**Proposal to Amend General Education Teaching Policy**

*Submitted by Graduate and Professional Student Council, 9/29/19; approved by UWGEC, 10/16/19*

PURPOSE OF CHANGE

In 1999, when the current General Education program was rolled out, the below policy heavily restricted the teaching opportunities of graduate students to winter and summer sessions. The policy has not been evenly applied or enforced and does not take into account the disciplinary differences or departmental needs. The proposed change considers a balance between faculty contact early for undergraduate students while also lifting restrictions on graduate students who are prepared to take on the additional responsibility as Instructor of Record.

ORIGINAL TEXT

Who Can Teach Gen Ed Courses?

The philosophy behind the [guiding principles](https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/gened-original-guiding-principles) of the original Faculty-Senate approved plan for the new University-Wide General Education program was that experienced faculty have an increased role in the education of lower-division students. Early contact with such faculty is a hallmark of the new General Education program and is critical to providing students the enriched educational experience implied in the guidelines for Tier One and Tier Two course proposals. Based on this principle, the following policy establishes who can teach approved Tier One and Tier Two courses.

Primary instructors (or instructors of record) in General Education courses must be faculty members, as defined by the Arizona Board of Regents [policy 6-201](https://public.azregents.edu/Policy%20Manual/6-201-Conditions%20of%20Faculty%20Service.pdf) and have the [required credentials](https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/hlc-credential-faqs) to teach as determined by the Higher Learning Commission.  Graduate Assistants in Teaching and Graduate Associates in Teaching may serve as secondary instructors - e.g., leaders of labs and discussion sections - provided that they receive preparation and supervision as mandated by the Graduate College.  GATs may serve as instructors of record during a Summer Session or Winter Session, under [guidelines](https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/gened-summer-instruction-guidelines) set forth separately.

Tier One courses (INDV, NATS, TRAD) are constructed so that a number of faculty members can teach them in different semesters.

Tier Two courses (Individuals & Societies, Natural Sciences, Humanities, Arts) are constructed so that one or more faculty members can teach them.

**Approved by UWGEC 4/19/00 | Revised by the Policy Subcommittee 9/12/01 | Approved by UWGEC 1/23/02**

PROPOSED TEXT

Who Can Teach Gen Ed Courses?

The philosophy behind the guiding principles of the original Faculty-Senate approved plan for the new University-Wide General Education program was that experienced faculty have an increased role in the education of lower-division students. Early contact with such faculty is a hallmark of the new General Education program and is critical to providing students the enriched educational experience implied in the guidelines for Tier One and Tier Two course proposals. ~~Based on this principle, the following policy establishes who can teach approved Tier One and Tier Two courses.~~

Primary instructors (or instructors of record) in Tier One General Education courses must be faculty members, as defined by the Arizona Board of Regents policy 6-201 and have the required credentials to teach as determined by the Higher Learning Commission. Graduate Assistants in Teaching and Graduate Associates in Teaching may serve as secondary instructors - e.g., leaders of labs and discussion sections - provided that they receive preparation and supervision as mandated by the Graduate College. GATs may serve as instructors of record during a Summer Session or Winter Session in Tier One Courses, under guidelines set forth separately.

Primary instructors (or instructors of record) in Tier Two General Education courses may be a faculty member, Graduate Assistant, or Graduate Associate and must have the required credentials to teach as determined by the Higher Learning Commission. Graduate Assistant and Graduate Associate appointments as primary instructor must meet the following criteria:

* The graduate student must also meet the proper preparation and supervision as mandated by the Graduate College and outlined in the [GA Manual](https://grad.arizona.edu/funding/ga).
* The duties involved in the appointment must be directly aligned with the education and professionalization of the student.

Tier One courses (INDV, NATS, TRAD) are constructed so that a number of faculty members can teach them in different semesters.

Tier Two courses (Individuals & Societies, Natural Sciences, Humanities, Arts) are constructed so that one or more faculty members can teach them.