



# General Education Update

Fall Convocation --- August 14, 2019

Kaisa E. Young

General Education Coordinator, Associate Professor of Physics

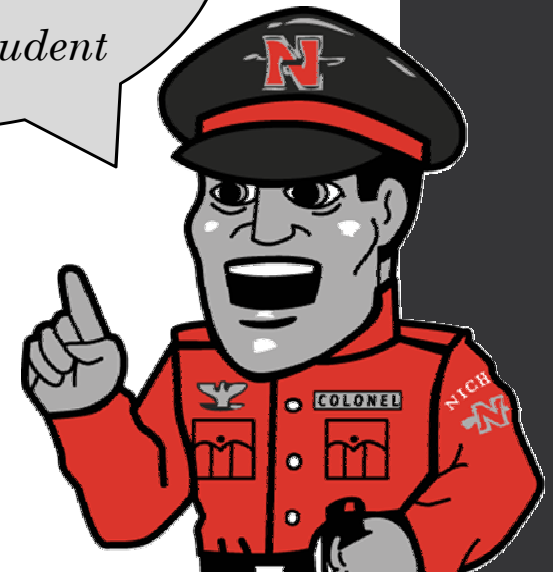
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# General Education is **NOT**...

- A waste of time and money
- Something to get out of the way
- Just for Freshman and Sophomores
- Irrelevant to future careers
- Just for SACSCOC accreditation

“General Education Courses are a complete waste of time and money” – *Nicholls Student*

“Why must we take core classes that have nothing to do with what we want to be in the future?”  
– *Nicholls Student*



