



Rule 6A-14.0303 and Regulation 8.005 General Education Course Options

February 13, 2024

2:00-3:00 p.m., EST



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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Background

- Senate Bill 266 (2023) modified Section (s.) 1007.25, and created s. 1007.55, Florida Statutes (F.S.), to require revisions to the general education core course options based on new principles for general education and standards for each of the five subject discipline areas (Communication, Humanities, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences).
- Section 1007.55, F.S., also establishes a process for an annual review by each institution's board of trustees of all general education courses offered by the institution, with a subsequent submission to the State Board of Education (SBOE) or Board of Governors (BOG), as applicable, for approval.

Background

- In accordance with the new requirements, faculty committees were convened in fall of 2023 to make course and course description recommendations for general education core courses that students may take to meet each subject discipline requirement for an associate or baccalaureate degree.
- The course recommendations were reviewed by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) and submitted to the SBOE and BOG for approval at their respective January 2024 meetings.

Overview

- On January 17, 2024, the SBOE approved revisions to Rule 6A-14.0303, F.A.C., General Education Course Options, and on January 24, 2024, the BOG approved revisions to Regulation 8.005.
- The amended rule and regulation codify the list of general education core course options for students beginning in the fall of 2024. They also set forth requirements for all general education courses and institutional requirements for reporting general education course offerings.
- Changes to general education **core** go into effect **Fall of 2024**.
- Changes to **institution general education** go into effect **Fall of 2025**.

Overview

- The Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS) has been updated with revised course descriptions for each general education core course, which institutions must follow for each general education core course that they offer.
- Faculty committees appointed by the SBOE and BOG will meet every four years to review and recommend to the ACC, the SBOE and BOG changes to the core course options.

Section 1007.25(3)(c), F.S.

The statute establishes principles and standards for the content and identification of courses as general education core, which include the following:

“General education core courses may not distort significant historical events or include a curriculum that teaches identity politics, violates s. 1000.05, or is based on theories that systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities.”

Section 1007.25(3)(d), F.S.

General education core courses must meet the following standards:

1. Communication courses must afford students the ability to communicate effectively, including the ability to write clearly and engage in public speaking.
2. Humanities courses must afford students the ability to think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned with human culture, especially literature, history, art, music, and philosophy, and must include selections from the Western canon.
3. Social science courses must afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political, and economic issues.
4. Natural science courses must afford students the ability to critically examine and evaluate the principles of the scientific method, model construction, and use the scientific method to explain natural experiences and phenomena.
5. Mathematics courses must afford students a mastery of foundational mathematical and computation models and methods by applying such models and methods in problem solving.

Section 1007.55(1), F.S.

“The Legislature finds it necessary to ensure that every undergraduate student of a Florida public postsecondary educational institution graduates as an informed citizen through participation in rigorous general education courses that promote and preserve the constitutional republic through traditional, historically accurate, and high-quality coursework. General education courses should provide broad foundational knowledge to help students develop intellectual skills and habits that enable them to become more effective and lifelong learners. Courses with a curriculum based on unproven, speculative, or exploratory content are best suited as elective or specific program prerequisite credit, not general education credit.”

Section 1007.55(1), F.S.

“General education courses must:

- a) Meet the course standards as provided in s. [1007.25](#); and
- b) Whenever applicable, provide instruction on the historical background and philosophical foundation of Western civilization and this nation’s historical documents, such as the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments, and the Federalist Papers.”

Section 1007.55(2), F.S.

“Public postsecondary educational institution boards of trustees and presidents are responsible for annually reviewing and approving, at a public meeting, general education course requirements, as authorized and approved in accordance with ss. [1007.24](#) and [1007.25](#) and this section, at their respective institutions.”

Section 1007.55(4), F.S.

“In performing its duties under ss. [1007.24](#) and [1007.25](#), by December 1, 2024, and each December 1 thereafter, the Articulation Coordinating Committee shall submit to the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors courses that have been approved by public postsecondary educational institutions as meeting general education requirements.

