May 23, 2007

Ms. Jean Avnet Morse  
Executive Director  
Middle States Commission on Higher Education  
3624 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680

Att: Vivian L. Ellis  
Evaluation Services Coordinator

Dear Ms. Avnet Morse:

On April 26 and 27, 2007, the Rio Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico received a follow-up visit regarding the Institution's Progress Report by the MSCHE Evaluation Team. The Team addressed the following specific aspects:

1. Progress made in the implementation of a comprehensive institutional strategic plan which links long range planning to decision making and budgeting processes;
2. Implementation of a written plan for the assessment of institutional effectiveness;
3. Progress made toward the implementation of a new undergraduate curriculum.

The Institution wishes to express to the Evaluation Team its appreciation for their constant willingness to meet with and to listen to different university groups, and to weigh an abundant amount of information in a limited time frame in order to probe into the progress made in Standards 2, 3, 7 and 12 stated in Characteristics of Excellence. We specially appreciate their contribution to the further enhancement of the Campus’ future endeavors through their suggestions regarding each of the four standards mentioned above.

What follows is the institutional response to the Evaluation Team Final Report.

**Standard 2**

We accept the findings for this standard and thank the Evaluation Team for their commendations thereunder.
Standard 3

We accept the findings for this standard and thank the Evaluation Team for their commendations thereunder.

Standard 7

We generally accept the findings for this standard and thank the Evaluation Team for their commendations thereunder. However, we wish to stress that assessment measures already apply to non-academic areas of the institution. Thus, the wording "to increase the number of assessment measures to include non-academic areas of the institution" (Final Report of the Evaluation Team, p. 9) may sound misleading since the fact is that all non-academic areas already have some assessment measures in place.

Standard 12

As to Standard 12, the Institution wishes to expand on several aspects pointed out by the Team in their Summary of Evidence and Findings that will evince significant progress in implementation of the new structure of the bachelor degree and of the general education (GE) component.

The Evaluation Team Report acknowledges that the Progress Report, submitted by the Office of the Dean of Academic Affairs in October 2006, shows that "progress has been made leading to the implementation of the proposed undergraduate curricular revision, which also includes discussions on the revised general education component". However, the report continues to state that: "Despite this, as of this target date, we find that a smaller percentage than anticipated of revised general education courses will be ready for the incoming class in the fall semester." We must state that:

It is a fact that the offerings to fulfill the general education requirements of the incoming class in the fall semester are ready and will be available for all projected 2,600 newly-admitted students in August 2007.

It also bears noting that the work done in the GE component alone does not give the full view of all the progress made in the revised degree as such, as the GE implementation schedule does not run strictly parallel to that of the other components. Substantial progress has been made, also, as to the other components of the degree: the elective-course component and the concentration component.

We offer further details below.
Structure of the General Education Component

The GE component consists of a core of 30 credits to be offered by the College of General Studies, plus the following elements: 3 credits in Art, to be offered by the Colleges of General Studies, Humanities, and Architecture; 6 credits in Literature in any language or comparative literature, to be offered by the Colleges of General Studies and Humanities, and 3 credits in Quantitative Analysis or Logic/ Mathematics, to be offered by the various colleges that already have this type of course in their curriculum, and by the College of General Studies in coordination with the College of Natural Sciences. It is of utmost importance to note that, according to Certification 46, GE courses may be distributed along the four-year bachelor experience. Thus, the art and literature elements of the GE component need not be ready for August 2007, although the College of Humanities will have these courses available for their own students (300-350).

Also, all GE courses must meet requirements set by the general education rubric approved by the Academic Senate, must be evaluated to that end by the interfaculty area committee, and must be certified by the Office of the Academic Dean in coordination with the Implementation Committee.

Given the above structure, we respectfully disagree with the Team's perception that "a smaller percentage than anticipated of revised general education courses will be ready for the incoming class in the fall semester." We instead assert that all GE courses required in the fall for the newly-admitted class in August 2007 are ready and will be offered following their respective program course sequences.

To this end we summarize the actions taken that guarantee full compliance with the GE requirements for the 2007 incoming class.

1. The College of General Studies has completed the revision of 38 courses that can feed the 30-credit general-education core component in the areas of Humanities, Spanish, English, Social Science and Natural Science, which core constitutes more than 70% of the general education courses required in the revised bachelor degree. Included in Appendix 1 is a list of GE courses revised during the 2006-2007 academic year by the corresponding curriculum committees of the College of General Studies, that have already been examined and approved by the Office of the Academic Dean. These courses constitute the GE core-course offerings for the fall semester of 2007 and meet the required general education requirements of the full class. Also included in Appendix 1 is a list of 19 new courses proposed and still undergoing revision.

2. In addition, seven GE courses in the Math/Quantitative area have been recommended to comply with the quantitative general
education requirement for all incoming students in the fall of 2007, except for those admitted to the College of Business Administration (a projected 500-550 students of the 2,600 incoming class) and Social Sciences (350). These Colleges will admit their first class under the revised curriculum in August 2008. See Appendix 2.

3. General Education courses in the areas of Literature and Art are not meant to be offered in the fall semester of 2007, but on the spring semester next year, or at any other time during the 4-year experience. It bears noting that the Art and Literature courses constitute less than 30% of the 42-credit GE component. The revised bachelor degree explicitly states that GE courses are to be distributed along the duration of the full bachelor experience. All must comply with the UPR format for course syllabi established in Certification 130, 1999-2000. Appendix 3

Structure of other components

The Team does not mention in the report the additional advancement in implementation of significant implications concerning the revised structure of the bachelor degree as approved in Certification 46. The new structure, in addition to a revised GE component, requires 18 credits in elective courses and a reduction in the total number of credits for the degree. In light of this, we summarize our major achievements:

1. All students admitted to the College of Humanities in August 2007, (300-350), are projected to receive not only the revised GE component for all incoming students, but also the structurally-modified curriculum of the College of Humanities as approved by the Academic Senate Committee during its last meeting in May 2007. This approved revised structure applies to all newly admitted students in 2007 to the College of Humanities, and includes 18 credits in elective courses, art, literature, and quantitative general education courses, plus a reduction in the total number of credits for the degree.