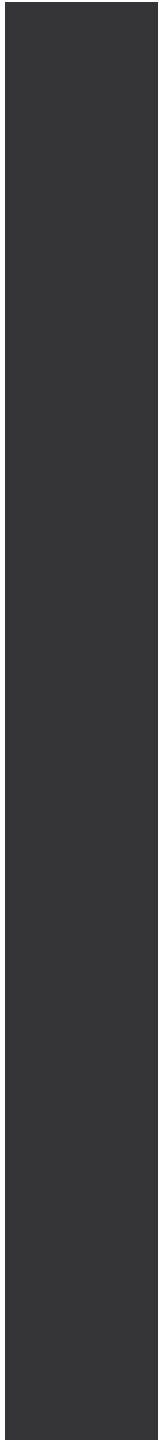
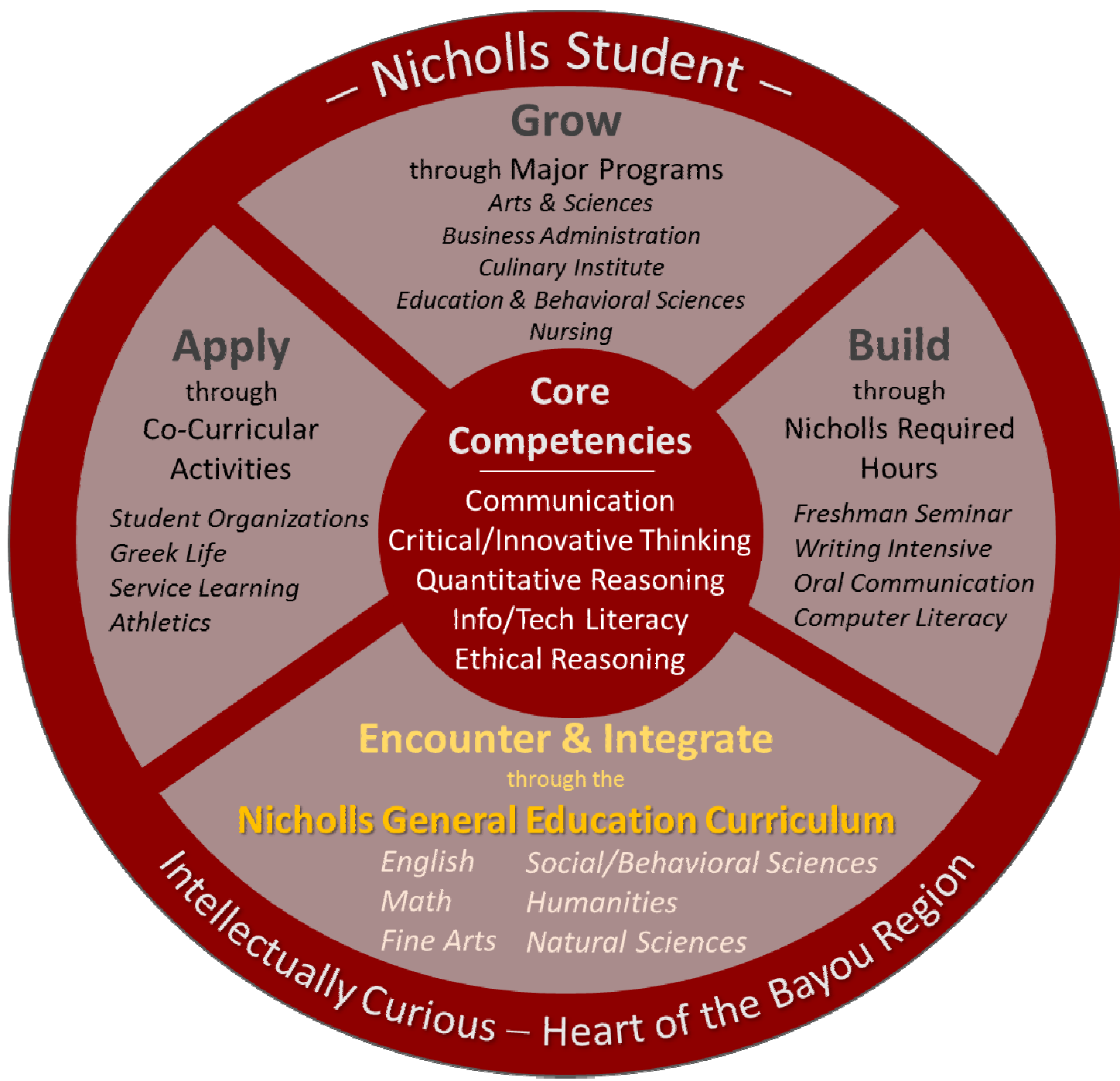
General Education **IS**...



# General Education **IS**...

- For ALL students
- Where connections between disciplines are made
- Where thinking is challenged
- Where intellectual curiosity is piqued
- Where skills are integrated into content





# Gen Ed Renewal Timeline

2018-19

- **Core Competencies:**
  - Draft Student Learning Outcomes & Rubrics

2019-20

- **Structure, Communication, and Pilot:**
  - Develop program structure
  - Provide resources for faculty
  - Re-evaluate core curriculum courses
  - Pilot rubrics in select courses

2020-21

- **Implementation and Feedback:**
  - Roll out new core curriculum and assessment processes
  - Continued improvement based on assessment and feedback

# Core Competency Teams 2018-19

<b><u>Critical and Innovative Thinking</u></b>	
<b>Leader:</b>	Trisha Rabalais (Art)
<b>Members:</b>	Gary LaFleur (Bio)
	Jeremy Bourgeois (Math)
	Adam Beyer (Phy Sci)
	Scott Banville (L&L)
	Sara Shields-Menard (Bio)
<b><u>Ethical Reasoning</u></b>	
<b>Leader:</b>	Betsy St. Pierre (Psync)
<b>Members:</b>	Karla Chandler (Math)
	Fran Moss (Math)
	Melida Jefferson (Soci)
	Onome Ighoavodha (Bus)
	Celeste Smith (Nursing)
<b><u>Information and Technology Literacy</u></b>	
<b>Leader:</b>	Brandy Burbante (Lib)
<b>Members:</b>	Sara Dempster (Ed)
	Mark Love (Lib)
	Cong-Cong Xing (Math)
	Nicole Boudreaux (MACO)
	Terry Evans (Business)

<b><u>Quantitative Reasoning</u></b>	
<b>Leader:</b>	Heather Gamel (Math)
<b>Members:</b>	Xun Li (Business)
	Chrystal Portier (Math)
	Tabitha Tabb (Student)
	Enmin Zou (Bio)
	Christie Landry (Bio)
<b><u>Communication</u></b>	
<b>Leaders:</b>	Todd Kennedy (L&L)
<b>Leader:</b>	Alyson Theriot (Ed)
<b>Members:</b>	Renee Hicks (PIE)
	J Field (Business)
	Erick Pillar (L&L)
	Elka Staley (L&L)
	Aimee Hollander (Bio)
	Gerard White (Allied Health)
	James Stewart (MACO)
	Laura Valenti (Business)
	Elizabeth Batte (Lib)
	Colette Robichaux (Nurs)
	Melanie Collins (AIR)



<b><u>Intellectual Curiosity</u></b>	
<b>Leader:</b>	Allen Alexander (IDST)
<b>Members:</b>	Rusty Thysell (Govt)
	Ethan Adams (Student)
	Sara McCann (AIR)
	Stuart Tully (Hist)
	John Doucet (Dean A&S)
	Ray Giguette (IDST)
	Austin Wendt (Student)

# Critical and Innovative Thinking



## **Definition:**

The process of applying knowledge through inquiry, synthesis, and transformation of concepts into opinions or conclusions.

## **Student Learning Outcome:**

Students will be able to explain how key concepts and terminology have been applied and be able to transform them in an understandable and appropriate manner.

<https://www.nicholls.edu/general-education/new-program/core-competencies/>



# Critical and Innovative Thinking

Element	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Needs Improvement
Explain	Consistent and in depth explanation of field key concepts and terminology.	Some use of key concepts and terminology.	A minimal use of field concepts and terminology.
Apply	Consistent and in depth application of field concepts to a new project in a relevant way.	Some evidence of applying field concepts in a new project in a relevant way.	Little Evidence of applied field concepts are difficult to find.
Transform	Complex, abstract concepts are transformed into clear and concrete deliverables.	Complex, abstract concepts are transformed into understandable and approachable deliverables.	Complex, abstract concepts are unclear and difficult to understand.
Create/ Present	Create an original(?) deliverable that invites interaction and feedback. Key field concepts/context are demonstrated in the deliverable.	Create a deliverable that invites limited interaction and feedback. Some of the key field concepts/context are demonstrated in the deliverable.	Create a deliverable that does not invite constructive interaction or feedback. Key field concepts/context are lacking in the deliverable.

<https://www.nicholls.edu/general-education/new-program/core-competencies/>

# Structure and Curriculum 2019-20

*How does my course fit in?*

<p><b>General Education Program</b> <i>General Education Committee</i> <i>(PPM 1.14.2.4)</i></p>	<p><b>University Required Education</b> Existing Nicholls university requirements that are above the BOR Gen Ed requirements. <i>New Committee (PPM 1.14.2.12)</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● English Composition (6 hours)</li><li>● Math (6 hours)</li><li>● Fine Arts (3 hours)</li><li>● Humanities (9 hours)</li><li>● Social Science (6 hours)</li><li>● Natural Science (9 hours)</li></ul> <p><b>Total: 39 hours</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Writing Intensive Course (3 hours)</li><li>● Oral Communication (3 hours)</li><li>● Computer Literacy (2 hours)</li><li>● Freshman Seminar (1 hour)</li></ul> <p><b>Total: 9 hours</b></p>