The SBOE and the BOG must approve or reject the list of general education courses for each Florida College System institution and state university, respectively.”

The listing of general education courses must include:

- the general education distribution area;
- the number of state universities that offer the course and the number of Florida College System institutions that offer the course; and
- the course level.

Revised Rule 6A-14.0303 and Reg 8.005

- Established a definition for general education and implement general education requirements from statute.
- Aligned general education courses to new statutory language.
- Updated the general education core course list.
- Updated other means to meet general education core requirements.
- Established institutional responsibility for updating general education courses and descriptions.
- Established a process for annually reporting institutional general education course offerings.

Revisions to Rule 6A-14.0303 and Reg 8.005

- Changes to the core list are in effect for Fall of 2024.
- For courses newly added to the general education list (AMH x010, GLY x010, and OCE x001), students meet this requirement by successful completion of the course after the start of the Fall of 2024.
- For a course removed from the general education core list (SYG x000), students who successfully complete the course prior to the start of the Fall of 2024 will meet the requirement for core.

Institutional Review of General Education

- Each institution shall annually review all of their general education course offerings to ensure compliance with the general education requirements from ss. 1007.25 and 1007.55, F.S., and Rule 6A-14.0303 and Board of Governors Regulation 8.005.
- Each institution should make arrangements for its board of trustees to approve general education course offerings annually in order to meet the September 1 submission deadline to the ACC.
- To assist each institution, the Office of K-20 Articulation will provide a spreadsheet of each institution's current general education course offerings, which will be used by the institution to officially submit its new general education course list to the ACC.

Institutional Review of General Education

- The spreadsheet will reflect all of the general education course offerings for the institution, both core and non-core, as indicated in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS).
- A sample is provided below.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Institution	Prefix	Level	Course Number	Lab	Course Title	Date of Last Update	Credit	General Ed Core	General Ed Requirements
2	BROWARD COLLEGE	LIT	2	310		LITERATURE OF THE SUPERNATURAL AND SCIENCE FICTION	08/01/2011	3.0		Humanities
3	BROWARD COLLEGE	HBR	2	200		INTERMEDIATE HEBREW I	05/01/1992	4.0		Humanities
4	BROWARD COLLEGE	ZOO	2	010	L	GENERAL ZOOLOGY LABORATORY	08/01/2011	1.0		Natural Science
5	BROWARD COLLEGE	THE	2	300		SURVEY OF DRAMATIC LITERATURE	08/02/2016	3.0		Humanities
6	BROWARD COLLEGE	DEP	2	004		DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	08/02/2016	3.0		Social Sciences
7	BROWARD COLLEGE	SPN	2	200		INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I	05/01/1992	4.0		Humanities
8	BROWARD COLLEGE	BSC	1	005		GENERAL BIOLOGY	08/01/2015	3	Natural Science	Natural Science
9	BROWARD COLLEGE	PEM	1	131		WEIGHT TRAINING	08/01/2011	2.0		Natural Science
10	BROWARD COLLEGE	GER	2	200		INTERMEDIATE GERMAN I	05/01/1992	4.0		Humanities
11	BROWARD COLLEGE	ZOO	2	010		GENERAL ZOOLOGY	08/01/2011	3.0		Natural Science
12	BROWARD COLLEGE	HBR	1	120		BEGINNING HEBREW (MODERN) I	08/18/2021	4.0		Humanities
13	BROWARD COLLEGE	AML	2	600		AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE	08/01/2011	3.0		Humanities
14	BROWARD COLLEGE	GER	1	121		BEGINNING GERMAN 2	08/01/2016	4.0		Humanities
15	BROWARD COLLEGE	REL	2	000		INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION	08/01/2015	3.0		Humanities
16	BROWARD COLLEGE	GER	1	120		BEGINNING GERMAN I	08/01/2011	4.0		Humanities
17	BROWARD COLLEGE	BOT	2	010		GENERAL BOTANY	08/01/2011	3.0		Natural Science
18	BROWARD COLLEGE	MAC	1	147		PRE-CALCULUS ALGEBRA & TRIGONOMETRY	08/01/2011	5.0		Math
19	BROWARD COLLEGE	MAC	1	105		COLLEGE ALGEBRA	08/01/2017	3	Math	Math
20	BROWARD COLLEGE	GEO	2	370		CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES	08/02/2016	3.0		Social Sciences
21	BROWARD COLLEGE	HBR	1	121		BEGINNING HEBREW 2	08/01/2011	4.0		Humanities
22	BROWARD COLLEGE	ENG	2	101		THE FILM AS LITERATURE	08/01/2011	3.0		Humanities
23	BROWARD COLLEGE	MUL	2	010		MUSIC APPRECIATION	08/01/2015	3	Humanities	Humanities
24	BROWARD COLLEGE	BOT	2	010	L	GENERAL BOTANY LAB	08/01/2011	1.0		Natural Science
25	BROWARD COLLEGE	SPN	1	120		BEGINNING SPANISH I	08/02/2007	4.0		Humanities
26	BROWARD COLLEGE	ENL	2	022		BRITISH LITERATURE SINCE 1798	08/01/2011	3.0		Humanities
27	BROWARD COLLEGE	ESC	1	000		EARTH SCIENCE	08/01/2015	3	Natural Science	Natural Science
28	BROWARD COLLEGE	PHY	1	001	L	APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY	08/01/2011	1.0		Natural Science
29	BROWARD COLLEGE	BSC	1	005	L	GENERAL BIOLOGY LABORATORY	08/01/2011	1.0		Natural Science
30	BROWARD COLLEGE	ENL	2	012		BRITISH LITERATURE TO 1798	08/01/2011	3.0		Humanities