2. The College of Humanities, as was projected in the Progress Report, also submitted the revision of two of its most popular majors, the Interdisciplinary Studies, and Fine Arts concentrations. The revised curriculum of those two concentrations was also approved by the Academic Senate Committee in May 2007. The newly-admitted students in 2007 to these concentrations are projected to be taking the revised-concentration curriculum, which also includes new areas of emphasis and will afford students greater latitude to choose their concentration courses.

3. In its last meeting in May 2007, the Academic Senate Committee also approved the revised concentration curriculum to comply with Certification 46 for the concentrations of Information and Journalism,
Public Relations and Publicity and Audiovisual Communication, and Biology, Mathematics, Computer Science and Interdisciplinary Studies in Natural Sciences in the School of Communications and College of Natural Science respectively. These programs have a projected newly admitted enrollment of more than 600 students in the fall of 2007.

**Implementation Schedule**

Appendix 4 includes the revision implementation schedule for all faculties and schools. As is explicitly stated the Campus intents to have revised at least 85% to 90% of its programs according to the new structure and general education requirements by August 2008.

We thank you again for your attention to the issues above.

Cordially,

Gladys Escalona de Motta, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Enclosure
APPENDIX 1

General Education (30 credits) by the Faculty of General Studies

A total of 38 registered courses have been reviewed and 19 new courses have been designed. The August 2007 pilot project of the College of General Studies presents a student offering with a wide variety of courses within its corresponding thirty credits. Nevertheless, the offering is continuously being expanded and new courses are being created. The College of General Studies has created nine new courses: one in Art, three in Mathematical Logic Reasoning, and five in Literature. Two Literature courses were revised in the English Department. It is important to reiterate that the College continues to develop new courses and collaborates in intercollegiate projects that establish links with other colleges.

Department of Biological Science
Courses to fulfill the Biological Sciences requirement of General Education

CIBI 3003 Research in Biology for Scientific Literacy Development: Homeostatic Mechanism
This is an alternative course in Biological Sciences that fulfills the natural sciences requirement in General Education. The basis of this course will be the study of the homeostatic process and how it is manifested in human beings and other animals. According to the process selected to be studied during the semester, the following topics of the nature of science are developed: Physiology: its structure and function and the cell. Through study and research in the biological sciences, this course promotes the development of scientific culture in the students who will exercise their capacities to learn disclose knowledge by means of bibliographical research and laboratory experiences. The student's process of critical reasoning is the focus of this educational experience. Through investigation, the student has the opportunity to evaluate socio-historic conditions, besides the theoretical bases of scientific reasoning.

CIBI 3004 Research in Biology for Scientific Literacy Development: Environmental, Evolution and Genetic Issues
This is an alternative course in Biological Sciences that fulfills the natural sciences requirement in General Education. The topics to be developed in this course are: Ecology, Evolution, Reproduction, and Genetics. The main topic of the course could revolve around one of the following topics: biotechnology, environmental problems and conservation, or the relationship of the evolution process in different levels of organization in nature. Through study and research in the biological sciences, this course promotes the development of scientific culture in the students who will exercise their capacities to learn disclose knowledge by means of bibliographical research and laboratory experiences. The student's process of critical reasoning is the focus of this educational experience. Through investigation, the student has the opportunity to evaluate socio-historic conditions, besides the theoretical bases of scientific reasoning.
CIBI 3005 Biological Sciences for Pre-school and Elementary Education Teachers
Increasing and extending the scientific knowledge and literacy in those students that will be teaching elementary school are among the goals of the Biological Science course,

CIBI 3005 This will be achieved through the study of the following topics: the nature of science, characteristics of the living matter, physiology, ecology and evolution. Several teaching-learning strategies are used in order to model the teaching-learning process and so are discussion and the analysis of the topics.

New Courses

CIBI 3XXX Foundations of Biology: Organization and Homeostasis of Organisms
This is an alternative course in Biological Sciences that fulfills the Natural Science requirement in General Education. The goal is to contribute to the integral formation of the student through the study of biological sciences from a multi and interdisciplinary perspective. The methodologies used in this course include: open dialogue, the use of technology, analysis of selected readings, investigation, laboratory experiences and cooperative teaching and learning. The course promotes critical thinking skills that foster in students a better understanding of themselves and the world. The course covers and analyses the following topics: nature and methodology of science, nature of the biological sciences, chemical characteristics of organism, cellular basis of life and homeostasis in organisms.

CIBI 3XXX Foundation of Biology: Interaction and Continuity of Life
This is an alternative course in Biological Sciences that fulfills the Natural Sciences requirement in General Education. The goal is to contribute to the integral formation of the student through the study of biological sciences from a multi and interdisciplinary perspective. The methodologies used in this course include: open dialogue, the use of technology, analysis of selected reading, investigation, laboratory experiences and cooperative teaching and learning. The course promotes critical thinking skills that foster in students a better understanding of themselves and the world. The following topics are discussed and analyzed: ecology, reproduction, genetics and organic evolution.

