# University of Colorado Denver Downtown Campus

**Core Curriculum Oversight Committee**

**Knowledge Area Course Approval Form**

Date of Submission: Submitter’s Name:

Discipline Prefix and Course Number (e.g., ANTH 1011):

Course Title:

## Guidelines

In completing this form, please work from the CCOC’s Core learning outcomes that apply to the proposed course’s Knowledge Area, one of these: “Arts General Education Learning Outcomes and Assessment Rubric,” “Behavioral Sciences General Education Learning Outcomes and Assessment Rubric,” “Humanities General Education Learning Outcomes and Assessment Rubric,” “Natural & Physical Sciences General Education Learning Outcomes and Assessment Rubric,” **or** “Social Sciences General Education Learning Outcomes and Assessment Rubric,” found [here](http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/ue/core/Pages/CU-Learning-Outcomes.aspx).

In addition, all approved CU Denver Knowledge Area courses must be submitted to the Colorado Commission for Higher Education (CCHE) for gtPathways review as a statewide, guaranteed-transfer general-education course. Thus the content and competency requirements developed by 2-year and 4-year faculty for the gtPathways program are useful guides in designing courses for the CU Denver Core. Please download and consult the applicable CDHE “[Content Criteria](http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/Transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/content.html)” (Arts and Humanities, Written Communication, Natural and Physical Sciences, and/or Social and Behavioral Sciences) and “[Competency Criteria](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/competency.html)” (Critical Thinking, Mathematics, Reading, Technology and/or Written Communication).

## Course Information

The course syllabus attached to this application must clearly verify that each of the responses below has been satisfied in the course. In addition, all Core-course syllabi should include on the first page a disclosure statement to inform students: “CU Denver Core course applicable toward the [fill in the blank] Core Area,” or something similar.

Please enter your responses in this document underneath each of the following questions.

1. For each of the CCOC learning outcomes for this course’s Knowledge Area in turn (and using the numbering of those), specifically describe how this course will fulfill that criterion, identifying the specific assignment(s), project(s), or activity(ies) through which that learning will be delivered.
2. Specifically describe how this course conveys the definition and relevance of the discipline. The course should provide a clear understanding of the nature of the discipline: its domain, principles, boundaries with other disciplines, and distinct ways of asking questions, organizing information, articulating ideas, and responding to contemporary issues. It should make clear why this Knowledge Area merits being a Core Area requirement for all undergraduates and how it relates to individual students’ lives and the world we live in. If you already have addressed this under a preceding question, simply reference that number(s).
3. Specifically describe how this course conveys the methodology of the discipline. The course should define the kinds of questions the discipline addresses and the fundamental ways in which it develops and approaches these questions. It should provide direct experience with the methods of developing knowledge in this field, that is, entering the world of hands-on investigation (such as laboratory experiments, survey techniques, studio artistry, library research, written analysis, etc.). If you already have addressed this under a preceding question, simply reference that number(s).
4. Specifically describe how this course conveys the historical perspective of the discipline, its historical development, roles in different historical and cultural contexts, and continuing relevance to the contemporary world. If you already have addressed this under a preceding question, simply reference that number(s).
5. Describe how this course will define and teach Critical Thinking, which is required for all CU Denver Core courses and for CCHE gtPathways designation. Reference the Critical Thinking [VALUE Rubric](http://assessment.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/CriticalThinking.pdf) and/or the [gtPathways Competency Criteria](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/Competency/critthinking.pdf) for Critical Thinking. If possible, identify specific assignment(s), project(s), or activity(ies) through which that learning will be delivered. Consider how the teaching and learning of Critical Thinking will be integrated with or serve the teaching/learning of the CCOC and disciplinary learning outcomes.
6. Describe how this course will improve student competency in writing, which is required for all CU Denver Core courses *other than those in Mathematics and in Natural & Physical Sciences*. The CCOC does not prescribe a method for teaching writing, as long as it is more intentional than merely including a writing assignment. The CCOC encourages the use of discipline-appropriate writing methods and styles and the integration of writing into the teaching of the disciplinary content. The CCOC recommends the [Written Communication VALUE Rubric](http://assessment.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/WrittenCommunication.pdf) as a reference (the [gtPathways Competency Criteria for Written Communication](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/Competency/writtencomm.pdf) also may be useful). Describe or attach assignments, projects, rubrics, or feedback processes through which students will learn to be better writers.
7. Referencing the applicable gtPathways [content](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/content.html) and [competency](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/competency.html) criteria documents, if there are any elements listed in those that you have not already covered above, then for each of those specifically describe how this course will fulfill it and deliver that learning.
8. Referencing the CU Denver [syllabus policy](http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/faculty/center-for-faculty-development/resources/Documents/Denver%20Campus%20Syllabus%20Policy%20and%20Template%20%286.16.15%20Revisions%29%5B2%5D.pdf), as well as the [attendance policy](http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/employees/policies/Policies%20Library/1XXX%20Academic%20and%20Faculty%20Affairs/StudentAttendance.pdf), please confirm that you have read these and that your attached syllabus fulfills all requirements and expectations (or explain significant deviations or alternatives).

In addition, all lower-division CU Denver Core courses will be submitted to CCHE for gtPathways review, and this will require preparation of the appropriate [Nomination Forms](http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtPathways/Criteria/competency.html). Consult with the CCOC Chair or the Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Experiences about this *after* the course has received CCOC approval.