

## Summary of Alumni Survey Responses (most frequent response in red)

Agreement with:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
GE program was a valuable part of my education	4% (8)	9% (19)	21% (47)	47% (105)	19% (43)	222
Some of the best classes I took were GE classes	9% (19)	18% (41)	26% (58)	31% (68)	16% (36)	222
GE courses added very little to my education	21% (47)	48% (107)	14% (32)	11% (25)	5% (10)	221
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate performing arts	8% (18)	22% (49)	34% (75)	29% (65)	7% (15)	222
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate literature and ideas	5% (11)	10% (23)	28% (63)	45% (101)	11% (25)	223
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate society and politics	5% (10)	6% (14)	22% (48)	50% (112)	17% (38)	222
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate science and technology	4% (9)	13% (29)	28% (62)	45% (101)	9% (21)	222
GE courses have helped me in my career	8% (18)	19% (42)	26% (58)	35% (78)	11% (25)	221
Important that GE provides broad exposure to a number of fields of study	2% (4)	4% (9)	10% (22)	36% (81)	48% (106)	222
Important that the GE program be structured	1% (3)	6% (14)	14% (31)	45% (100)	34% (75)	223
The GE program was well-organized and easy to navigate	4% (8)	9% (21)	26% (57)	45% (101)	16% (36)	223

Response (1 = Strongly disagree, 5=Strongly agree)	Average Rating	% Agree/ Strongly Agree
GE program was valuable part of my education	3.7	67
Some of the best classes I took were GE classes	3.3	47
GE courses added very little to my education	2.3	16
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate performing arts	3.0	36
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate literature and ideas	3.5	57
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate society and politics	3.7	68
GE courses helped me to understand and appreciate science and technology	3.4	55
GE courses have helped me in my career	3.2	47
Important that GE provides broad exposure to a number of fields of study	4.2	84
Important that the GE program be structured	4.0	78
The GE program was well-organized and easy to navigate	3.6	61

## Summary of Written Comments on Alumni Surveys

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Frequency*</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Generally negative on GE	10	7
Reduce GE units	5	3
Negative on Upper Division Themes	7	5
Negative on Pedagogy/Profs	6	4
GE repeats High School	5	3
Generally positive on GE	28	19
GE important for Breadth	13	9
GE important for Major Exploration	15	10
GE important to Educate for citizenship	3	2
Positive on Upper Div Themes	8	6
Positive on Pedagogy/profs	2	1
Positive on CourseLINK	3	2
Increase Choice	9	6
Increase availability	1	1
Integrate with major	5	3
Increase cult diversity	1	1
Improve Advising	6	4
Increase practical focus	2	1
Increase Structure/coherence	2	1
Increase GE	1	1
Other: No foreign language, Increase writing; Increase sustainability, Increase rigor, Increase Critical Thinking, decrease science/math, Increase RELS, Social science, Cut Area E, Increase science, labs, Cut Area E, Increase economics, Increase science, stats, Critical Thinking; Increase current world issues, sustainability, foreign language, Increase world history, UDT--> Minor	17	11

\* A total of 237 people responded to the Alumni Survey. Of those, 113 provided written comments, some extensive, covering multiple points. A total of 149 comments were recorded.

### Overall Summary of Alumni Survey

The General Education Design Team was gratified by the positive views that CSU, Chico alumni expressed about the GE program in both the quantitative and written

comments. In the quantitative responses, about two-thirds of respondents agreed that GE formed a valuable part of their education at Chico State. The Design Team feels there is much of value in our current GE program, and much to build on in seeking improvements.

As has repeatedly arisen in conversations with current members of the campus community, alumni express a desire for the GE program to expose students to a broad number of fields *while at the same time* providing a structured experience. About 47% of alumni considered their GE classes some of the best classes they took during their college careers. Is this glass half-full or half-empty?

The qualitative results provided more depth for analysis and a bit more critical analysis of the GE curriculum. While alumni clearly appreciated flexibility and being exposed to a wide variety of classes, they also said that they wished that their choices of classes were more aligned with their interests. There were also mixed reviews of the Upper-Division Theme (UDT) with some alumni reporting they learned a lot from the theme courses, but then many critiquing how the UDT is currently constituted. There were also several requests to see more concrete connections between the GE curriculum and their majors. In general, there were many comments that focused on the value of a well-rounded education, but also acknowledgement that such an education should be informed by students' basic needs to be gainfully employed and/or be related to the major. Another theme in the responses was the need for active, engaging pedagogy, which argues for having our best instructors teach GE courses.