CIBI 3XXX Ecosystem and Biodiversity
This course in Biological Science is an option to fulfill the natural science requirement in general education. It provides an integral view of nature and the human being. Through the discussion of selected topics, the students are presented with the ecological diversity and richness of species in the environment. Laboratory experiences will help develop student awareness of the sustainable use of natural resources. Teaching strategies incorporate: educational field trips, laboratory and field research activities, oral presentations and analysis of selected articles. Discussion topics include: organization levels of living things, ecology and ecosystems, biogeochemical cycles, biodiversity, speciation mechanisms and environmental problems.
CIBI 4XXX The Biological Sciences Vision and the Scientific Endeavor Through Film
Interdisciplinary course designed as an alternative for the natural science component in
general education of the university bachelor's degree. Through the dialogic method and
laboratory experiences the student will analyze the view of the Biological Science and
the doing of science as presented in commercial movies. The course covers five
themes: (1) Biology, the study of life, a natural science. (2) The organization of life. (3)
The continuity of life and the interaction with its environment, Reproduction, Genetics
and the Nervous System. (4) Evolution, How did we become Homo sapiens? (5)
Ecology, the Biosphere, we are part of a living planet. Each theme will be discussed
using an updated concept that will be analyzed from the popular view presented in the
movies in contrast with the scientific view presented through texts, using an
interdisciplinary approach. The student will be able to critically analyze the way science
is presented to the general public through the movies, allowing him (her) to develop
scientific literacy

Electives courses in Biological Sciences

CIBI 4XXX- Interdisciplinary Themes in Biological Sciences
This elective course discusses topics in Biological Sciences using an interdisciplinary
approach with special emphasis in relevant and controversial aspects that influence our
contemporary society. The topics and number of credits of the course will vary. The
relationship between Biological Sciences and associated technologies will be
emphasized through the discussion and analysis of selected topics, fostering in the
students the undertaking of informed decisions.

CIBI 4XXX Forensic Analysis of DNA
This is an elective interdisciplinary course in Biological Sciences that presents the
student with the scientific and technical aspects that promote and explain the changes
in cultural and social structures. The course uses the dialogic method to discuss and
analyze various themes. It includes workshops in which the student will be in direct
contact with techniques used for DNA identification, including demonstrations and
"hands on" laboratory experiences. The course main topic is the use of DNA analysis for
forensic evaluation and the historical, ethical and legal aspects of these techniques. The
use of DNA forensic methods by molecular anthropologists and their contribution to
several areas of scientific knowledge are also discussed. The course presents an
introduction to the following topics: Forensic Science, Forensic Analysis of DNA and
Molecular Anthropology.

CIBI 4XXX Ecology and Sustainable Urban Planning
This is an elective course with a multi and interdisciplinary perspectives presenting the
student with the interaction between the community of organisms, including human
being, and their environment. The course also presents diverse strategies as possible
solutions to problems that emerge as a consequence of unsustainable use Earth's
natural resources. Through the dialogic method, the students discuss controversies
existing between antagonist sectors of society such as: ecology, urban planning, public
politics and economy. The educational strategies include: computer technology, field
trips, research activities and oral presentations. The topics to be discussed include: Complex levels of Biosphere, Biodiversity, Landscaping Ecology, Design and Sustainable Urban Planning

Department of Physical Sciences
Courses to fulfill the Physical Sciences requirement of General Education

CIFI 3003 Foundations of Great Changes in the Physical Sciences: Copernican and Newtonian Revolution
This course is an option to fulfill the Physical Sciences requirement of the Natural Sciences component of General Studies. It includes the study of the relationship between the concepts of space, time and motion as exemplified in the study of celestial and terrestrial motions from the perspective of the ancient Greek theories of motion up to the modern conceptions of Newtonian mechanics. The emphasis on the social, historical and epistemological aspects in the construction and development of scientific knowledge provide unity to the course. Laboratory experiences are included to illustrate the subject matter.

CIFI 3004 Foundations of Great Changes in the Physical Sciences: Relativity and Quantum Revolution
This course is an option to fulfill the Physical Sciences requirement of the Natural Sciences component of General Studies. It includes the study of the relationship between the concepts of space, time and motion from the perspective of the revolutions in modern physics. There will be a detailed discussion about the transformation of the properties and nature of time and space from Newton to the relativity and quantum mechanics theories. The emphasis on the social, historical and epistemological aspects in the construction and development of scientific knowledge provide unity to the course. Laboratory experiences are included to illustrate the subject matter.

CIFI 3013 Physical Sciences, Technology and Society: Foundations and Interrelations: Science and Computer Science Technology
This course is an alternative to fulfill the physical sciences requirement of the natural sciences component of general studies. It studies physical sciences and technology themes in a three level approximation: the epistemological analysis of science and technology; the historical and social evolution of the themes; and the critical exam of their applications that includes ethical, environmental and social problems. Its content themes are: atomic theory as models of the atom; ionic radiation in its electronic and nuclear forms; and equipment for the measurement, generation and application of the irradiative energy in contextual situations. The course includes laboratory experiences.

CIFI 3014 Physical Sciences, Technology and Society: Foundations and Interrelations: Science and Nuclear Technology
This course is an alternative to fulfill the physical sciences requirement of the natural sciences component of general studies. It studies physical sciences and technology themes in a three level approximation: the epistemological and sociological analysis of
science and technology; the historical and social evolution of the themes; and the critical exam of their applications, that includes ethical, cultural and social problems. Its content themes are: gravitational and electromagnetic properties of matter and its technological products as a foundation of the informatics revolution. The course includes laboratory experiences.

New courses

CIFI 3XXX Foundations and Development in the Physical Sciences: Motion
This course is an alternative to fulfill the physical sciences requirement of the natural sciences component of general studies. The course includes the study of concepts, principles and methodologies used in the construction of knowledge in the physical sciences. Original scientific works are discussed and analyzed looking at the construction, deconstruction and reconstruction of the scientific discourse. Epistemology covers the contents, in which the emphasis is on celestial and terrestrial motions. The course discusses the social-historical context of the formation of scientific knowledge. It includes laboratory experiences.