# Structure and Curriculum 2019-20

## *How does my course fit in?*

<b>Breadth of Knowledge Disciplines</b>	<b>Assigned Competency</b>	<b>Second Competency (faculty choose one)</b>
6 hrs <i>English Composition</i>	Communication	Info/Tech, Crit/Innov
6 hrs <i>Mathematics</i>	Quant Reas	Comm, Info/Tech, Crit/Innov
3 hrs <i>Fine Arts</i>	Crit/Innov Think	Comm, Info/Tech, Crit/Innov
9 hrs <i>Humanities</i>	Communication	Ethical R, Crit/Innov, or Info/Tech
9 hrs <i>Natural Sciences</i>	Crit/Innov Think	Quant R, Comm, or Info/Tech
6 hrs <i>Social/Behavioral Sciences</i>	Ethical Reas	Comm, Info/Tech, Crit/Inn, or Quant R

\*Note: 2 Competencies (SLOs) per Course. These will replace the 3 - 11 SLOs you currently assess.

# Communication & Resources 2019-20

*What are you talking about?*

- **Faculty Resources**

- Newsletters
- CAFÉ sessions
- Mentors

- **New Program Website**

[www.nicholls.edu/general-education/new-program/](http://www.nicholls.edu/general-education/new-program/)





**Contents**

- Welcome
- New Program
- FAQ
- Core Competencies
- Info and Resources
- What is General Education?
- General Education Goals and Objectives
- Core Curriculum
- General Education Information and Forms for Faculty
- Assessment

**Nicholls**

[Nicholls State University](#)

**Nicholls State University » General Education Program**

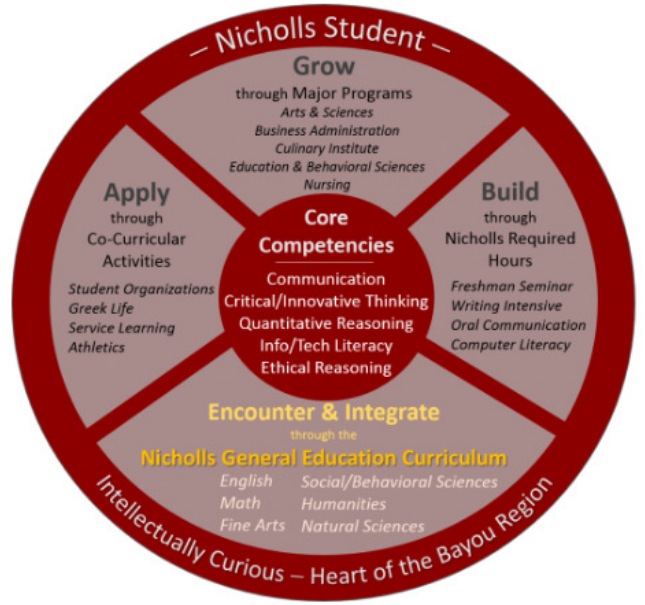
[Office Location](#)

## New Program

The Nicholls State University community is beginning to think about general education in a new way!

As we develop the new program, we will post updates here and invite you to give feedback, comments, and suggestions. Contact General Education Program Coordinator Kaisa Young at [kaisa.young@nicholls.edu](mailto:kaisa.young@nicholls.edu).

- [FAQ](#)
- [Core Competencies](#)
- [Info and Resources](#)





# Communication & Resources 2019-20

*Can I tell you what I think?*

## **Curriculum Review**

Tell us how your course fits.

## **Vetting/Feedback/Pilots**

*We want your ideas!*

## **Contacts**

- Kaisa Young, Gen Ed Coordinator:  
449-7070, 136 Beauregard
- Lori Richard, Gen Ed Assessment  
Coordinator: 448-4825, 253 Elkins
- Your friendly neighborhood Gen Ed  
Committee Member
- AAC&U Institute Team: Renee Hicks,  
Erick Piller, Melinda Jefferson

