



# UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

## OFFICE OF GENERAL EDUCATION AND DUAL ENROLLMENT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER 2016

### Welcome from the Director

Welcome back to another exciting academic year at UNO. For those who I have not yet had the opportunity to meet, my name is Matt Tracy and I'm the new Director of General Education and Dual Enrollment. I arrived at UNO on June 15<sup>th</sup> from the Air Force Academy in Colorado where I led the Geoscience program and was a member of the faculty. I also served as an active-duty Air Force officer for a little over 20 years. I'm extremely pleased to be joining the amazing group of faculty, staff, and students at UNO. I'm a passionate believer in the transformative power of higher education and I'm honored to be joining the Maverick community! Please don't hesitate to call me, or stop by our new office in Eppley Administration 108 if we can assist you, your students, or your efforts in undergraduate education! Thanks for your support and "Go Mavs"!

Matthew Tracy, Ph.D.

### RECENT ARTICLES ABOUT GEN ED AND DUAL ENROLLMENT

1. GEN ED
  - a. [Meet the parents who won't let their children study literature](#)
  - b. [Four things you should expect to get out of college](#)
2. DUAL ENROLLMENT
  - a. [As dual enrollments swell, so do concerns](#)

### UPCOMING DUAL ENROLLMENT EVENTS

- Oct 1, 2016: Soccer Tailgate Party – Saturday
- Oct 13, 2016: Brownbag to discuss creative approaches for dealing with HLC teacher requirements, Gallery Room, MSBC (1130)
- Dec 4, 2016 and Feb 25, 2017: Basketball Blowouts
- Apr 6, 2017: Calculus: The Musical
- Apr 9, 2017: AP Biology Study Session
- Apr 22, 2017: AP US History Academic Bowl
- Apr 23, 2017: AP Geography Study Session
- Apr 29, 2017: AP World History Bowl

### UPCOMING DUAL ENROLLMENT SCHOOL REGISTRATION VISITS

- Oct 3: Skutt Catholic High School
- Oct 3: Crete High School

### UPCOMING GENERAL EDUCATION EVENTS

- Oct 14, 12:00 – 2:00 PM: [Workshop](#) on Gen Ed Curriculum / Assessment for full-time faculty, Roskens 302
- Oct 20, 4:30 – 6:00 PM, [Workshop](#) on Gen Ed Curriculum / Assessment for adjunct faculty, CPACS 132
- Nov 1, 2016 : Last day to submit proposals for [Gen Ed Assessment grants](#)

### CONTACTS

Director: Matt Tracy, [mtracy@unomaha.edu](mailto:mtracy@unomaha.edu), 554-2184  
Assistant Dir: Kelly Malaone, [malonek@unomaha.edu](mailto:malonek@unomaha.edu), 554-3832  
Office: Eppley Administration 108, Phone: 554-3810

Counselor: Kelli Florell, [kflorell@unomaha.edu](mailto:kflorell@unomaha.edu), 554-2855  
Office Asst: Maureen Rosenkaimer, [mrosenkaimer@unomaha.edu](mailto:mrosenkaimer@unomaha.edu), 4-3810



## 2016-2017 PRIORITIES – ACADEMIC QUALITY AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

In my first several months at UNO I've been amazed by the commitment and excitement of everyone involved in General Education and Dual Enrollment. I've also been encouraged by the focus and attention these programs are receiving by an assortment of stakeholders. Faculty, staff, parents, students, higher education administrators, legislators, regulators, and accreditors, to name just a few, are focused on these programs and how they help educate young men and women who will go on to become the civic and economic drivers in Nebraska and throughout our country. These are important programs for the future of our communities, and it's vital that we continue to collectively focus on academic quality and fostering excellent student experiences. To that end my focus during the next year will be on faculty credentials, academic assessment, and a renewed spirit of engagement between students, faculty, and staff.

### 1. Faculty Credentials

- a. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has clarified their guidelines related to minimum faculty credentials required to teach undergraduate courses. There are explicit "assumed practices" or requirements for faculty teaching General Education and Dual Enrollment courses. The HLC currently identifies multiple pathways under which faculty/instructional personnel can qualify:
  - i. The faculty/instructional personnel in question must have at least a master's degree in the discipline or a relevant related discipline/subfield in which they will teach
  - ii. The faculty/instructional personnel must have at least a master's degree in something else, but have a minimum of 18 graduate credits in the discipline or a relevant related discipline/subfield in which they will teach
  - iii. "Tested experience" that includes a breadth and depth of experience outside the classroom relevant to the discipline in which they will teach. This will only be applicable in very rare and unique cases. It is considered the exception and not the rule.

### 2. Assessment

- a. The General Education Assessment Committee has established a regular cycle of academic assessment for general education courses.
  - i. 2016-2017: General education courses in the [natural science](#) and [social science](#) distribution areas
  - ii. 2017-2018: General education courses in the [humanities](#) distribution area
  - iii. 2018-2019: General education courses in the cultural diversity ([U.S.](#) and [Global](#)) distribution area
- b. [The General Education Assessment Guide](#) provides detailed expectations and instructions for completing your course assessment reports.
- c. Each academic unit at UNO with courses that meet [natural science](#) or [social science](#) requirements will be expected to submit assessment reports for these courses using the appropriate [template](#) by April 21, 2017.

### 3. Engagement

- a. It is important that we collectively work to build a sense of community between the students, faculty, and staff associated with dual enrollment and general education. I hope to work towards seamless integration of our dual enrollment partners in local school districts, while also ensuring our students understand the purpose of their general education curriculum and how each of their courses applies to this important part of their college experience.

## DID YOU KNOW??

1. ***All UNO general education courses, whether offered on-campus or as dual enrollment credit, should clearly list the appropriate general education student learning outcomes in the syllabus.***
2. ***All Dual Enrollment teachers should have a copy of the UNO master syllabus for the courses they teach, and dual coordinators should be able to document this was provided to your teachers.***

## SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITES

- [Office of General Education and Dual Enrollment](#)      - [Dual Enrollment on Twitter](#)      - [Dual Enrollment on Facebook](#)