CIFI 3XXX Foundations and Development in the Physical Sciences: Atomic Theory
This course is an alternative to fulfill the physical sciences requirement of the natural sciences component of general studies. The course includes the study of concepts, principles and methodologies used in the construction of knowledge in the physical sciences. Original scientific works are discussed and analyzed looking at the construction, deconstruction and reconstruction of the scientific discourse. The development of atomic theory is studied and the social-historical context that permeates it is discussed focusing in the central problem that is the explanation of the physical and chemical behavior of matter. It includes laboratory experiences.

Electives courses in Physical Sciences

CIFI 4XXX Comparative Visions of the Origins of Physical Reality, Matter and the Universe
In this elective course we will study the contents and physical foundations that underlie the diverse cosmological visions proposed recently by modern scientists in areas like Cosmology, Evolutionary Biology, and Fundamental Particle Physics. It will include topics like solar system formation, the beginning of life and intelligence in Earth, the fundamental nature of matter, the possibility of other universes or physical dimensions and the relationship between science and religion. This course has been designed with an approach based on presenting current scientific theories and results in the form of "stories" that are attractive and accessible to non-scientists and laymen, letting them participate in state-of-the-art science discussions. It is designed for undergraduate students interested in how science deals with the questions of origins of our universe, planet and species. This course will use frequently technological resources like movies, Internet sites, and animations.

CIFI 4015 Interdisciplinary Themes in Physical Sciences
Elective course of varying topics in which we will approach a particular area of the Physical Sciences that can provide the student opportunities to build conceptual bridges
in an interdisciplinary manner with different academic fields that will promote the
development of skills for research, analysis, bibliographic searching, critical discussion,
and use of evidence in backing up logical arguments. It is designed for undergraduate
students interested in the relationships between science, humanities, and the modern
technological society we live in. The student will learn about a specific content matter of
contemporary relevance and emphasis will be put in how to connect and compare this
content with other academic disciplines that can impact and could be impacted by the
topics under study, particularly with regard of the more important areas of knowledge
such as Humanities, Social and Natural Sciences and associated technologies. Student
may repeat the course with different topic.

**Department of Humanities**

**Courses to fulfill the Humanities requirement of General Education**

HUMA 3101 Introduction to the Western Culture I
Critical reflection in the most important foundational aspects of western culture from the
perspective of diverse humanistic disciplines such as art, history, literature, philosophy
and religious thought, through the analysis of the most significant works and original
texts, with a particular emphasis on Ancient Greece and it's relationship with the
present.

HUMA 3102 Introduction to the Western Culture II
Critical reflection on the most important foundational aspects of western cultural from
the perspective of diverse humanistic disciplines such as art, history, literature,
philosophy and religious thought, through the analysis of the most significant works and
original texts, with a particular emphasis on ancient Rome, the origins of Christianity
and transition from the - Hellenistic era to the middle ages and their relationship with the
present.

HUMA 3113 Reading the Ancient City: the Ancient World
Interdisciplinary course designed as an option to fulfill the Humanities requisite of the
General Education component. The ancient city is studied through readings, audiovisual
resources, discussion, field trips, and research, among other instructional strategies.
The city is examined from different perspectives, starting with the first cities of the
ancient world (Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Indus basin, and Pre-Columbian cities) to the
Greek polis.

HUMA 3114 Reading the Ancient City: the Ancient World and Medieval Ages
Interdisciplinary course designed as an option to fulfill the requisite of the second part of
the requirement of liberal arts of the component of General Education. Speeches and
representations of the ancient and medieval world are studied. The city is examined
from different perspectives through diverse strategies such as the reading and
discussion of texts, the audiovisual resources, field work and investigation exercises.
The geography centers on Rome, Byzantium, and other cities, always in counterpoint
with the city and the diverse aspects of the present time urban experience.
HUMA 3033 Problems and Themes of the Western Civilization I
This interdisciplinary course is an option for fulfilling the Humanities requisite of the General Education component at the Rio Piedras Campus. It examines Western culture through selected themes and problems. The West is presented as a process of creation of cultural meanings conveyed in opposition to non-Western cultures. The analysis will be based on discussion, readings, and research of four concepts: the Western model, memory, progress, and expansionism.

HUMA 3034 Problems and Themes of the Western Civilization II
This interdisciplinary course is an option for fulfilling the Humanities requisite of the General Education component at the Rio Piedras Campus. It examines Western culture through selected themes and problems. The West is presented as a process of creation of cultural meanings conveyed in opposition to non-Western cultures. The analysis will be based on discussion, readings, and research of four concepts: government and governability; globalization; judgments and prejudices; and alienation, life and death.

New Courses

HUMA 3XXX Ancient Hebrew Culture in the Mediterranean Context
This course represents a comprehensive survey of the history of Christianity as it relates to its two cultural backgrounds: the Hebrew and the Greco-Roman. It focuses upon the relationship between the dominant cultures of antiquity and oppressed cultures, stressing the role of the common class and their moral and spiritual needs. It examines the literature, art and archaeological remains of Christian culture and of its environment. This interdisciplinary course allows us to cover a wide field of cultural expressions, such as education, law, philosophy, history, governmental policies, religion, familial relations, and many others. It encompasses the main concepts of the Humanities curriculum and covers from c. 200 BCE to the beginnings of the Middle Ages.

