

2019-2020 Provost's General Education Course Enhancement Grant Competition

Teach what excites you! Connect your discipline and expertise with General Education!

The General Education Course Enhancement Grant Competition is designed to promote the ongoing enhancement of UConn's General Education curriculum through the development of new courses or the revision of existing courses.

Priorities of this year's competition

In an effort to improve course availability in the curriculum, we encourage proposals addressing priorities listed below. *Please note, however, that proposals for any General Education course development will be considered and will be favorably viewed if they are deemed to enhance General Education offerings.* Submissions are especially sought for:

- 1) Courses that enhance offerings in the Competency (W, Q) or Literacy (E) areas
- 2) Courses that emphasize [integrative learning](#) or incorporate [high-impact practices](#). In particular, the selection committee would be interested to see proposals that find a way to utilize the university's new [Portfolium](#)¹ ePortfolio system.
- 3) Courses that are developed and/or taught in (interdisciplinary) collaboration.

Approvals

All proposals require department head or program director approval. Note that receiving a Provost's General Education Course Enhancement Grant *does not* guarantee approval of the course by GEOC or other curriculum committees; all General Education course action requests must still be submitted and approved by one or more departments, schools or colleges, GEOC, the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee, and the University Senate.

Awards

Awards are for one year and may vary from \$1,000 to \$7,500 per proposal. The award may be applied to buyout of semester salary, summer salary, course-related expenses, or to a faculty member's ledger 2 research account. This amount is inclusive of fringe benefits and a budget form is required to justify proposed expenses. If additional funding is needed, awardees may reapply to the competition for the same course within two academic years of their first award, i.e. a proposer who is awarded in AY 2019-20 can reapply in AY 2020-21 or AY 2021-22.

Proposal Deadline November 8, 2019

Who May Apply

Regular tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track full-time faculty from any University of Connecticut campus may apply. This program is open to faculty in all disciplines.

An application may be submitted by one or more individuals, but must have the written commitment of support, including teaching assistantships if required, of a sponsoring program or department.

The department(s) must agree to offer the course every year or every other year for at least five years at one or more of the UConn campuses.

Evaluation Criteria

The proposal may focus on significantly enhancing the content or pedagogy of an existing course or developing a new course. It should very clearly explain how the course meets UConn's broad goals of general education as well as the specific criteria for the given content area(s) (Arts & Humanities; Social Sciences; Science & Technology; Diversity & Multiculturalism), competencies (W, Q), and/or literacies (E) as described in UConn's [General Education Guidelines](#).

¹ Portfolium will be available for use by the whole university within the next year. You can contact ITS to activate an account.

Proposals will be judged on the following main criteria: clarity of the project's objectives; relevance of the objectives for the General Education curriculum, both the overall purpose of the curriculum as well as the criteria specific to the Content Area, competency, or literacy; enhancement of the General Education curriculum; innovative or creative elements; potential for serving as model for significant change in General Education; plan for evaluation of student learning; appropriateness of budget. While a syllabus *for new courses* is not required, any specifics regarding course design are helpful in considering the fit of the project to criteria. Other criteria that will be viewed favorably in judging proposals are availability on regional campuses, open to non-majors, large classes, and those that are directed at the priority areas. Lists of winners and examples of successful proposals from previous competitions can be found [here](#).

Proposal Format and Submission

Please follow the required proposal format, which can be found [here](#). Each proposal should include 1) a maximum three-page (at least 12 point font, 1 inch margins) description of the project, including a clear statement of the project's relation to General Education requirements (broad and specific), course objectives (including student learning outcomes), and a plan for the assessment of student learning, potentially including a preliminary syllabus, reading list, and/or list of topics covered, etc.; 2) a budget form that gives a reasonably detailed explanation of how funds will be used, including whether there is an additional source of support for course development; and, 3) a statement of support from the appropriate program director(s) or department head(s) [an email is fine]. An electronic copy of the proposal should be sent to geoc@uconn.edu with the Subject Line "Provost's General Education Course Enhancement Grant."

Evaluation Committee

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of faculty and representatives from GEOC subcommittees, the Instructional Design and Development Group in the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and a pool of previous competition winners.

Requirements for Awarded Proposals

Faculty who receive funding for their proposal will be required to attend the awards reception for current winners, submit a Curriculum Action Request (CAR) form and full syllabus for the course approval process, attend a GEOC meeting to report on course progress, and submit a final report by the specified deadline. Awardees will also be encouraged to avail themselves of Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning resources in instructional design.

Timetable

Nov. 8, 2019	Submission Deadline
Dec. 2019	Awards announced
Jan. 2020	Funding for any supply requests paid out to awardees
May/June 2020	Summer salary paid out to awardees who requested it
Sept./Oct. 2020	Course Action Request forms submitted to GEOC
March 2021	Progress report due
Spring or Fall 2021	Course taught for the first time
April 2022	Final report due

Contact

For further information, contact Manuela Wagner (Chair, General Education Oversight Committee) at manuela.wagner@uconn.edu or (860) 486-3317.