California State University, Stanislaus
Summit Program – Upper Division GE Clusters
Guidelines

Nature of the Clusters:

‣ Each cluster must meet all the criteria for General Education; cluster proposals must demonstrate how course content, assignments, and so on meets the criteria.

‣ Each cluster will consist of courses appropriate to upper division areas F1, F2, or F3. Each course in the cluster must reflect a common theme, with each course bringing that discipline's perspective when examining a complex issue which crosses traditional discipline boundaries. If you are modifying an existing course, it should be reworked within the framework of Summit.

‣ The faculty proposing a cluster will need to demonstrate clearly how the classes will be interconnected.

‣ Faculty are encouraged to develop one course in the cluster to fulfill Area G: Multicultural requirements.

Scheduling:

‣ Multiple sections of courses in a cluster may be offered, however students may not switch "cohorts."

‣ Scheduling of the clusters will be done by the department chairs of the participating departments in consultation with the faculty who will be teaching the courses and the Faculty Director of General Education.

‣ Courses in a cluster will typically be offered in different terms during a single academic year.

‣ To facilitate scheduling, we recommend that Fall/Spring cluster courses be offered at the same time each semester, so students can plan their time for the whole year.

Facilitating Student/Student and Student/Faculty Interaction:

‣ Each course in a cluster may accommodate a maximum of 40 students.

‣ Each cluster should foster a sense of community among faculty and students; teaching styles within the cluster should facilitate these learning communities.

Expectations for Faculty:

‣ For faculty involved in clusters developed after fall 2007 workshops focused on assessment, service learning, alternate teaching methods, and methods for linking classes in a cluster will be offered. Attendance is suggested but not required.

Expectations for Administrative Support:
Faculty teaching in the Summit program will be provided support for their endeavors. Administration acknowledges that the close linkages between courses in a specific cluster often require that faculty participate in both courses in the cluster. Faculty may be awarded up to 2 WTUs in addition to the WTUs assigned for the course they are instructor of record for in recognition of the increased time involvement and additional work involved in making the cluster program functional.

Process for Submission of a New Cluster:
Clusters whose first course will be **offered during the Fall semester** must submit the attached form and the course proposals for each course (approved by the department and/or college curriculum committees and the dean) to the Office of Academic Program no later than October 1 of the previous year.

Clusters whose first course will be **offered during the Winter or Spring** terms must submit the attached form and the course proposals for each course (approved by the department and/or college curriculum committees and the dean) to the Office of Academic Program no later than February 1 of the previous year.

California State University, Stanislaus
Summit Program Cluster Proposal

Proposed Cluster Name: _____

<u>Course Information</u>:

Course 1: Course #: _____   Course Title: _____

       Instructor:_____ Semester Offered:_____

Course 2: Course #: _____   Course Title: _____

       Instructor:_____ Semester Offered:_____

Required Signatures

_____   _____   _____
Department Course 1   Department Chair Signature   Date

_____   _____   _____
Department Course 2   Department Chair Signature   Date

_____   _____   _____
College Course 1   Curriculum Committee Signature   Date

_____   _____   _____
College Course 2   Curriculum Committee Signature   Date

_____   _____   _____
University GE subcommittee   Chair Signature   Date

_____   _____
Faculty Director of General Education Signature   Date

Proposed Cluster Name**:** _____

Cluster Theme:

Briefly describe the cluster:

Describe how the courses will be integrated:

Briefly explain how the proposed cluster would meet the following goals of GE:

Subject Knowledge:

Communication:

Inquiry and Critical Thinking:

Information Retrieval and Evaluation:

Interdisciplinary Relationships:

Global or Multicultural Perspectives:

Social Responsibility: