Threads organize the courses offered from the Introduction Level through Mastery. These speak to the Values of GE, and address history, issues and problems relevant to a well-rounded, liberal education in the 21st century.

**Key Points:**

- Ever-changing 1-unit FR and SO seminars emphasize specific faculty expertise and research, connect student to focused disciplinary exploration.
- Senior capstone integrates GE with Major (see [http://www1.indstate.edu/gened/capstonerequirements.htm](http://www1.indstate.edu/gened/capstonerequirements.htm))
- Threads (Sustainability, Internationalization, Technology and Society, etc) create conceptual connections between courses throughout GE. Students have flexibility in choice, however.
- There are key writing/research-intensive courses required at teach level; not all GE courses require X number of words.
- Code Courses are included.

**Introduction: (21 units)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Course Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literacies and Oral Communication</td>
<td>2 semester class (6 units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Long Learning</td>
<td>2 unit lecture + 1 unit freshman seminar (3 units)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Thinking and Action**

CT (2 unit lecture) + Problem-solving/production-focused seminar (3 units)

**Natural Science and Quantitative Reasoning:**

- Physical Universe or Life Forms with Lab (3 units)
- Physical Universe or Life Forms without Lab (3 units)
- Quantitative reasoning (3 units)

**Practice and Integration: (18 units)**

Areas C, D

Students must take at least 3 courses from one thread, and 1 writing-intensive course as an intermediate synthesis. United States and the World History, Constitution, and American Ideals, conceptually fit the threads and count toward GE.

**Mastery: (9 units)**

Area B, C, D

Integration of GE and the Major: A capstone GE writing intensive seminar that is research/activity/production-oriented and requires student synthesis of the 2 other upper division GE courses and the major. Some major capstones may count to fulfill this requirement if they fit GE values.

**Considerations for Chico Commons #6**
- **Integration**—
  1) content and skills are integrated into a conceptual whole.
  2) Connections are emphasized across traditional areas.
  3) Core areas and research, teamwork, production/service, intercultural activity are present at every level.
  4) Every major/program is involved, from the freshman-seminars, which offer a focused introduction to specific issues/research in different fields to the senior capstone.

- **Demonstrated Development**—GE develops from introduction to practice to mastery with learning outcomes appropriate to each with a demonstration of mastery through culminating activity. Students don’t “get GE out of the way,” but it is woven through the university career.

- **Coherence with Exploration**—GE allows students to both focus (through choice) on specific interconnected threads, but at the same time explore new areas.

- **Consistency**—The requirements/courses are limited and well-integrated, so that the experience is required for all without a large percentage of exceptions, and students can get needed courses.

- **Flexibility** to accommodate change and encourage constant experimentation is built into the model. However, the number of possible courses is limited to provide continued breadth and coherence.

**Goal:** Students consciously map their GE experience, its relation to their major, and reflect on its role in their education both in terms of skills and content.