



Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
**COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

**MEMORANDUM FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

**FOR :** PRESIDENTS/HEADS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGHER  
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs)  
CHEDRO DIRECTORS

**SUBJECT :** CLARIFICATION ON THE STATUS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
AND OTHER MANDATED/LEGISLATED COURSES IN THE NEW  
GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM (G.E.C.)

**DATE :** April 5, 2016

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Per Commission en banc Resolution No. 083-2016 dated February 9, 2016, and CEB Resolution No. 201-2016 dated April 4, 2016 and for the purpose of clarifying the status of the Physical Education (P.E.) and other mandated/legislated courses in the new GEC-CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 20, series of 2013, "General Education Curriculum: Holistic Understandings, Intellectual and Civic Competencies", all concerned are hereby informed of the following:

**1. Physical Education (P.E.) per Republic Act No. 5708 and National Service Training Program (NSTP) per Republic Act No. 9163**

These non-academic courses are not part of the general education curriculum but of the broader higher education curricula. Higher education institutions must comply with the provisions of the abovementioned Republic Acts. Hence, P.E. and NSTP are required to be taken by all students enrolled in the undergraduate degree programs.

**2. Philippine Constitution**

This topic can be integrated in the new G.E. core course, "Readings in Philippine History," which can cover the study of Philippine Constitutions, from the 1899 Malolos Constitution to the 1987 Constitution.

**3. Agrarian/Land Reform**

The topic can be included in the new G.E. core course, "Readings in Philippine History" in the context of discussing Agrarian Reform issues.

**4. Population Education and Family Planning per Republic Act No. 6365 and Presidential Decree No. 79 dated December 8, 1972**

Discussion of population education in the context of Population and Demography can be covered in the new G.E. core course, "The Contemporary World," while the mandated topic on family planning, e.g., methods of family planning (natural and artificial), can be covered in the new G.E. core course, "Understanding the Self". This requirement satisfies the provision of R.A. No. 6365, "An Act Establishing a National Policy on Population, Creating the Commission on Population and for Other Purposes."

**5. Taxation per 1987 Philippine Constitution**

The ethics of taxation, the obligation of citizens to pay taxes, and the state's duty to spend and utilize taxes properly can be covered in the new G.E. course on "Ethics." Also, the discussion of taxation as an instrument of the state can be covered in the new GE core course, "Readings of Philippine History," which deals with the study of the power of taxation as one among the three (3) powers of the state as provided in the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

**6. Climate Change and Environmental Awareness per Republic Act Nos. 9729 and 95121**

The discussion of climate change and environmental awareness, as well as the implementation of the different environmental protection laws, can best be covered in the new G.E. course, "Science, Technology and Society."

Higher education institutions (HEIs) are enjoined to comply with the laws on mandated courses by integrating or incorporating the topics, discussions, contexts, and concepts of the above-mentioned mandated topics in the New General Education Curriculum. These topics are geared toward strengthening citizenship education and compliance with the provisions of various existing laws.

For wide dissemination and compliance.

  
**PATRICIA B. LICUANAN, Ph.D.**  
Chairperson