Institutional Review of General Education

- After reviewing each current general education course, the institution will indicate in the spreadsheet whether changes were made to the course as shown below.
- After current courses are reviewed, any new courses the institution wishes to add to its general education course list should be recorded in this spreadsheet by adding the new courses to the bottom of the list in the spreadsheet. Please fill out the necessary information for the course as you have entered it in SCNS.

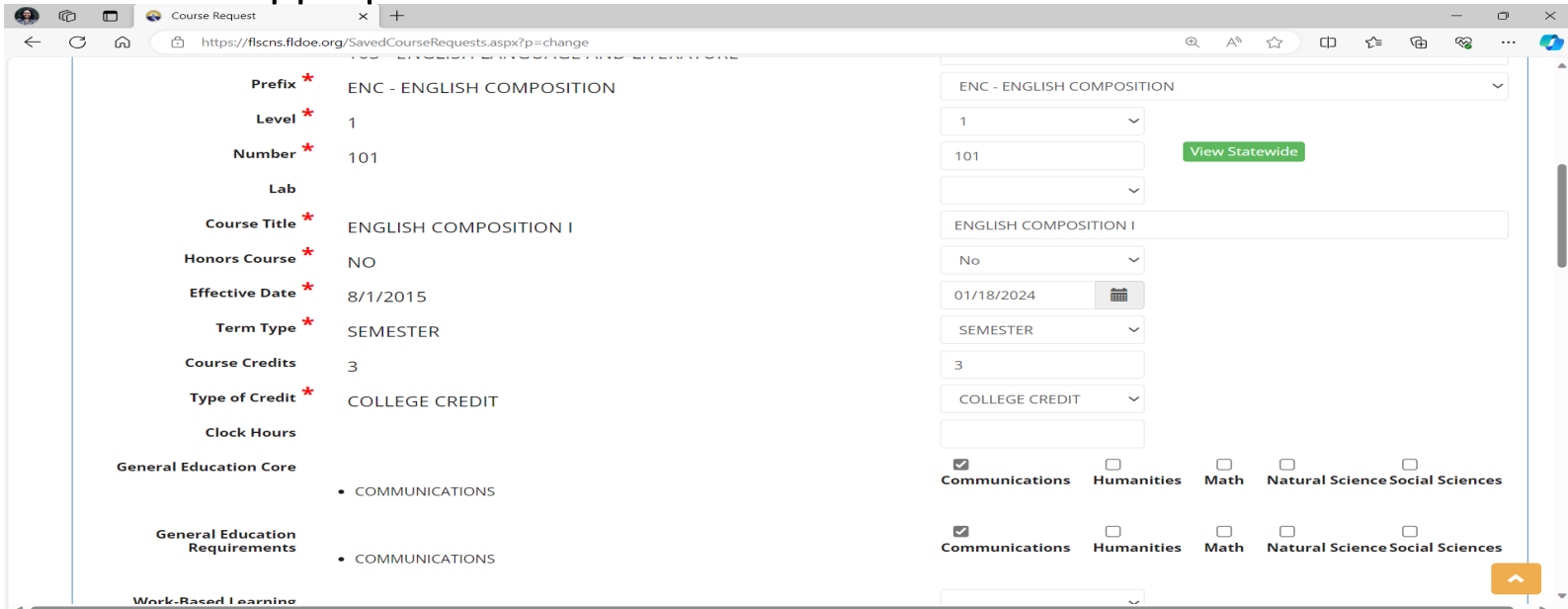
1	Drop-Down Options:		
2	Course Review Status	General Education Updates	Additional Updates
3	Reviewed: No Updates	General Education (Core)	Course Description
148	Reviewed: Updated	General Education (Institution)	Course Level
149	Reviewed: Discontinued Course	Both General Education (Core/Institution)	Discipline/Subject Area
150		Not Applicable	Other Changes
151			Not Applicable
152			
153			
154			
155			
156			
157			
158			