HUMA 3XXX Christianity and the Ancient World
This course represents a detailed examination of Ancient Hebrew Culture in its physical and cultural environment in the Fertile Crescent and the Eastern Mediterranean. From an inter and transdisciplinary perspective the course shall examine the literature, history, ideological framework, intercultural transactions and enduring impact upon Western cultures of this important root of our civilization. The course will use methodologies of literary criticism, of archaeology, of linguistic investigation, and of cultural and religious anthropology. Covering the period from 3000 BCE to 500 CE, it will stress its relationship with other neighbouring cultures, such as that of Mesopotamia, Egypt and the Aegean. It traces the development of Hebrew thought from its origins, through the period of great empires, unto the Hellenistic and Roman periods, and projects a rapid view into the development of Judaism to the present
Department of Social Sciences
Courses to fulfill the Social Sciences requirement of General Education

CISO 3121-3122 Introduction to the Social Sciences I and II

This course is designed as an option to fulfill the Social Science requirement that is part of the general studies component at the Rio Piedras Campus. It introduces students to the basic human problems of contemporary society. Through readings, discussions and lectures, the course focuses on three fundamental objectives: the analysis of the socialization process, or the social incorporation of the individual into his culture; explores the sociohistoric backgrounds and origins of modern western culture, as they relate to the Puerto Rican experience; and it further defines the main political, economic and cultural problems of the contemporary world.

CISO 3121-3122 Introduction to the Social Sciences: Subject, Knowledge, and Society
This course is aimed as a learning experience for freshmen students. It promotes the student's critical reflection in reference to their forms of identity, knowledge, communication and socialization. Considers the constitution of subjectivity and the process of construction of knowledge in relation to social practices, language and power. The course examines diverse theoretical debates in the Social Sciences, in their relations to everyday life. It is part of the general studies component; as it pertains to the genesis and outcomes of knowledge, and examines its basic or fundamental problems in the human sciences. It is interdisciplinary, as it promotes the discussion of disciplinary limits as historical and ideological expressions, not inherent to the process of knowledge, while integrating a comprehensive and complex perspective of social phenomena.

Department of Spanish
Courses to fulfill the Spanish requirement of General Education

ESPA 3101 Basic Spanish I
This course strengthens the comprehension and expression skills, in writing as well as in oral expression, through the practical and theoretical analysis of language and discourse in its communicative and aesthetics components. It begins with the study of literary texts by Spanish, Spanish American and Caribbean writers. The interdisciplinary analysis of literature and other aesthetic manifestations promotes knowledge integration. This course fulfills the General Education requirement for undergraduate students.

ESPA 3102 Basic Spanish II
This course strengthens the comprehension and expression skills, in writing as well as in oral expression, through the practical and theoretical analysis of language and discourse in its communicative and aesthetics components. It continues literary text analysis as well as the analysis of other discourses such as narrative, lyric and dramatic. This course fulfills the General Education requirement of undergraduate students.
ESPA 3001 - Intermediate Spanish I
This course is designed to help the student enrich and improve his knowledge of the Spanish language. Chosen selection of literary of best Spanish, Latin American and Puerto Rican authors and studied in detail. The student will learn the essential elements of the various literary genres, and others discourses, as well as their differences. This course fulfills the General Education requirement for undergraduate students.

ESPA 3002 Intermediate Spanish II
This course is designed to help the student enrich and improve his knowledge of the Spanish language. Chosen selection of literary of best Spanish, Latin American and Puerto Rican authors and studied in detail. The student will learn the essential elements of the various literary genres, and others discourses, as well as their differences. This course fulfills the General Education requirement for undergraduate students.

ESPA 3003 Language, Discourse and Practice I
This course is designed for the student who, in the collage entrance examination shows that his knowledge of the Spanish language is rather scanty and limited. It consists of lectures, analysis of texts’ content, interpretative analyses of literary works, as well as the application of fundamental linguistic principles that will help develop better use of functional Spanish. This course fulfills the General Education requirement for undergraduate students.

ESPA 3004 Language, Discourse and Practice II
This course is designed for the student who, in the collage entrance examination shows that his knowledge of the Spanish language is rather scanty and limited. It consists of lectures, analysis of texts’ content, interpretative analyses of literary works, as well as the application of fundamental linguistic principles that will help develop better use of functional Spanish. This course fulfills the General Education requirement for undergraduate students.

ESPA 3111 - Honor Spanish I
This course is offered to the student who shows excellent in his linguistics and literary skills. It follows the same general plan of the basic course in a more intensive and thorough application. The students will learn research techniques and will write term papers as a requirement of the course.

ESPA 3112 Honor Spanish II
This course is offered to the student who shows excellent in his linguistics and literary skills. It follows the same general plan of the basic course in a more intensive and thorough application. The students will learn research techniques and will write term papers as a requirement of the course.
**Department of English**  
**Courses to fulfill the English requirement of General Education**

**INGL 3003 Basic Skills in English I**
This is a course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course is designed for students to develop the basic English language skills for understanding academic texts and communicating ideas orally and in writing at an intelligible level. The course provides students with conversational and writing competencies. Using nonfictional selections with an interdisciplinary thematic content as the focus of discussion, oral and critical thinking skills are fostered. Writing reinforces listening, speaking, and reading skills so that students can express ideas through the thoughtful articulation of vocabulary and grammar. A language laboratory using audiovisual materials complements thematic units that further develop communication skills through task-oriented and interactive activities.

**INGL 3004 Basic Skills in English II**
This is a course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course further develops the basic linguistic and critical thinking skills introduced in English 3003. Emphasis is placed on the integration of skills for meaningful communication of ideas around interconnected themes. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are integrated and reinforced through the reading and analysis of short stories. The class discussion of these fictional selections provides the context to develop vocabulary, invite interaction, and engage students in sharing ideas through the writing of essays. Supplementary fictional works and language laboratory activities enrich these thematic units.

**INGL 3101 Basic English I**
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course covers the study of essays as well as other non-fictional readings. It emphasizes an integrated literature approach focused on the study of inter and multidisciplinary content. The course seeks to help students develop their ability to think logically, read actively, and write clearly. Students develop the skills to move from a simple literal understanding of ideas and events toward the more complex intellectual levels of analysis and critical thinking. In addition, the course aims to help students use linguistic and research tools effectively.

