

## Summary of the state of New Mexico’s new General Education model

- Full information available on the HED Webpage:
- [https://hed.state.nm.us/resources-for-schools/public\\_schools/general-education](https://hed.state.nm.us/resources-for-schools/public_schools/general-education)
- Emphasizes 5 “essential skills”
  - Communication
  - Quantitative Reasoning
  - Personal and Social Responsibility
  - Information and Digital Literacy
  - Critical Thinking
- Organized around 6 content areas:
  - Area I: Communications
  - Area II: Mathematics
  - Area III: Science
  - Area IV: Social & Behavioral Sciences
  - Area V: Humanities
  - Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts
  - Each course must address the three essential skills associated with its content area (see chart)
  - Courses may also be classified as “other” if they do not fall into any of these 6 content areas
- Institutional Flexibility
  - 22 credits are uniform state-wide
  - 9 credits are “flexible” as determined by each institution. This is an opportunity for NMSU to establish a distinctive General Education program.
- Implementation is scheduled for Fall 2019. Existing courses must be re-certified by Fall 2020 to maintain their G designation.

ALIGNMENT OF ESSENTIAL SKILLS TO CONTENT AREAS WITHIN THE NEW MEXICO GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM	
General Education Content Area	Skills associated with the content area
Communications	Communication Critical Thinking Information & Digital Literacy
Mathematics	Communication Critical Thinking Quantitative Reasoning
Science	Critical Thinking Personal & Social Responsibility Quantitative Reasoning
Social & Behavioral Sciences	Communication Critical Thinking Personal & Social Responsibility
Humanities	Critical Thinking Information & Digital Literacy Personal & Social Responsibility
Creative and Fine Arts	Communication Critical Thinking Personal & Social Responsibility
Other*	Select any three of the five essential skills for association with course learning outcomes.

\*Courses within an institution’s discretionary nine credits, including interdisciplinary courses, may fall outside of the six content areas at the institution’s discretion.

Table I. Required courses in each content area for previous and new general education models, for Associate\* and Bachelor degrees.

Previous Model		New Model			
Content Area	Courses (Credits)	Content Area	Courses (Credits)	22-Credit Fixed	Faculty Senate Approved 9-Credit Flexible
I. Communications	3 (9)	I. Communications	3 (9)	2 (6)	1 (3)
II. Mathematics / Statistics	1 (3)	II. Mathematics	1 (3)	1 (3)	
III. Laboratory Science	2 (8)	III. Science	1-2 (4-7)	1 (4)	1 (3)
IV. Social & Behavioral Sciences	2-3 (6-9)	IV. Social & Behavioral Sciences	1-2 (3-6)	1 (3)	
V. Humanities and Fine Arts	2-3 (6-9)	V. Humanities	1 (3)	1 (3)	
		VI. Creative and Fine Arts	1 (3)	1 (3)	
		Elective (any “G” course)	1 (3)		1 (3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 (35)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10 (31)</b>	<b>7 (22)</b>	<b>3 (9)</b>
Requirement includes a total of 5 classes (15 credits) from Areas IV and V together.		9-credit Flexible: 3 credits from Area I (Communications), 3 credits from either Area III (Science) or Area IV (Social & Behavioral Science), and 3 “elective” credits (any “G” course).			

\* Applied Associate degree requirements: 12 credits from four different content areas + 3 elective credits (from any other “G” course)