

# Summary of Student Focus Group in Response to GE Campus Forum

Student Veterans, September 18, 2019

Summary verified by student participant Theo Lewis-Lawrence (Philosophy)

Student majors represented:

Computer Science	Philosophy
International Relations	Psychology and Sociology
Kinesiology	Communication Sciences and Disorders

Overall thoughts about Pathway/GE Minor Names:

- Unanimous preference to avoid overtly political names, especially Social Justice and Climate Crisis, words that “have been weaponized.” A majority included the word “global” in this list of controversial names (“globalist”).
- Unanimous belief that courses have to be appropriate and relevant to the Pathway name, especially for “skills” Pathway names (e.g. Data Analytics needs specific courses).
- Preference for skills-based names, possibly including both Research Methods and Data Analytics, but if only one then Research Methods (or Applied Research)
- A majority believe that names need to be honest: Great Books and Ideas as “Great Works in Western Ideology”
- A majority believed that “buzzwords,” in general, should be avoided.
- Against names that “sound good” but may not work in practice (Transformational Leadership).

Preference for Pathway/GE Minor Names from Campus Forum:

Cultural Studies	Health and Wellness
Ethics, Justice, and Policy (renamed as Communal Ethics)	International Studies
Data Analytics (if courses are appropriate)	Research Methods (or Applied Research)
	Science and Technology (not Values)

Preference for Pathway Combinations from GE Forum (against other combinations):

FOOD and HW (unanimous)

INT and GDS (unanimous, renamed as International Studies)

GDS and SUST (renamed with words “International” and “Sustainability”)

Dislike of Pathway/GE Minor Names from Campus Forum:

The Arts and Social Change	Inclusive Practices	Transformational Leadership
California Studies	Intersectionalities	
Curiosity and Innovation	Research, Inquiry, and Data	
Design Thinking	Analytics	
Global [anything]	Social Justice	