**INGL 3102 Basic English II**
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course covers the study of fictional reading with emphasis on the study of short stories. Supplementary readings may include short novels. The course emphasizes an integrated literature approach focused on the study of inter and multidisciplinary content. It continues to develop students' thinking skills from literal and analytical and aims to help students become active readers and strong writers as they become aware of the intimate relationships among thinking, reading, and writing. In addition, the course fosters the progressive
development of the skills needed to effectively use linguistic and research tools and resources such as dictionaries, computer programs, and tutors.

**INGL 3103 Intermediate English I**
This is a course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. INGL 3103 aims to develop students' proficiency in the critical analysis of various literary genres. Specifically, the course focuses on analyzing essays in terms of their content and form. It emphasizes the development of essay writing skills. Research skills are an essential component of this course. Students are guided and strongly encouraged to develop academic skills in English that are necessary for their mental progress and successful performance in college, professional, and personal life. Analytical and interpretive skills in reading and writing are important for students' development as educated adults.

**INGL 3104 Intermediate English II**
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. INGL 3104 aims to further develop students' proficiency in the critical analysis of various literary genres. Specifically, the course focuses on analyzing short stories in terms of their content and form. It continues to emphasize the development of essay writing skills through their responses as critical readers of literary works so that they increase their understanding of literature. Research skills continue to be an essential component of this course with the purpose of achieving alert and critical readers and effective writers, central goals of a good education. Cultural minded discussions among fellow students and the professor is the core of the class and aims to sensitize students to the impact of literature in their lives. INGL 3103 and 3104 encourage students to explore literature, to build on their knowledge and experience, and to think more critically.

**INGL 3123 Computer Assisted Writing I**
This is a course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. English 3123 is an interdisciplinary course at the intermediate level. The course uses general education approaches, literacy and the use of the computer for academic writing. This semester the course gives emphasis to the social and natural sciences. This course guides students to write well-organized, stylistically correct essays and research papers, and is essential for students who plan to pursue graduate studies.

**INGL 3124 Computer Assisted Writing II**
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. English 3124 is an interdisciplinary intermediate level course in which students learn to read, write, reason, and conduct research across the disciplines. The focus of study this semester is the humanities. The course uses the computer as an essential element to facilitate the writing process in all its stages.
INGL 3011 Honors English I
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course consists of the study and analysis of short stories and novels in English, using literary approaches and terminology to allow students to develop a critical understanding of the texts. The students also engage in the historical, social and cultural contexts of fictional works by reading contemporary documents and viewing related films, art and other types of media. Moreover, students develop an appreciation of literature as a result of linking the texts to personal experiences and examining literary devices. Throughout the semester, students improve their speaking and writing skills by reacting to literature in interactive class discussions, exams, and papers and assignments of different types.

INGL 3012 Honors English II
This is an interdisciplinary course that fulfills the English requirement for the general education component of the bachelor's degree. This course consists of the study and analysis of poetry and drama in English, using literary approaches and terminology to allow students to develop a critical understanding of the texts. The students also engage in the historical, social and cultural contexts of poems and plays by reading contemporary documents and viewing related films, art and other types of media. Moreover, students develop an appreciation of literature as a result of linking the texts to personal experiences and examining literary devices. Throughout the semester, students improve their speaking and writing skills by reacting to literature in interactive class discussions, exams, and papers and assignments of different types.

General Education courses of Art (3 crs), Literature (6 crs) and Logical Mathematical Reasoning and/or Quantitative Analysis Courses to fulfill the Art, Literature, and Logical Mathematical Reasoning requirement of General Education

Art Course

Department of Humanities
HUMA 3XXX Looking at Images and Other Artifacts
The course satisfies the three-credit arts requirement within the general education component of the undergraduate curriculum at Rio Piedras Campus. Through an interdisciplinary perspective, the course approaches the arts from the notion that, while living in a culture saturated by images and objects, we are unaware of how they operate, barely conscious of how they enable us to do, see, and think certain things— or prevent us from doing so. Detailed examination of the material qualities of artifacts will allow us to explore how visible things mean and work. This examination enables the object to guide the viewer towards critical, theoretical and historical questions pertinent to its explanation. Reflection and analysis arise from the combination of the observation process with readings from a variety of literary and theoretical sources. The course will also encourage the student to examine his or her own thinking and learning processes.
Literature Courses

Department of Humanities

HUMA 3XXX Transatlantic Literature: from the Conquest to the Baroque
The course entitled Transatlantic Literature: from the Conquest to the Baroque is designed as a general education course to satisfy the literature requirement for undergraduate students at Rio Piedras Campus. It studies the literary representations of the cultural confrontations, exchanges and/or reactions to the Conquest of America, and its aftermaths, written by peoples across the Atlantic. Readings and discussions on literary theory, philosophy, and philosophy will be included. Examples of other cultural and artistic manifestations on the topic, such as films, works of art, pictorial representations, musical compositions, etc. will also be analyzed. This corpus of literary and artistic “texts” will help configure an integrated and critical view of the dynamics of power which compose a lettered cartography of the physical, intellectual and symbolic transatlantic crossings.

HUMA 3XXX Transatlantic Literature: from Illustration to the Present
The course entitled Transatlantic Literature: from Illustration to the Present is designed as a general education course to satisfy the literature requirement for undergraduate students. It studies the literary representations of the cultural confrontations, exchanges and/or reactions that develop on “both sides of the Atlantic”, as a response to the dynamics of colonialism, modernity, identity formations, etc. from the XVIIIth Century (the “Enlightenment”) to the present (globalization). The literary accounts to be read in class will be complemented with readings and discussions on literary and cultural theory, philosophy, and political theory, as needed. Other cultural and artistic manifestations on the topic, such as films, works of art, music, etc. may be analyzed. This corpus of literary and artistic “texts” will help configure a critical view of the dynamics of power which compose a lettered cartography of physical, intellectual and symbolic transatlantic crossings.

