

CSU GE BREADTH AREA E (CSU requirement)

Courses that meet the learning objectives of Area E draw on findings from the biological, behavioral, and social sciences to study humans from psychological, sociological, and physiological perspectives.

Lifelong Learning and Self-Development Requirements

CSU General Education Breadth Requirements

This requirement is designed to equip learners for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological, social, and psychological beings. Physical activity may be included, if it is an integral part of the study elements described herein.

Content may include topics such as student success strategies, human behavior, sexuality, nutrition, physical and mental health, stress management, information literacy, social relationships and relationships with the environment, as well as implications of death and dying or avenues for lifelong learning. Courses in this area shall focus on the development of skills, abilities and dispositions.

There is no IGETC Counterpart to Area E. Students using the IGETC pattern to meet their lower-division GE before transfer to the CSU are exempt from this systemwide requirement.

Military Service Credit

Credit for Prior Learning

Credit for Prior Learning Policy requires CSU campuses to evaluate prior learning, provide credit where appropriate, and shorten the time to academic objective accordingly. Completion of basic military training (boot camp) may be used to satisfy Area E in the university's general education requirements.

Completed military courses and the schools at which the work was completed must be documented on the veteran's Joint Services Transcripts (JST) or Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) transcripts. All CSU campuses have elected to honor CSU GE Breadth transfer certifications that clear Area E Lifelong Learning and Self-Development for completion of basic training as indicated on a JST or CCAF transcript.

**CSU GE Breadth
Area E**

Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

With the exception of courses in physical activity (detailed below), reviewers expect courses in Area E to include three kinds of inquiry: **sociological, physiological, and psychological**.

- Courses should address all three areas for *more than a few years of a human lifespan*. The course content does not need to extend from cradle to grave, but study should include more than the collegiate years, early childhood experience, or the octogenarian experience, in order to provide the breadth expected of general education.
- Courses that focus on a single learning skill (e.g., library use, computer literacy, college skills, or first aid training) are not appropriate for GE.

Sociological:

- In this context, the relationships between an individual and broader society.

Physiological:

- The human body as an integrated organism with systemic functions such as movement, nutrition, growth, reproduction, and aging.

Psychological:

- The study of the mental processes that create consciousness, behavior, emotions, and intelligence.

Note: Courses in personal finance are no longer considered for CSU Area E. Personal Finance courses that are currently approved for Area E had their CSU Breadth GE status removed effective fall 2018. CCCs may submit revised personal finance courses for Subarea B4 Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning consideration during the yearly CSU GE Breadth review period.

Physical Activity

- Physical activity courses (except for special-topics or directed studies courses) are acceptable in Area E.
- Students may not complete Area E using only physical activity courses. Participating institutions are asked to limit the number of physical-activity units they count when certifying a student for Area E.
- Area E Certification: CCCs may offer a three-semester-unit course in tennis and qualify it for Area E. A CCC cannot apply all three units to a student's Area E certification.