

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY**  
**Proposal to Amend Santa Cruz Regulation 10.2.2.3**

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

*Summary*

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) is proposing to amend Santa Cruz Regulation (SCR) 10.2.2.3 on general education requirements and transfer credit. The change would insert language that allows transfer students to be exempted from up to three Topical general education courses based solely on the number of credits they transfer in with. This change repeals a portion of a legislative change that came into effect in 2007, and is proposed in order to avoid forcing a great deal of Admissions staff time to be devoted to articulating courses to meet the Topical requirement, a requirement that goes out of effect as of fall 2010.

*Further Details*

Before fall 2007 SCR 10.2.2.3 prohibited the articulation of transfer courses to meet the Topical general education requirement. The full text of 10.2.2.3 before fall 2007 is given here, with the relevant portion bolded:

**Transfer or advanced standing credit may apply toward all of the requirements in SCR 10.2.2.1 [i.e., general education requirements, CEP] except the Topical and Writing-intensive courses.** Writing-intensive courses must be taken at UCSC. **Because it is difficult to judge whether courses passed elsewhere meet the spirit of the topical course requirement, transfer students shall be exempted from up to three of these courses depending on the amount of credit transferred at the time of entrance.** In partial satisfaction of the University of California, Santa Cruz campus general education requirements (as distinct from courses required for graduation), a transfer student is permitted to count an eligible transferred course of 4.0 quarter units (or three semester units) in advanced standing as equivalent to a five-credit hours course at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Responsibility for assessment of work completed at other campuses of the University of California or at other institutions is delegated to the Director of Admissions. In making such assessments, the Director consults with the Faculty when appropriate.

In the fall of 2006 the Senate amended this legislation, among other things removing all text specific to the Topical requirement. (See below under “Current wording”.) The change was justified by the Senate’s judgment that individual transfer courses *can* be evaluated as satisfying (or not) the Topical requirement. Hence Topicals were to be treated like any other general education course (except the Writing-Intensive requirement). Since then the Admissions Office has been working to identify Community College courses that can be articulated to specific Topical courses at UCSC.

Last quarter our campus passed comprehensive general education reform, to go into effect fall 2010. The Topical requirement will cease to exist as of that time, though some students will continue to satisfy it for several years due to catalog rights. The question arises whether the Admissions Office should continue devoting significant time to finding and articulating courses to satisfy this requirement. We do not think it should, since Admissions will have to begin identifying courses to satisfy all of our *new* general education requirements.

The proposed change re-establishes a transfer student's right to be exempted from one to three Topical courses based on credits transferred in, as existed for students before fall 2007.<sup>1</sup> Departing from the earlier legislation, however, it will not *prohibit* the transfer of courses to satisfy Topical requirements. Both students and the Admissions Office can therefore continue to benefit from the work that has already been done toward identifying courses for articulation and applying them toward requirements.

Given catalog rights beyond the 2010 date of the general education change, this proposed legislative change could affect a significant number of students for about 3 more years.

**Current wording**

**Proposed wording**

<p><b>10.2.2.3</b> Transfer or advanced standing credit may apply toward all of the requirements in SCR 10.2.2.1 except the Writing-intensive courses. Writing-intensive courses must be taken at UCSC. An eligible transferred course of 4.0 quarter units or 3.0 semester units may be considered one course with respect to campus general education requirements. Responsibility for assessment of work completed at other campuses of the University of California or at other institutions is delegated to the Director of Admissions. In making such assessments, the Director consults with the Faculty when appropriate.</p>	<p>10.2.2.3 Transfer or advanced standing credit may apply toward all of the requirements in SCR 10.2.2.1 except the Writing-intensive courses. Writing-intensive courses must be taken at UCSC. <b><u>Transfer students may be exempted from up to three Topical courses depending on the amount of credit transferred at the time of entrance.</u></b> An eligible transferred course of 4.0 quarter <b><u>credits</u></b> <del>units</del> or 3.0 semester <b><u>credits</u></b> <del>units</del> may be considered one course with respect to campus general education requirements. Responsibility for assessment of work completed at other campuses of the University of California or at other institutions is delegated to the Director of Admissions. In making such assessments, the Director consults with the Faculty when appropriate.</p>
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Respectfully submitted;

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

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May 6, 2009

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<sup>1</sup> Details, quoting from the relevant general catalog text: "...topical courses are waived at entrance according to the following formula: 45–83.9 transferable quarter credits, one course waived; 84–104.9 transferable quarter credits, two courses waived; 105 or more transferable quarter credits, all three courses waived. If one topical course is required in residence at UCSC, it may be chosen from any of the three academic areas (humanities and arts, natural sciences and engineering, and social sciences). If two are required, they must be from two different areas."