Students who have one four-credit lab science course will be required to take **one three-credit non lab course or one four-credit lab science course** at the receiving institution
  4. It is strongly suggested and will be advised that students take courses from different academic disciplines, but a student will not be asked to take additional courses if they have not done so
3. **Quantitative Reasoning:** Math requirements are typically dictated by specific program requirements and would be difficult to guarantee without knowing a student's intended major.

Therefore, we recommend that this category be completed with the guidance of a student's Guided Pathway Advisor or Faculty Advisor.

**TAP COMPOSITE COMMON PACKAGES**  
**APPENDIX B**  
**Framework30: 30-31 (Fall 2023)**  
**Block Transfer**  
**Fulfills these 30-31 credits of program requirements**

**Must be completed to account for the mapping of the Framework30 for all TAP degree completers and how the Framework30 will be applied to the CSCU four-year institution's general education requirements.**

<b>Framework30</b>				<b>Charter Oak State College</b>	
Written Comm I	3		3	Written Communication 1	3
Written Comm II	3		3	Written Communication 2	3
Arts and Humanities	3-4		3-4	Arts and Humanities	3-4
Social and Behavioral Sciences	3		3	Social/Behavioral Science	3
Historical Knowledge	3		3	Historical Knowledge	3
Scientific Reasoning	4		4	Scientific Reasoning	4
Scientific Knowledge and Understanding	3-4		3-4	Scientific Knowledge & Understanding	3-4
Oral Communication	3		3	Oral Communication	3
Continued Learning and Information Literacy	3		3	Information Literacy	3
Quantitative Reasoning	3		3		3

<b>Remaining General Education Requirements</b>		<b>CCSU</b>		<b>COSC</b>	
				Innovative Thinking	3
				Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	3
				Quantitative Reasoning (varies by program)	3
				Digital Literacy	3
				Cornerstone Seminar	3