GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES  
(Approved by the General Education Council on 4/12/11)

Working with SACS representatives, and with members of the Office of Curriculum and Instruction and Office of Planning and Institutional Performance, the General Education Council has examined national models and best practices in developing standards for FGCU general education competencies in quantitative reasoning, written communication, and critical thinking. These competencies are clear, nationally-recognized, and measurable skills that all university graduates should be able to demonstrate.

Competency 1: Quantitative Reasoning
- Solve mathematical problems;
- Analyze and interpret quantitative data;
- Summarize data into graphic and tabular formats;
- Make valid inferences from data;
- Distinguish between valid and invalid quantitative analysis and reasoning.

Competency 2: Written
- Employ the conventions of standard written English;
- Select a topic, and develop it for a specific audience and purpose, with respect for diverse perspectives;
- Organize and present relevant content with coherence, clarity, and unity;
- Develop research skills including the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and accurately present and document information;
- Use appropriate language to convey meaning effectively;
- Apply critical reading skills.

Competency 3: Critical Thinking
- Define an issue or problem using appropriate terminology;
- Select, organize, and evaluate information;
- Identify and analyze assumptions made by oneself and others;
- Synthesize information, and draw reasoned inferences;
- Develop and clearly state a position, taking into account all relevant points of view;
- Formulate an informed and logical conclusion, and test it for viability.

History: Approved by General Education Council on 11/2/05; revised and approved on 4/12/11