The goal of the GEAR Program is to provide broad opportunities for development of critical skills, foundational knowledge, and diverse perspectives that are critical to success of students through their educational journey at Humboldt State University and as lifelong learners.

Thirteen GEAR Program Learning Outcomes Organized under Three General Education Goals:

GOAL 1: HSU students will develop foundational intellectual skills in support of their disciplinary and general lifelong learning. This will lead them to the following outcomes:

PLO1a: Demonstrate emergent skills and dispositions necessary for lifelong learning and self-development.

PLO1b: Locate, evaluate, and employ information effectively and ethically for a wide range of purposes.

PLO1c: Critically evaluate issues, ideas, artifacts, and evidence to guide their thinking.

PLO1d: Develop and express ideas effectively in writing.

PLO1e: Effectively communicate orally for informational, persuasive, and expressive purposes.

PLO1f: Demonstrate knowledge of broad college-level quantitative concepts and apply mathematical or statistical methods to describe, analyze, and solve problems in context.

PLO1g: Transform ideas or solutions into new forms through creative expression, innovative thinking, risk taking, or problem solving.

GOAL 2: HSU students will apply Goal 1 skills to develop their understanding of varied ways of knowing. This will lead them to the following three outcomes.

PLO2a: Apply scientific methods and models to draw quantitative and qualitative conclusions about the physical and natural world.

PLO2b: Analyze major literary, philosophical, or artistic works and explain their cultural significance.

PLO2c: Analyze concepts, research methods, and theories pertaining to the study of culture, economics, history, politics, and/or geography.

Goal 3: HSU students will integrate learning to develop local, national, and global citizenship skills in the context of HSU’s curricular commitment to equity and social justice and to sustainability and environmental awareness.

PLO3a: Describe how systems of power and privilege are present, identified, analyzed, and/or resisted in the fields of the social sciences, physical sciences, arts, humanities, and/or history.
PLO3b: Describe how the resilience, sustainability, and conservation of ecological systems is a foundation of the functions of the natural world, societies, and/or economies.

PLO3c: Describe how a resilient future depends on the development of just and equitable societies, economies, environmental protection, and resource management at the local, national, and/or global levels.

Note about Goal 3.
PLO3a aims to align with ILO1. PLO3b aims to align with ILO2. PLO3c is intended to represent the intersection of ILOs 1 and 2, and would be required as an upper division course.
Example Alignment of New PLOs on Existing GEAR Structure

**Area A**
(9 units total)
- A1 Oral Communication (3 units)
- A2 Written Communication (3 units)
- A3 Critical Thinking (3 units)

**Area B**
(12 units total, min 1 UD course)
- B1 Physical Sciences (3 units)
- B2 Life Sciences (3 units)
- B3 Laboratory Activity (LD B1/B2 course)
- B4 Math/QR (3 units)

**Area C**
(12 units total, min 1 UD course)
- C1 Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater
- C2 Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English

**Area D**
(12 units total, min 1 UD course)
- D: Social Sciences (min 3 UD units)

**Area E**
(3 LD unit)
- E: Lifelong Learning & Self-Development (min 3 LD units)

**American Institutions**
(min 6 units)
- US History (min 3 units)
- US & California Government (min 3 units)

**Diversity & Common Ground**
- Domestic (min 3 units)
- Non-Domestic (min 3 units)

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**Note:** This alignment is not complete. Some courses may meet more than one PLO (e.g. courses that double count in Area D and AI, or DCG and Area C or D).

**Next Steps:**
1. Move final GEAR PLOs through Senate approval process. (ASAP)
2. Work with faculty groups from each area to develop pathway for implementation (assessment and course certification process). (Spring 2020)
   a. Develop SLOs
   b. Develop course certification guidelines
3. Begin assessment of SLOs related to Goal 1 PLOs (Fall 2020/Spring 2021)
4. Revisit GEAR PLOs in 2 years.