TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: The Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)
SUBJECT: 15-16 CIC 50: American Institutions Student Learning Outcomes
PURPOSE: Approval of the Academic Senate
ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the proposed American Institutions Student Learning Outcomes, with the President’s approval, effective upon conversion to semesters.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At its meeting on March 7, 2016, the GE Subcommittee approved the American Institutions learning outcomes. At previous meetings, the outcomes had been discussed and appropriate departments consulted (the subcommittee includes a faculty member from History and one from Ethnic Studies and the subcommittee asked for additional feedback from Political Science). While there are 3 categories of outcomes, the students can meet all 3 categories from 2 courses and many courses address both the first and second or first and third categories. CIC unanimously approved the recommendations of the GE Subcommittee at its meeting on April 18, 2016.
AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF CIC

March 7th, 2016

SLOs US-1 (US history)

Students will be able to:

1. explain the significance or interpretation of major historical events in a period of at least a hundred years of American history
2. describe the contributions of major ethnic and social groups in a period of at least a hundred years of American history
3. explain the role of at least three of the following in the development of American culture: politics, economics, social movements, and/or geography

SLOs US-2 (US Constitution)

1. describe the development of the Constitution from the political philosophies of its framers to its later interpretation and amendments
2. explain how the Constitution influenced the development of American political institutions and government
3. explain citizen rights and responsibilities under the Constitution

SLOs US-3 (California government)

1. describe the role of California’s Constitution in state and local government
2. explain the place of California’s Constitution in the evolution of federal-state relations
3. describe the political processes that enable cooperation and conflict resolution between state and/or local governments and the federal government
For Background EO 1061

A. Any course or examination that addresses the historical development of American institutions and ideals must include all of the subject matter elements identified in the following subparagraphs of this paragraph I.A. Nothing contained herein is intended to prescribe the total content or structure of any course.

1. Significant events covering a minimum time span of approximately one hundred years and occurring in the entire area now included in the United States of America, including the relationships of regions within that area and with external regions and powers as appropriate to the understanding of those events within the United States during the period under study.
2. The role of major ethnic and social groups in such events and the contexts in which the events have occurred.
3. The events presented within a framework that illustrates the continuity of the American experience and its derivation from other cultures, including consideration of three or more of the following: politics, economics, social movements, and geography.

B. Any course or examination that addresses the Constitution of the United States, the operation of representative democratic government under that Constitution, and the process of California state and local government must address all of the subject matter elements identified in the following subparagraphs of this paragraph I.B. Nothing contained herein is intended to prescribe the total content or structure of any course.

1. The political philosophies of the framers of the Constitution and the nature and operation of United States political institutions and processes under that Constitution as amended and interpreted.
2. The rights and obligations of citizens in the political system established under the Constitution.
3. The Constitution of the state of California within the framework of evolution of federal-state relations and the nature and processes of state and local government under that Constitution.
4. Contemporary relationships of state and local government with the federal government, the resolution of conflicts and the establishment of cooperative processes under the constitutions of both the state and nation, and the political processes involved.