Updates to SCNS

- Once proposed changes to institutional general education are recorded on the spreadsheet, corresponding updates should be made to those courses in SCNS prior to the September 1, 2024, submission date.
- Changes to course offerings within the SCNS are initiated by the Institution Contact (IC) at each participating postsecondary institution. Each IC receives training in how to navigate the SCNS and is assigned login credentials, which allows them to create, change or discontinue courses offered at their institution.
- To find out who the IC contact is at your institution, please contact Articulation@fldoe.org or 850-245-0427.
- Website: <https://flscns.fldoe.org/>

Updates to SCNS

As shown below, information on the left-hand side contains the details of the course as it currently exists in the SCNS. Fields on the right-hand side are where ICs make the required changes to a course. IC's must indicate whether a course is identified as “General Education Core” under state law. “General Education Requirements” are any additional courses offered by the institution to meet general education requirements. To remove a “general education requirements” indicator from a course, one would remove the appropriate checkmark.



The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL <https://flscns.fldoe.org/SavedCourseRequests.aspx?p=change>. The page is divided into two main sections: a left-hand side for course details and a right-hand side for update options.

Course Details (Left Side):

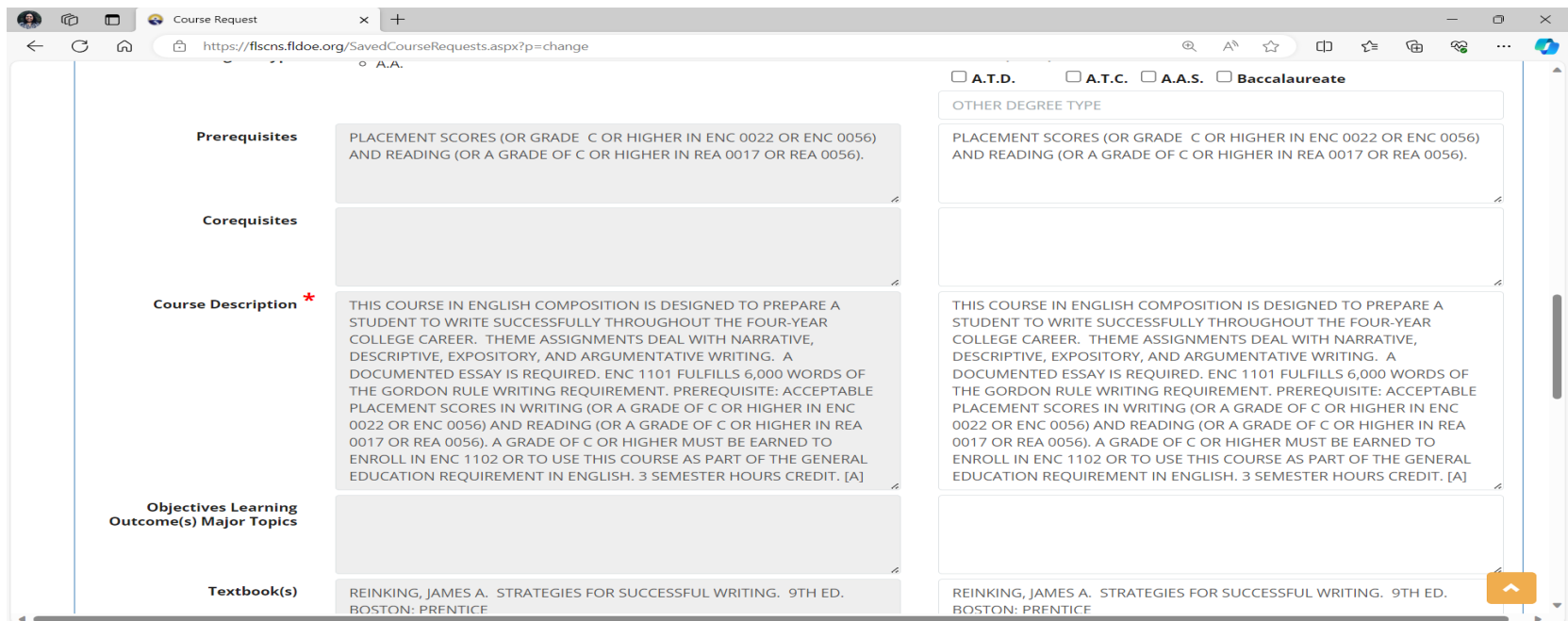
- Prefix ***: ENC - ENGLISH COMPOSITION
- Level ***: 1
- Number ***: 101
- Lab**: (empty)
- Course Title ***: ENGLISH COMPOSITION I
- Honors Course ***: NO
- Effective Date ***: 8/1/2015
- Term Type ***: SEMESTER
- Course Credits**: 3
- Type of Credit ***: COLLEGE CREDIT
- Clock Hours**: (empty)
- General Education Core**:
 - COMMUNICATIONS
- General Education Requirements**:
 - COMMUNICATIONS
- Work-Based Learning**: (empty)

Update Options (Right Side):

- Prefix**: ENC - ENGLISH COMPOSITION
- Level**: 1
- Number**: 101 (with a **View Statewide** button)
- Lab**: (empty)
- Course Title**: ENGLISH COMPOSITION I
- Honors Course**: No
- Effective Date**: 01/18/2024 (with a calendar icon)
- Term Type**: SEMESTER
- Course Credits**: 3
- Type of Credit**: COLLEGE CREDIT
- General Education Core**:
 - Communications
 - Humanities
 - Math
 - Natural Science
 - Social Sciences
- General Education Requirements**:
 - Communications
 - Humanities
 - Math
 - Natural Science
 - Social Sciences

Updates to SCNS

The description, objectives and textbook fields may also need to be updated based on the new principles for general education and standards for each of the five subject areas. If deleting information in any of the optional fields, such as prerequisites or corequisites, replace it with “NONE”.



