SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO BG PERSPECTIVE CURRICULUM
EFFECTIVE FALL 2015

New Learning Outcomes for BG Perspective
In light of the approved curricular changes to the general education program that will be implemented in Fall 2015, the BGP Committee has revised the BGP learning outcomes to make them more measureable and more closely aligned with OTM Guidelines. Having such outcomes in place is essential as the program moves forward with reapproving BGP courses and ultimately implementing a system of continuous assessment.

Elimination of Expanded Perspectives Category
The Expanded Perspectives category has been eliminated from BGP’s course list for Fall 2015. This category is not recognized by the Ohio Transfer Module and therefore cannot be part of our transfer module, and furthermore, the category currently contains a handful of unrelated, disparate courses which, for obvious reasons, cannot share learning outcomes in the same ways in which the other domains share outcomes. Administrators in departments which offer Expanded Perspectives courses were contacted for information about the consequences of eliminating this category; none of those who were contacted raised concerns. With the Expanded Perspectives category eliminated, the departments can submit paperwork to have their course approved to be part of one of the established other domains as appropriate and/or desired.

Dual-Counting of “Cultural Diversity in the U.S.” Requirement will be Permitted
The BGP Committee strongly supports the “Cultural Diversity in the U.S.” requirement as an important and necessary means of helping students achieve BGP and University outcomes. However, the placement of these courses in a separate, stand-alone BGP category that does not align with the OTM is not the most beneficial strategy for students. A more advantageous strategy is allowing the departments that wish to do so, to submit paperwork which will place their cultural diversity courses within the primary domains. The advantage of moving cultural diversity courses into the primary domains is that the placement will then allow students to “dual count,” that is, to fulfill their Cultural Diversity requirement and a primary domain requirement simultaneously.

Cultural Diversity courses offered by departments that do not submit the courses for approval within the primary domains will continue to fulfill BGSU’s Cultural Diversity requirement, but these courses will not contribute to the 36-credit General Education requirement.

Removal of Introductory-level Foreign Languages Courses (1010 and 1020) from Humanities and the Arts—but approval for the courses to fulfill the International Perspectives requirement
The BGP Committee did not set out to specifically consider the placement of the introductory foreign languages courses; however, during the process of revisiting and revising the Humanities and Arts learning outcomes, the group came to the realization that the 1010- and 1020-level foreign languages courses do not meet the learning outcomes established for the domain. Upon further investigation, the committee discovered that the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy states, “To be acceptable [within the Humanities and Arts domain], foreign language courses must devote a majority of the course content to literature and not be grammar and/or skills based.” Some members of the committee subsequently researched the general education lists
for all other Ohio universities and could find no instances of introductory foreign language courses being used to fulfill Humanities and Arts requirements.

The vast majority of our peer Ohio institutions do not award general education credit for these courses, although one of them awards general education credit for such courses within a domain that is similar to BGSU’s International Perspectives. For this reason, and because the BGP Committee wants to support our foreign languages courses as much as possible, the courses will be allowed to fulfill the International Perspectives requirement, although they will be removed from the Humanities and Arts domain.

**RE-APPROVAL PROCESS FOR ALL COURSES IN THE BGP CURRICULUM**

To prepare for the new curriculum, the BGP Committee will initiate a process of re-approval for BGP courses. New criteria for accreditation of the university by the Higher Learning Commission require systematic assessment of student achievement and evaluation of the general education program. However, a systematic review of our general education courses has not taken place in more than ten years.