GE CRITERIA APPROVAL FORM

Course Number and Title: CHEM 100. Chemistry and Society

Faculty Member(s) Proposing Course: Philip Hampton, Simone Aloisio

Indicate which of the following categories would be satisfied by this course by marking an “X” on the appropriate lines. Courses may be placed in up to two GE categories as appropriate. Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE courses may be placed in two categories plus the UDIGE category.

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Lab Included? Yes X No

Please provide a brief explanation of how the proposed course meets each of the criteria for the selected General Education categories.

All Category B courses shall:

• Promote the understanding and appreciation of the methodologies of math or science as investigative tools and the limitations of mathematical or scientific endeavors

This course will examine basic chemistry principles. The course will discuss the Scientific Method and how it is applied to Chemistry problems, and the limitations of the Scientific Method. In addition, the strengths and limitations of chemistry methodologies will be examined.

• Present mathematical or scientific knowledge in a historical perspective and the influences of math or science on the development of world civilizations, both past and present

The course will present a historical perspective on the development of the field of chemistry and the impact of these chemical developments on civilization and society will be discussed.

• Apply inductive and deductive reasoning processes and explore fallacies and misconceptions in the mathematical or scientific areas.

The application of deductive and inductive reasoning processes is fundamental to the understanding of general chemistry. Students in the course will be taught how to reason from experimental data to form conclusions regarding chemical concepts. In addition to presenting examples of good reasoning, students will learn to differentiate good reasoning from fallacies, misconceptions and poor reasoning, for example in the alleged “memory properties” of water in high dilutions of homeopathic medicines.

Category B-1 Physical Sciences—Chemistry, Physics, Geology, and Earth Sciences courses shall:

• Present the principles and concepts of the physical sciences and the physical universe.

The course will focus on a discussion of chemistry principles and concepts and their impact on society.