Creativity & Innovation

GenEd Course Proposal Guide

Creativity & Innovation Capacity Requirements

A student's capacity for Creativity & Innovation prepares them to understand and engage in the creative process and to discover and implement original and useful approaches to projects and/or complex problems within any context or discipline. This capacity fosters the self-confidence and imagination necessary to innovate boldly and to bring a product or solution to fruition. Creativity that leads to innovation is an ongoing and iterative process, whereby students learn to improve their work through experimentation, ongoing practice, and by considering and incorporating feedback.

Students who have developed their capacity for Creativity & Innovation will:

(Please see notes at the end of this document for detailed examples of proficiency skills.**)**

1. *Recognize opportunities for creativity and innovation.*
2. *Identify and describe the intention and value of the innovative work or solution.*
3. *Execute creative and innovative projects and solutions.*
4. *Iteratively improve their creative and innovative ideas.*

All lower-division courses approved for the Creativity & Innovation capacity must provide substantial opportunities for students to practice and apply proficiencies 1 through 3.

All upper-division courses approved for the Creativity & Innovation capacity must provide substantial opportunities for students to practice and apply proficiencies 1 through 4.

All Creativity & Innovation courses must include a signature assignment in which students exhibit evidence of their developing capacity.

Examples of signature assignments may include but are not limited to:

- **Process artifacts**, *such as lab journals, field diaries, literature reviews, recorded observations, sketches, drafts, mockups, and prototypes, etc.*
- **Culminating artifacts**, *such as papers, essays, videos, articles, reports, presentations, podcasts, designs, programs, exhibitions, demonstrations, other performances, and various media, etc.*

All lower-division courses approved for the Communication & Expression capacity will also be mapped to the E, F, and/or G strand of University Studies for backward compatibility (no additional application is required).

Wherever possible, upper-division courses approved for the Communication & Expression capacity will also be mapped to the H, I, or J strand of University Studies for backward compatibility, *but this is not a requirement*.

Required Materials to Submit with Application

The Capacity Course Application can be found here and is due Friday, April 1, 2022.

While completing your application, you will need to upload the following deliverables:

a) a complete **course design map** (see: **template** & **instructions**) that demonstrates how each capacity proficiency will be taught and assessed in your course.

b) a complete **syllabus** for the proposed course (we encourage you to use **this template** if it is helpful; see **template instructions here**). Whatever format you choose, your syllabus must include:

- these **GE Syllabus Common Elements**;
- a list of course learning outcomes that clearly align with required capacity proficiencies;
- a clear list of assignments used to assess all capacity proficiencies.

Course Review Process

Each Capacity Course Application will be reviewed and evaluated by Capacity Mentors using a copy of **this checklist**. Applications that clearly meet the outlined requirements above will move forward to the University Studies Committee, then Faculty Senate, with a recommendation to approve provisionally for 2 or 3 years. This determination must be unanimous among reviewing mentors.

Applications that do not clearly meet the requirements will be returned to course developers with feedback for further clarification or revision.

If Capacity Mentors cannot reach a consensus recommendation, the application will be elevated for a full review by the entire University Studies Committee, which will have the final say.

Course Development Support

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:

- **Support for Courses That Exist in AY 21-22 Catalog:** $1,500 stipend per approved application of an existing course (limit 1 stipend per capacity, capped at 2 stipends per faculty member).
- **Support for New Courses Proposed for the AY 22-23 Catalog:** $2,000 stipend per approved application of a newly created course (limit 1 stipend per capacity, capped at 2 stipends per faculty member, subject to Undergraduate Curriculum approval of new course).

- **Aggregate limit:** faculty may receive up to four stipends between the existing and new course categories, but no more than 1 stipend in any capacity.
- **Course Release Option:** Faculty may request 2 ELU release per approved application in place of stipend, up to 4 ELU of release.

Creativity & Innovation Capacity Notes

Below we outline the kinds of skills students should exhibit in each proficiency in greater detail.

Students who have developed their capacity for Creativity & Innovation will:

1. ***Recognize opportunities for creativity and innovation.***

   Example skills:

   - ❖ Survey the social, cultural, commercial or scholarly landscape to observe gaps that can be filled by new ideas
   - ❖ Understand the interests of audiences and users
   - ❖ Synthesize prior creative, intellectual or professional inspiration and context that might inform new creative or innovative solutions
   - ❖ Recognize the relative scale and complexity of challenges that lend themselves to creative solutions (including wicked problems)

2. ***Identify and describe the intention and value of the innovative work or solution.***

   Example skills:

   - ❖ Express the objectives of the creative or innovative process
   - ❖ Advocate for the artifact or solution via diverse channels of communication

3. ***Execute creative and innovative projects and solutions.***

   Example skills:

   - ❖ Propose innovative ideas for solving strategic problems or expressing personal creative inspiration
   - ❖ Assess available resources needed to accomplish specific creative or strategic initiatives
   - ❖ Connect with social networks, institutions or other collaboration partners as needed to accomplish creative or strategic initiatives
   - ❖ In the absence of clear guidelines, undertake plans and prototypes and work out first steps

4. ***Iteratively improve their creative and innovative ideas.***

   Example skills:

   - ❖ Determine and apply appropriate means for assessing the success or failure of creative or strategic work
   - ❖ Respond to self-critique, external critique and audience participation with iterative improvements
   - ❖ Adapt plans and prototypes to changing conditions and unexpected outcomes, and resume progress following preliminary failures or dead ends
   - ❖ Complete the cycle of iterative learning to yield a creative artifact or solution that is ready for appreciation, consumption or use by others