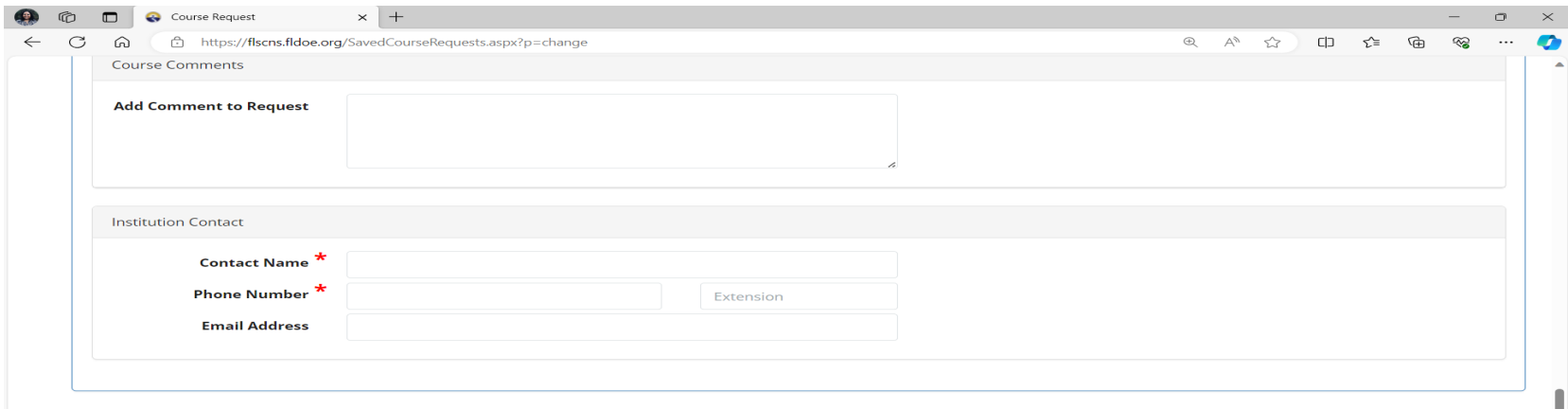
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://flscns.fldoe.org/SavedCourseRequests.aspx?p=change>. The page displays a form for updating course information. The form is divided into several sections:

- Prerequisites:** A text field containing the text: "PLACEMENT SCORES (OR GRADE C OR HIGHER IN ENC 0022 OR ENC 0056) AND READING (OR A GRADE OF C OR HIGHER IN REA 0017 OR REA 0056)."
- Corequisites:** An empty text field.
- Course Description *:** A text field containing the text: "THIS COURSE IN ENGLISH COMPOSITION IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE A STUDENT TO WRITE SUCCESSFULLY THROUGHOUT THE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE CAREER. THEME ASSIGNMENTS DEAL WITH NARRATIVE, DESCRIPTIVE, EXPOSITORY, AND ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING. A DOCUMENTED ESSAY IS REQUIRED. ENC 1101 FULFILLS 6,000 WORDS OF THE GORDON RULE WRITING REQUIREMENT. PREREQUISITE: ACCEPTABLE PLACEMENT SCORES IN WRITING (OR A GRADE OF C OR HIGHER IN ENC 0022 OR ENC 0056) AND READING (OR A GRADE OF C OR HIGHER IN REA 0017 OR REA 0056). A GRADE OF C OR HIGHER MUST BE EARNED TO ENROLL IN ENC 1102 OR TO USE THIS COURSE AS PART OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT IN ENGLISH. 3 SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT. [A]"
- Objectives Learning Outcome(s) Major Topics:** An empty text field.
- Textbook(s):** A text field containing the text: "REINKING, JAMES A. STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESSFUL WRITING. 9TH ED. BOSTON: PRENTICE"

At the top right of the form, there are radio button options for degree types: A.T.D., A.T.C., A.A.S., and Baccalaureate. Below these is a text field labeled "OTHER DEGREE TYPE".

Updates to SCNS

For all course requests, please provide comments on what was updated; this is required for SCNS and institution tracking purposes. Contact information should be provided for the person submitting the change request, which will typically be the institution's assigned IC.

