

## GEC General Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan for AEE 342

GEC Category Level: 2. Breadth: B. Social Science, subcategory (1) Individuals and Groups

Expected Learning Outcomes (ELO):

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they are applied to the study of individuals and groups.
2. Students understand the behavior of individuals, differences and similarities in social and cultural contexts of human existence, and the processes by which groups function.
3. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and group values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

Three primary forms of assessment will be employed to document fulfillment of the GEC Expected Learning Outcomes:

**Peer Reviews** – Multidisciplinary teams of two faculty will be asked to complete a peer review of the AEE 342 course at least every three years. The purpose of the peer review will be to examine the course syllabus, content topics, and course assignments to document alignment with the GEC Expected Learning Outcomes. Sample assignments collected from students will also be reviewed to document fulfillment of the GEC/ELO. Faculty participants in the peer review will be asked to prepare a letter summarizing the results of the peer review process with particular emphasis placed on the assessment of how the AEE 342 course contributes to the fulfillment of the GEC/ELOs.

**Focus Group Interviews** – At least once each year, a group of 5-7 students enrolled in AEE 342 will be asked to participate in a focus group interview. The purpose of the focus group will be to solicit feedback and suggestions from the students with regard to how the AEE 342 course fulfills the GEC Expected Learning Outcomes. Students will be asked to address each of the ELO individually, and to provide advice and recommendations in an effort to strive for continuous improvement in the course. Results of the focus group interviews will be compiled by the instructor and maintained on an annual basis to document subsequent changes as a result of focus group feedback.

**Student Reflections** – Open ended questions will be posed to students at the beginning of each class session (one question per session) asking students to respond to a particular topic related to the previous class session or readings that were assigned. The “Reflections” assignment allows students to devote up to three minutes at the beginning of each class to briefly describe their perception, interpretation, or application of theories or concepts related to the course topics. Reflections topics will focus on each of the three GEC Expected Learning Outcomes at least once each quarter the course is taught. Student responses to the GEC/ELO Reflections will be reviewed and summarized by the course instructor each quarter.