Department of Spanish

ESPA 3XXX War in Literature
This course is an option for the literature requirement of the General Studies component. The course War in Literature addresses the theme of war from contemporary and interdisciplinary literary perspectives. Although it analyzes classical texts concerning military conflict (such as the Peloponnesian war), the course focuses on contemporary texts which address the relationship between important conflicts in the twentieth century and their representation in literature. It also analyzes photography/pictographic texts which have influence how people imagine these conflicts and to which many of these literary texts refer. Finally, the course treats themes related to body politics during armed conflict and its representation in literature (torture, rape, execution and kidnapping).
ESPA 3XXX Literature and the City: San Juan, New York
This course is an option for the literature requirement of the General Studies component. The course "Literature and the City: San Juan and New York City", relies on the fields of Literary and Cultural Studies in order to examine the relationship between literature and the city. Its texts come mainly from Latin American and Puerto Rican literature from the second half of the twentieth century. The structure of the course consists of two main units, "The Modern City: San Juan, Puerto Rico" and "The Multicultural City: New York". These units are proceeded by a theoretical unit in which students will reflect upon the city from an interdisciplinary perspective: socio-anthropological, historical and literary perspectives. For each of these units themes and authors are suggested that consider the theoretical as well as the practical aspects of the study of the city. Each unit of the course is accompanied by an extra-curricular activity that adds to the integral experience of the student in the city.

ESPA 3XXX Literature and the City: Gender, Culture, and Space
This course is an option for the Literature requirements of the General Studies component. The course "Literature and the City: 'Genres', 'Cultures' and 'Spaces'" relies on the field of Literary and Cultural Studies in order to examine the relationship between the literature and the city. Its texts come, mainly, from Latin American and Puerto Rican literature of the second half of the twentieth century. Its structure corresponds to the three main units which examine the "Genres", "Cultures" and "Spaces" that have characterized the literature written about the city from the second half of the twentieth century. Each unit is accompanied by extra-curricular activities that enrich the integral experience of the student in the city. Since it constitutes an independent unit, the course "Literature and the City I: San Juan, Puerto Rico and New York" is not required.

Department of English

INGL 3151 Human Condition in Literature: An Interdisciplinary Approach I

English 3151 satisfy the literature requirement of the general education component. Within the framework of selected themes, students in English 3151 critically analyze issues and value conflicts in life from the perspectives of literature and various other disciplines, which may include the social sciences, communications, the natural sciences, the arts, and humanities. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students become aware of the interrelationship of knowledge. Moreover, students learn to evaluate and critically comment—both in writing and oral discussions—on their world, leading to an understanding of themselves and others, while developing their writing and speaking skills by means of short papers, critical reviews, creative tasks, interactive class discussions and presentations.

INGL 3152 Human Condition in Literature II: An Interdisciplinary Approach II
English 3152 satisfy the literature requirement of the General Education component. This course examines selected contemporary topics from the perspectives of literature and other disciplines, such as the social sciences, humanities, communication, the arts,
and the natural sciences. Students explore the construction and integration of knowledge within diverse texts and relate the issues studied to their world. During the course students learn to critically analyze through reading, discussion, and writing. English 3152 also promote the development of technological and research skills through students' involvement in a research project, where they collect, evaluate, and use data from a variety of sources. In addition, students improve their writing and speaking skills by means of short papers, critical reviews, creative tasks, interactive class discussions and presentations.

**Logical Mathematical Reasoning**

**Department of Physical Sciences**

CIFI 3XXX Logical Mathematical Reasoning and Quantitative Analysis
A course designed as an alternative to fulfill the logical-mathematical thinking requirement of General Studies. It considers the importance of rational thinking, logic and mathematics in daily life. It includes basic techniques of logic, mathematics, number theory, and basic ideas in algebra, probability and statistics of widespread use in society. It also promotes the role of quantitative thinking in a complete and interdisciplinary education.

CIFI 3XXX Mathematical reasoning of scientific concepts and solution of problems
An elective course with an analytic focus, designed for the sub graduate students of the Natural Sciences Faculty. It includes the study of the mathematical procedures as a basic instrument in the formulation of models, scientific laws and problem solving in the Natural Sciences. It includes also the mathematical and scientific thinking and its role as in some aspects of the human development. It considers the growth of theoretical and practical models of simple natural phenomena and the construction and interpretation of graphs. It also looks for the promotion of rational and logical thinking skills with a scientific and mathematical focus.

**Bachelor degree in General Education**

ESGE 3XXX Logical Mathematical Reasoning and Quantitative Analysis
A general education course as and alternative to fulfill the requirement of the logical-mathematical reasoning and quantitative analysis component. The course develops logical-mathematical reasoning as well as quantitative analysis, and their relation to other disciplines through the discussion of examples for applications. It addresses aspects of the history and development of mathematics that characterize it as a formal science. It also includes elements of logic, set theory, numerical systems, and mathematics for consumption, probability, and data analysis.
# Quantitative Area Component by the Colleges of Natural Sciences and General Studies

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May 2007

The course analyses how the number concept has developed through the history of mathematics. Though its development the students observe how internal and external forces interrelate with the development of mathematics. Algebraic properties of the integers, the natural numbers and the rational numbers. Ordering of numbers. The number line. Solution of simple equations and inequalities. Measurement and approximation. Divisibility rules. Maximum common divisor and minimum common multiple. Percentages, ratio and proportions. Word problems. Graphs. Correspondences. The real numbers.
MATH 3151. Calculus I. *Four credits. Four hours of lecture and one hour of laboratory per week. Prerequisite: MATH 3018 or MATH 3023-3024.*

