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 especially 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.

*It is highly recommended that proposers with limited experience in the priority areas collaborate (co-submit) proposals with colleagues who have prior experience with the area, both in terms of content as well as in pedagogy, and participate in professional development opportunities.*

Please note these two resources:

- Higher Education Antiracist Teaching Podcast by UConn: at [heartuconn.podbean.com](http://heartuconn.podbean.com)
- UConn and University of Nottingham series: [https://global.uconn.edu/events/decolonizing-the-university-past/](https://global.uconn.edu/events/decolonizing-the-university-past/)

Submissions are especially sought for:

1. Courses that focus on the critical exploration of racism and colonialism; that promote antiracist and decolonial pedagogies; and that encourage students to take active roles in initiatives related to equity and social justice (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion - JEDI)*
2. Environmental Literacy (EL) courses
3. Courses that seek to build bridges between related topics and disciplines, including between the different priority areas

*While GEOC especially encourages proposals that focus on this area as the primary subject of the course, we highly encourage all proposals from all areas to build in antiracist and decolonial pedagogies.

**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 priority areas of this year’s grant cycle (EL, JEDI) and the relevant 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](https://www.uconn.edu/education/).

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 (especially course materials, descriptions of pedagogy, etc.) 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 of four pages of added text answering the proposal questions* (at least 12 point font, 1 inch margins), including:
   - A clear statement of the project’s relation to General Education requirements (broad and specific)
   - Course objectives (including student learning outcomes)
   - A plan for the assessment of student learning
   - A preliminary syllabus, reading list, and/or list of topics covered, etc.

   (*Note: the Proposal Template is 2 pages, so a total of 6 pages if the questions are left in. The budget form and syllabus/syllabus materials are not included in this page count.)

2) A budget (using the supplied 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.

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.”

**Proposal Information Sessions**
Faculty who wish to submit a proposal to this year’s competition are highly encouraged to attend one of our information sessions:

**Session 1: Tuesday, November 2 – 10:00am-11:30am**
WebEx: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/uconn-cmr/j.php?MTID=m8bfd010b2f884ca89be2cac0f18fa35
Meeting: 2621 781 1627
Password: GE-Enhancement
Join by phone: +1-415-655-0002 US Toll
Access code: 2621 781 1627

**Session 2: Thursday, November 4 – 2:30pm-4:00pm**
WebEx: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/uconn-cmr/j.php?MTID=md913a8c3b87302ac8b4693b6e6a1a74
Meeting: 2620 598 9647
Password: GE-Enhancement

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1 Please note, proposers should carefully consider which of these areas their course can adequately address. More areas does not necessarily equal a stronger proposal. Past selection committees have largely favored proposals that can thoroughly support the case for one or two Gen Ed areas.
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 colleagues with expertise in the priority areas.

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
Submission Deadline – December 3, 2021
Awards announced – By the end of January 2022
Funding for any supply requests paid out to awardees – By February/March 2022
Summer salary paid out to awardees who requested it – May/June 2022
Course Action Request forms submitted to GEOC – By March 2023
Progress report due – Spring 2023
Course taught for the first time – Spring or Fall 2023
Final report (if needed) due – Fall 2024

Contact For further information, contact Manuela Wagner (Chair, General Education Oversight Committee) at manuela.wagner@uconn.edu.