



GENERAL EDUCATION CENTER
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN

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MEMORANDUM NO. GEC-OVCAA-NAKG 22-024

TO : ALL DEANS, COLLEGE SECRETARIES, DEPARTMENT CHAIRS,
INSTITUTE DIRECTORS AND GE COORDINATORS

THROUGH : *Theresa T. Payongayong*
MA. THERESA T. PAYONGAYONG, Ph.D.
Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Kimuell-Gabriel
Nancy Adriano

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Gabriel Nancy Adriano
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FROM : **NANCY A. KIMUELL-GABRIEL, Ph.D.**
Director

SUBJECT : Policy on Crediting of GE Courses as Electives/Free Electives

DATE : 8 August 2022

On the issue of whether a GE course can be taken as elective/free elective, the System GE Council, in its 24 June 2022 meeting, reiterated that **GE courses cannot be credited as electives/ free electives**. This policy is based on the following definition:

Elective/Free Elective - *“a **non-GE** course a student can choose from any area or discipline and regardless of course number that contributes to the student’s program of study or track. The elective should enhance the student’s technical competence, knowledge, and skills.”*

GE Elective - *“A **GE** course a student can choose from the list of GE courses prescribed by the program.”*

As mentioned, GE courses meet the program objectives of the GE Program, while free electives meet the program learning outcomes of the degree program.

Kindly see the attached Memorandum issued by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and other related documents.

Thank you.



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

5 August 2022

Memorandum No. OVPAA 2022-115

For: **THE CHANCELLORS
THE VICE CHANCELLORS FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY REGISTRARS
THE CU GE COORDINATORS/DIRECTOR**

CAUT

From: Maria Cynthia Rose Banzon Bautista
Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: **CREDITING OF GE COURSES AS FREE ELECTIVES**

This Memorandum is issued to guide the crediting of GE courses taken by UP students as free electives.

Appendix C of the [2003 UP Diliman Faculty Manual](#) (refer to Page 339), following the Curricular Nomenclature per [OVPAA Memo No. 03-70](#) dated 16 September 2003, defines an elective as a “*course a student can choose from any area of discipline and regardless of the course number.*”

The [2010 UP Los Baños Guidelines for Preparing Curricular Proposals](#) (refer to Page 1) further defined elective courses as “*one that is chosen by the student to provide an opportunity to explore other areas of interest.*”

In the *Manual of Curricular Procedures and Review Process* compiled by the OVPAA in 2003, which the 18-19 November 2013 Workshop involving the Vice President, Assistant Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs, Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs, and University Registrars revised, the following definitions were agreed upon:

Elective/Free Elective - “*a **non-GE course** a student can choose from any area or discipline and regardless of course number that contributes to the student’s program of study or track. The elective should enhance the student’s technical competence, knowledge, and skills.*”

GE Elective - “*A **GE course** a student can choose from the list of GE courses prescribed by the program.*”

The GE Council, in its 24 June 2022 meeting, upheld the definition mentioned above of an/a elective/free elective. GE courses meet the program objectives of the GE Program, while free electives meet the program learning outcomes of the degree program. For this reason, GE Courses cannot be credited as free electives.

Thank you.