GENERAL EDUCATION Category 2: Natural Science

The goal of this category is to provide students with an understanding of the process of scientific inquiry, some of the major scientific theories and their application to modern life. Students will practice the methods of science in a laboratory experience.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will demonstrate:

- 1. an understanding of the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical analysis;
- 2. knowledge of the principles of one or more of the natural sciences;
- 3. the ability to apply scientific data, concepts and models in one or more of the natural sciences, and relate the relevant technology and principles they have studied to modern life.

GE 2 Natural Science Rubric

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Elements	Target	Acceptable	Unacceptable
SLO 1: an understanding of the	Student demonstrates	Student can connect	Student understanding
methods scientists use to explore	a clear and thorough	experimental	of the methods
natural phenomena, including	understanding of the	observations to valid	scientists use to
observation, hypothesis	research process	and invalid models	explore natural
development, measurement and	scientists use to	and draw conclusions	phenomena is
data collection, experimentation,	explore natural	from that data about	incomplete or
evaluation of evidence, and	phenomena.	how the natural world	inaccurate due to
employment of mathematical		functions.	major conceptual
analysis;			flaws.
SLO 2: knowledge of the	Student demonstrates	Student demonstrates	Student knowledge of
principles of one or more of the	thorough and detailed	a basic or general	the principles of the
natural sciences;	understanding of the	understanding of the	natural sciences is
	principles of one or	principles of one or	incomplete or
	more of the natural	more of the natural	inaccurate due to
	sciences and cites	sciences.	major conceptual
	evidence that supports		flaws.
	those principles.		
SLO 3: the ability to apply	Student demonstrates	Student demonstrates	Student demonstrates
scientific data, concepts and	thorough and detailed	a basic ability to apply	an incomplete or
models in one or more of the	ability to apply the	the methods of	inaccurate ability to
natural sciences, and relate the	methods of science to	science to modern life.	apply the methods of
relevant technology and	modern life.		science to modern life.
principles they have studied to			
modern life			