

Reference Number: S15-255

Senate Approval Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Revisions to the

Baccalaureate Degree Policy, Section II. C. Structure for Upper Division General Education (UDGE) *(formerly #F13-255)*

Background: The original structure of upper division General Education required students to take a course each in the physical/life sciences, arts/humanities and social sciences. Each of these courses was required to be in the same “Topical Perspective” or topical emphasis. Although this was supposed to provide an integrated perspective around a topic, individual courses were allowed to be in unlimited numbers of Topical Perspectives. Because of the nature of the foci of these topics, there have been distinct disciplinary preferences for certain topical perspectives. This imbalance in the number of seats in each area within a topic led to the suspension of Topical Perspectives for the 2014-15 academic year. As new proposals for upper division GE were submitted, the imbalance got more marked, not less, leading the Baccalaureate Requirements Committee (BRC) to conclude that the Topical Perspectives structure is not viable. They voted to recommend that the Senate eliminate the Topical Perspectives requirement from the upper division GE program. BRC will be discussing possible options to provide the integration that the Topical Perspectives was supposed to provide.

II. C. Structure for Upper-Division General Education (UDGE)

All students, including transfer students, must complete a total of nine units with the equivalent of one course in each of the following CSU-mandated groupings of domains of knowledge and inquiry: (1) physical and/or life sciences (UD-B), (2) arts and/or humanities (UD-C), and (3) social sciences (UD-D). Students may also choose to complete the Upper-Division General Education Requirement through Integrated Studies or Study Abroad.

1. UDGE Disciplinary Perspectives

(9 units minimum; must be taken in residence at San Francisco State University)

Upper-division General Education (UDGE) is rooted in the educational goals for baccalaureate degrees at San Francisco State University. Students must complete one course in each of the following groupings of domains of knowledge and inquiry: (1) physical and/or life sciences, (2) arts and/or humanities, and (3) social sciences. Faculty teaching an upper division general education course from one of these domains (e.g. sciences, arts, humanities, or social sciences), are encouraged to draw connections to the others as appropriate. Each course will be designed to meet six student learning outcomes for the designated domain of knowledge and inquiry. A course may not be in more than one domain of knowledge. (see Appendix H)
