Hawai'i Community College
Recommended Process for General Education Course Designation for AAS Degree Only
(No GEC Review)

On March 20, 2015, the Academic Senate approved the motion to allow CTE programs to include GE designated courses applicable to the AAS degree only. The GEC was charged with establishing the AAS degree GE process in consultation with the AAS degree program representatives and come up with a recommendation to the Senate.

The Joel Tanabe, Harold Fujii, and Robert Yamane met with the GEC committee and they were asked to come up with a possible process and to share that process with the Senate's ad hoc General Education Committee (GEC).

After the initial meeting with the GEC committee, it was determined that the College intends to move toward joining the UHCC system Foundations agreement. If this happens, the GEC felt that a GEC committee would no longer be needed since in most cases CTE courses are not transferable and those that are for an AA degree they would be electives and not core classes. GEC is of the opinion that the only classes that need to be put through the process are classes that would be put through the Foundations process.

Therefore a GEC process for the AAS degree also would not be needed. In light of these changes, the following process for GE for AAS degree programs is recommended:

1. Use the revised AAS Degree Requirements (attached) as the primary guideline. (The AAS Degree Requirements is very similar to LeewardCC's.)

2. Allow the departments in the three areas of knowledge (Cultural Environment, Natural Environment, and Social Environment) to create their own criteria/benchmarks for the AAS degree. Continue to use the current CRC process of approval to add new courses to the list via a memo (attached to the signature page of the program modification proposal form) from the Liberal Arts department DC approving the course. (Eventually an item addressing this will be included in Curriculum Central's replacement--Kuali.)

3. Grandfather the existing Cultural, Natural, and Social Environment electives that satisfy requirements for the AAS degree and certificate only.