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TO: Academic Affairs Department Chairs
Directors, Undergraduate Programs

FROM: Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement Committee (JTC)
Amy Lerner, Chair

SUBJECT: Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement – Call for Fall 2026 Submissions

DATE: 9.30.2026

Dear Colleagues:

The Academic Senate's Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement Committee (JTC) invites Departments to submit proposals to create a list of courses approved to satisfy the Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement (JTCCER). As established in Senate Regulation 600.H, "A knowledge of climate change is required of all candidates for a Bachelor's degree who begin their studies at UC San Diego in lower-division standing in Fall 2024 or thereafter." The Fall 2026 deadline for submissions is November 9, 2026. Information about submission is below.

CRITERIA
Courses approved to satisfy the JTCCE Requirement must address the following: 30% of the course content should be focused on understanding and addressing climate change and its impacts.

- 30% corresponds to 3 weeks of a 4-unit course that should be dedicated to climate change in the form of lectures, reading, project-based learning activities, and/or case studies. Assignments and grades must also reference climate change content with at least 20% of the grade determined by it.

CURRICULUM CONTENT INTEGRATION
In preparing a proposal for JTCCER status, it is essential to discuss how the proposed course is aligned with the mission and goals of the JTCCE Requirement. The course should have substantial contributions from least two of the four following categories:

1. Scientific Underpinnings
   How does the course provide students with a scientific foundation to understand the mechanisms responsible for climate change and the scope of projected climate change, including knowledge of the magnitude of the impact of human-caused climate change on the planet, the biosphere, or society?
2. Humanistic and Social Dimensions
   How does the course provide knowledge of the historical, cultural, or social causes of climate change? How does the course provide an understanding of the human costs, consequences, and disproportionate impacts of climate change or its basis in human values? Does the course offer context for understanding how addressing the climate crisis requires social, political, or economic transitions and transformations? Does the course engage health, equity, and climate justice issues?

[1]Students that began their studies at UC San Diego prior to Fall 2024, and transfer students, are exempt from this graduation requirement.

3. Climate Solutions
   How does the course provide knowledge of both scientific and non- technical solutions to the crisis? Does the course consider social, cultural, or political adaptations to climate change? Do the solutions discussed include a holistic assessment of political, social, economic, behavioral, or technological approaches? Does the course consider the needs and/or concerns of those experiencing the impact of climate change? Does it put solutions in the context of the scientific underpinnings and/or humanistic or social dimensions of climate change?
4. Project-based Learning about a Climate Change Topic
   How do students have opportunities to gain experience or work on a project that is related to climate change content? For example, a project-based writing assignment, case study, presentation, business plan, community-based project, research experiment, artistic project, interview and oral history, design project, or other, related to a climate change topic.

Please note that it is not uncommon for proposals to be returned with comments, and that approval sometimes requires resubmission to ensure the course meets each specific goal of the JTCCE requirement.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF COURSES
Prior to following the instructions below, submitters should meet with their Department Chair (or equivalent) to ensure they are aware of and approve the proposed course for use as a Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement course. Departments are responsible for ensuring approved courses maintain alignment with the Requirement's criteria for the duration of the JTCCER designation.

Please provide the following *three* items through the JTCCER Response Form:

1. The JTCCER Response form
   a. A pdf of the form questions can be found on the Academic Senate's JTCCER Course Requirement Committee webpage
2. An annotated syllabus with course description, lecture titles (or other thematic organization)
   a. The climate content in the course should be explicit in the syllabus. Additional annotation for the committee may indicate which of the four categories are covered.
   b. This is the primary document by which the proposal will be evaluated
3. Approved or pending CourseLeaf form
   a. For new courses and reactivated course numbers, the Department must also submit the course approval form in CourseLeaf to the Undergraduate Council, who will work with the JTCCE Requirement Committee to approve submitted courses.

If you have questions prior to submitting your JTCCER course proposal, you may view JTC's Notes for Proposers or contact Daniel Carrillo Jr (dcarrillojr@ucsd.edu).