



Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

CHED MEMORANDUM  
No. 04, s. 1997

TO : CHED Regional Directors

SUBJECT : Guidelines for Implementation of CHED Memorandum Order No. 59, 1996 "New General Education Curriculum (GEC)"

DATE : February 18, 1997

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994," and in order to effectively implement CHED Memorandum Order No. 59, s. 1996, all CHED Directors are hereby directed to inform the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to adopt the following guidelines in the implementation of the GEC;

1. HEIs are in the best position to evaluate the importance and relevance of specific subjects to the courses of study of their own students and, therefore have the academic freedom and flexibility to formulate and implement their own curricula, provided that the minimum standards set by CHED are met.
2. For the purpose of these guidelines, there shall be two broad categories of fields of study: a) the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication; and b) fields other than the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication.
3. The minimum number of units required for the GEC will vary according to the category of fields of study.
4. The minimum requirements for the GEC as listed in CMO No. 59, s. 1996 are meant for tertiary courses of study in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication which shall be considered as GEC-A. All students majoring in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication shall follow GEC-A.
5. Students majoring in fields other than the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication need not follow GEC-A but instead may follow another set of minimum requirements known as GEC-B which consists of the following:
  - a) At least 21 units in Humanities, consisting of:
    - English - 6 units
    - Filipino - 6 units
    - Humanities subjects (e.g. Literature, Art, Philosophy) - 9 units

- b) At least 15 units in Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Information Technology, consisting of:

Mathematics - 6 units

Natural Sciences - 6 units

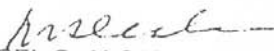
Elective (e.g., Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Technology)  
- 3 units

- d) At least 12 units in Social Sciences, consisting of subjects such as Political Science, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, History, and the like, provided, however, that the following topics are taken up in appropriate subjects: Taxation and Land Reform, Philippine Constitution, Family Planning and Population Education.

- d) One separate subject on Rizal's Life and Works.

6. Because fields other than the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication vary widely from each other, no specific title or content is mandated for any subjects in GEC-B, provided that the particular subjects offered fall within the pertinent discipline or area of knowledge.
7. The choice of whether to use GEC-A or GEC-B for any course of study other than the Humanities, Social Sciences and Communication is left to the discretion of the HEI.
8. The Placement Examination in the English Language referred to in Section B1b of CMO 59 need not be a separate examination. Existing examinations, such as schools entrance examinations and the National Secondary Achievement Test (NSAT), may be used to determine whether students are competent enough in English to handle tertiary-level courses taught in that language. No new examination fees should be required of students taking this placement examination.
9. The intention of the course named "English Plus" is to update the English language skills of students before they are allowed into regular English subjects. The course title "English Plus" need not be used by HEIs that follow a numbering system inconsistent with it.

For immediate dissemination.

  
ANGEL C. ALCALA  
Chairman

**NEW GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM (GEC)**

<b>CMO NO. 59, S. 1996 (GEC-A)</b>		<b>ALTERNATIVE (GEC-B)</b>	
1. Language and Literature	24 units	1. Language and Humanities	21 units
English Filipino Literature	9 units 9 units 6 units	English Filipino Humanities (e.g. Literature, Art, Philosophy)	6 units 6 units 9 units
2. Mathematics and Natural Sciences	15 units	2. Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Information Technology	15 units
Mathematics Natural Sciences Science Elective	6 units 6 units 3 units	Mathematics Natural Sciences Elective (e.g. Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Information Technology)	6 units 6 units 3 units
3. Humanities and Social Sciences	18 units	3. Social Sciences	12 units
Humanities Arts Philosophy Social Sciences Basic Economics (with Taxation & Agrarian Reform) General Psychology Politics and Governance (with Philippine Constitution) Society and Culture (with Family Planning)	6 units   12 units	(Consist of subjects such as Political Science, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, History and the like provided that the following topics are taken up in appropriate subjects: Taxation and Land Reform, Philippine Constitution, Family Planning and Population Education.)	
4. Mandated Subjects  Life and Works of Rizal Philippine History	6 units	4. Life and Works of Rizal	3 units
<b>TOTAL 63 units</b>		<b>TOTAL 51 units</b>	