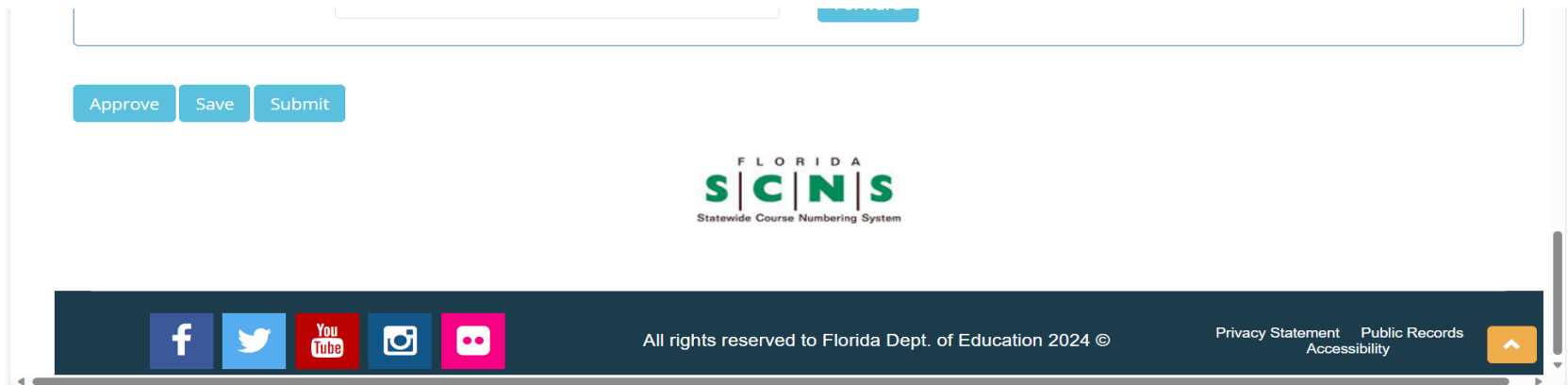


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://fscns.fldoe.org/SavedCourseRequests.aspx?p=change>. The page is titled "Course Request" and contains two main sections:

- Course Comments:** A section with the heading "Add Comment to Request" and a large text input area.
- Institution Contact:** A section with three required fields, each marked with a red asterisk:
 - Contact Name ***: A single text input field.
 - Phone Number ***: Two text input fields, with the second labeled "Extension".
 - Email Address**: A single text input field.

Updates to SCNS

Be sure to click on the “Submit” button when the changes are completed.



The screenshot shows a web interface for updating SCNS. At the top, there is a large empty text input field. Below it, three buttons are visible: "Approve", "Save", and "Submit". In the center, the "FLORIDA SCNS Statewide Course Numbering System" logo is displayed. The footer contains social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and Messenger, along with the text "All rights reserved to Florida Dept. of Education 2024 ©", "Privacy Statement", "Public Records", "Accessibility", and an orange "up" arrow button.

Board of Trustees Approval

- Upon the institution completing its internal review, its list of general education courses should be presented to and approved by its board of trustees.
- Institutions will be provided a certification form which they will submit to the Office of Articulation, along with their completed review spreadsheet.
- The certification form must be signed by the institution President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees as their attestation of the board's approval.

Timeline

- February – Institutions receive general education review list and certification form from the Office of Articulation, along with an instruction document.
- March-August – Institutions will review all general education offerings to ensure compliance with statutory requirements. During their review institutions will complete the review spreadsheet and submit necessary changes to SCNS. Institutions will submit final general education lists to their respective Boards of Trustees for approval.
- By September 1, 2024 – Institutions will submit their completed review spreadsheets and their signed certification form to the Office of Articulation by email to articulation@fldoe.org.
- September to December – Articulation staff in support of the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) will review submissions for compliance with statutory requirements.
- By December 1 – The ACC will submit institution lists to the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors, respectively, for approval.

Next Steps

- Begin review of General Education core offerings at your institutions to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and newly adopted course descriptions. **General education core** courses should be fully compliant for the **Fall of 2024**.
- Begin institutional review process upon receiving your course inventory spreadsheet.
- Review **institutional general education** course offerings to ensure compliance for the **Fall of 2025**.
- Make any necessary updates within the SCNS.
- Complete the course inventory spreadsheet and submit for approval by respective boards of trustees.
- Upon approval, submit the course inventory and signed certification form to the Office of K-20 Articulation



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