Limits and continuity of functions of one variable. Differentiation and its application to optimization. Antiderivatives. The mean value theorem and its corollaries. The definite integral and its applications. The definition and properties of the logarithmic functions using the calculus. Reflect on how the methods of calculus affect the foundations of mathematics knowledge. Examines the contributions of calculus for the understanding of other disciplines. Interrelate knowledge from other disciplines that contribute to the development of calculus.
MATH 3041. Introduction to Mathematics I. *Three credits. Three hours of lecture per week.*

Notions of set theory and logic. Axioms and elementary properties of the real numbers. Linear equations and inequalities. Graphs. Laws of exponents. Introduction to the computer and elementary programming. The course will emphasize an understanding of the methods and philosophy of Mathematics.
MATH 3042. Introduction to Mathematics II. Three credits. Three hours of lecture per week. Prerequisite: MATH 3041

Functions and graphs. Elements of Euclidean geometry. Measures of area and volume. Elements of probability and statistics. The normal distribution. The course will emphasize an understanding of the methods and philosophy of Mathematics.

The nature of modern Mathematics including: the elements of set theory, logic, number systems, some properties of real numbers, probability and statistics. The course will emphasize an understanding of the methods and philosophy of Mathematics.

Prerequisite: MATH 3131

This course studies diverse areas of mathematics, through which is encouraged students’ understanding of diverse perspectives relating to the production, interpretation and application of knowledge in mathematics. The course studies geometry of the Euclidean plane; axioms and primitive concepts, simple geometry proofs, elementary properties of triangles, quadrilaterals and circles, ruler and compass constructions, the Cartesian coordinate system, measures of angles and area. Solid geometry, elementary properties of pyramids, prisms, cylinders, cone and spheres, measures of volume, applications. Statistics: exploratory data analysis, grouped and non-grouped data, measures of central tendency and dispersion, probability, independent and mutually exclusive events, normal distributions and applications.
APPENDIX 3

General Education in Art and Literature by the College of Humanities

Art
MUSI 3145 Introducción al repertorio del arte musical / Introduction to the Repertoire of Musical Arts
TEAT 3025 Apreciación del Teatro / Theater Appreciation
ARTE 3901-3902 Fundamentos de las Artes Visuales I y II
   Fundamentals of Visual Arts I, II.
ARTE 3199 Introducción a las artes visuales / Introduction to Visual Arts

Literature

ESPA 4222 Literatura hispanoamericana II / Spanish American Literature II

LITE 3011-3012 Literatura moderna y contemporánea I y II/
   Modern and Contemporary Literature, I, II
   3051-3052 Literatura clásica / Classical Literature
   3061-3062 Literatura medieval y prerrenacentista /
   Medieval and Prerenaissance Literature
INGL 3001 La literatura inglesa hasta el neoclasicismo /
   British Literature Through Neo-Classicism
   3002 La literatura inglesa desde el romanticismo hasta el presente /
   British Literature from Romanticism to the Present
   3229 La experiencia caribeña en la literatura /
   The Caribbean Experience in Literature
   3285 Literatura puertorriqueña escrita en Estados Unidos /
   Puerto Rican Literature Written in the United States
   4005 La literatura, la oralidad y performance /
   Literature, Orality and Performance
   4009 El Renacimiento en Inglaterra / The Renaissance in England
   4035 Drama británico desde la edad media hasta el siglo dieciocho /
   British Drama from the Middle Ages to the Eighteenth Century
   4048 Leyenda arturiana en ficción y película /
   4056 Temas en la literatura americana / Special Topics in American Literature
   4218 La literatura americana y “The American Dream” /
   American Literature and the American Dream
   4256 Literatura de escritores latinos/as en Estados Unidos /
   US Latino/a Literature
   5035 Viaje de estudios en literatura, comunicación o lingüística /
   Travel for Study in Literature, Communication or Linguistics
College of General Studies

Literature

INGL 3551 La condición humana en la literatura: perspectivas interdisciplinarias I
The Human Condition in Literature: Interdisciplinary Perspective I
3552 La condición humana en la literatura: perspectivas interdisciplinarias II
The Human Condition in Literature: Interdisciplinary Perspective II

College of Architecture

Art
ARQ 3121 Introducción a la arquitectura / Introduction to Architecture
Projected Implementation Schedule

**August 2007**
- 30 credit core General Education courses revised during 2006-2007 following the newly approved Campus GE definition to be offered to all incoming students in fall 2007.
- General Education courses in Logic/Mathematics or Quantitative Analysis available for all incoming students in 2007 except the College of Business and Social Sciences.
- College of Humanities
  - Revised College Core Courses for all incoming students to the College of Humanities
  - General Education courses in Art and Literature for all students admitted to the College of Humanities in fall 2007
  - Revised Concentration in Interdisciplinary Studies
  - Revised Concentration in Fine Arts
- College of Natural Sciences: revised concentrations in
  - Mathematics
  - Biology
  - Computer Science
  - Interdisciplinary Studies in Natural Science
- School of Communications: revised concentrations in
  - Information and Journalism
  - Audiovisual Communication
  - Public Relations and Publicity

**August 2007 on**
- Creation of Arts and Literature GE courses

**January 2008**
- College of Social Sciences: revised concentration in Social Sciences
August 2008

- College of Business, College of Education, Bachelor in General Studies, College of Social Sciences / bachelor revision
- Complete revision of all concentrations in College of Humanities and Natural Sciences.
- School of Architecture / revision already approved by the School in May 2007.