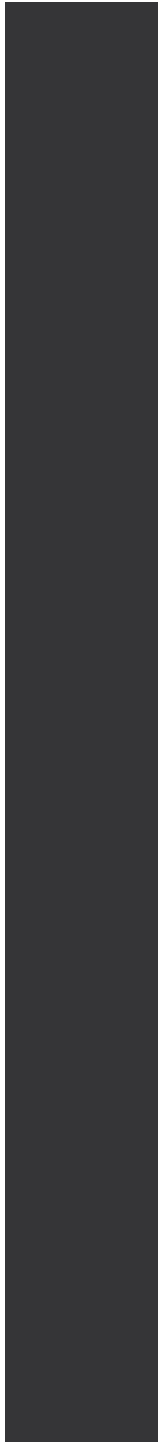
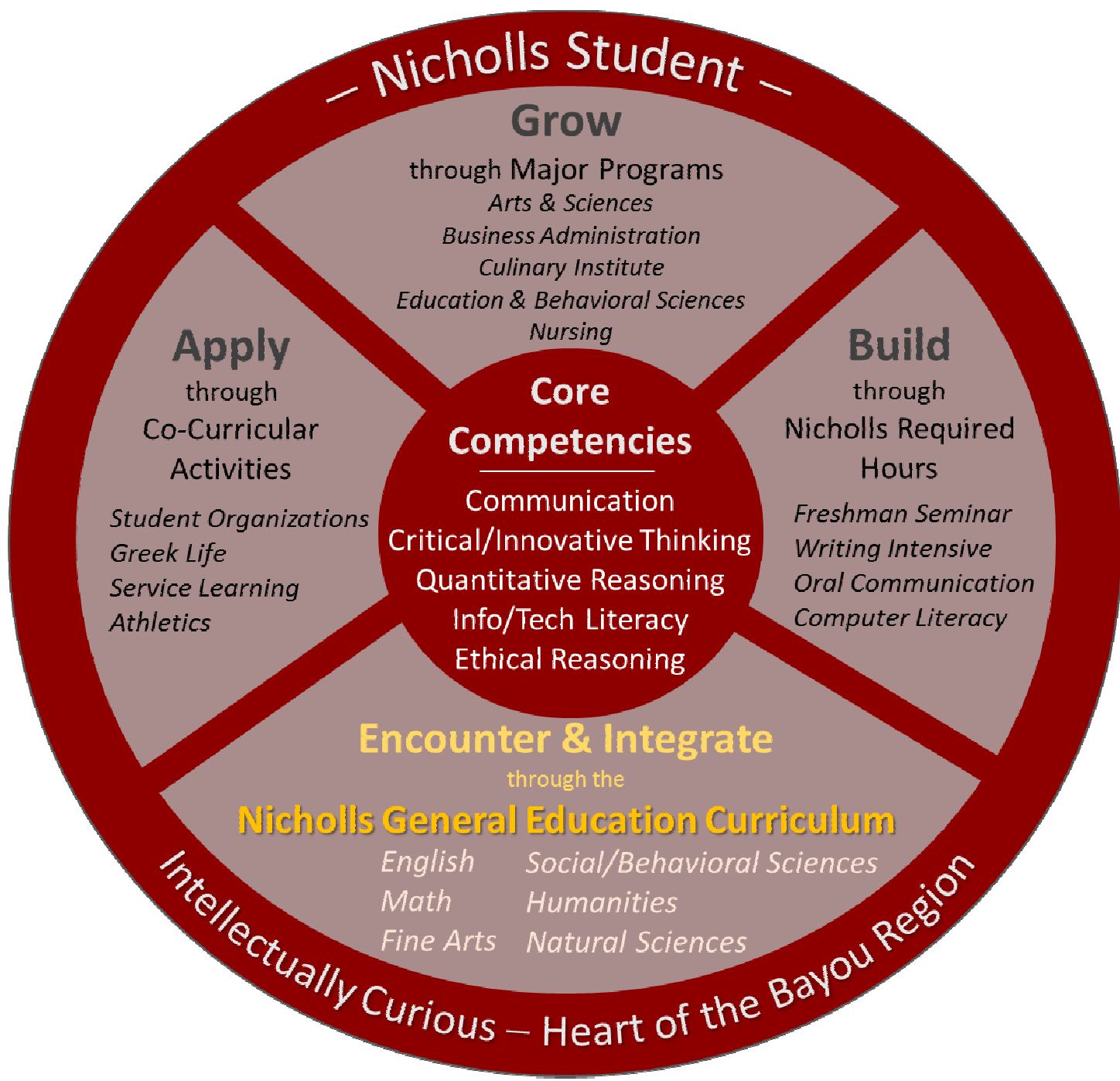


