CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD

Designation Code: 2003-04  CIC 12
Date Submitted: February 17, 2004

TO: Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: U.S. History and Government (State Code) Requirement

PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate


BACKGROUND INFORMATION: “The CSU requires each graduate to be knowledgeable about the Constitution of the United States, American History and state and local government. The ‘U.S. History, Constitution, and American Ideals Requirement’ is generally known as the American Institutions Requirement. You can complete this requirement either by passing a comprehensive examination or by completing the required courses—generally two.” (Transfer Services page of the California State University Web site) The requirement is also known as the Code or State Code requirement from its origins in the State Education Code.

Since the late 1960s, this campus has required nearly all students who completed the Code requirement to take either two history courses or two political science courses. Almost all other CSU campuses permit students to fulfill the requirement with one course from each of two departments— as do most community colleges. The proposed revision, the first in about 35 years, aligns our campus with the practice elsewhere and thus facilitates transfer. It also provides more flexibility for all students in completing the requirement.

Note: The Code Requirement at CSUH is not part of the General Education Program.

This document was approved by the Departments of History and Political Science on January 5, 2004; the ALSS Curriculum Committee on February 6, 2004; and the Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC) at its regular meeting on February 16, 2004; in all cases without controversy. The vote in CIC was 8-0-1.