# Implementation 2020-21

*What's Next?*

## 3 Year Assessment Cycle

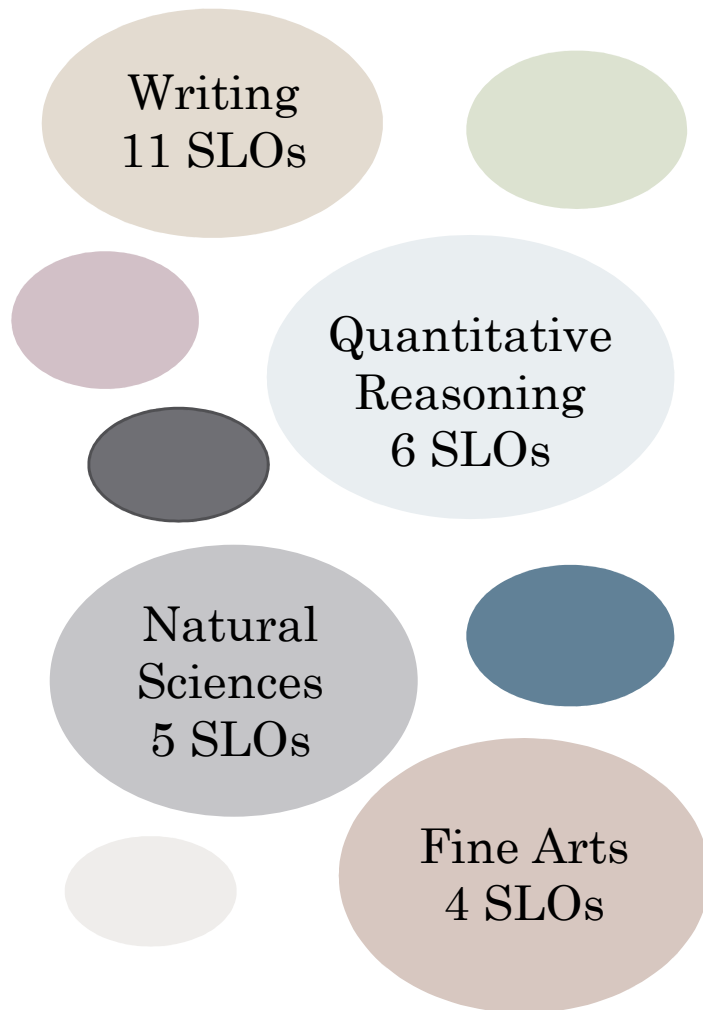
Year	By Competency	By Primary Discipline
2020-21	Communication	English & Humanities
2021-22	Crit. & Innov. Thinking and Ethical Reasoning	Fine Arts , Natural Sci , & Soci/Behav Sci
2022-23	Quant. Reasoning and Info/Tech Lit	Math
2023-24	Communication	English & Humanities





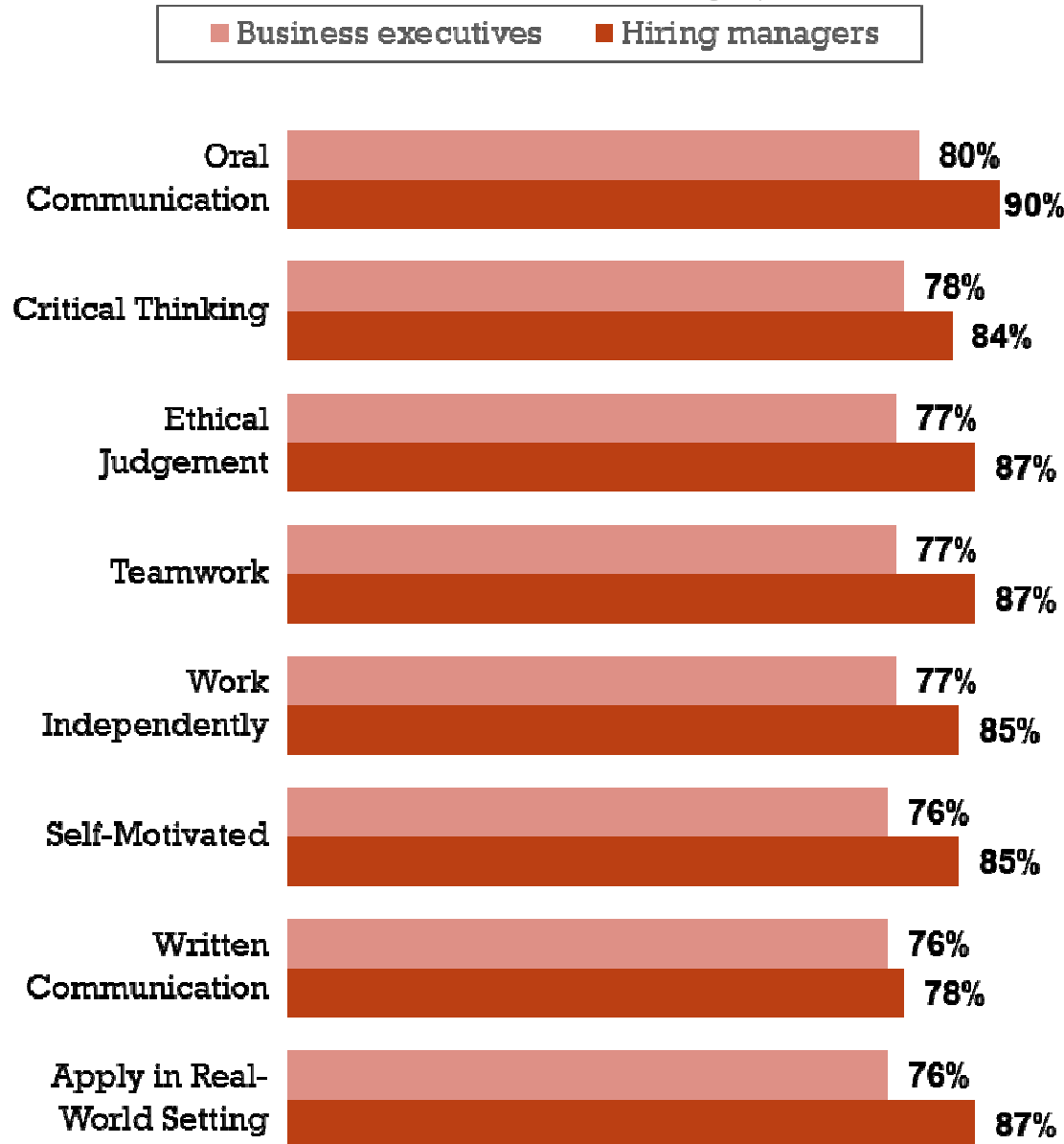
# Current General Education Student Learning Objectives

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- 50 SLOs in 9 different areas
- 3 - 11 SLOs per discipline
- Discipline specific and content focused
- Determine if students meeting objectives in individual courses every 1 - 2 years

# *Very Important Skills for Recent College Graduates We Are Hiring (AAC&U 2018)*



*Most Important Skills/Capabilities for a Nicholls Graduate to be Successful in the Workforce  
Regardless of Major*

