New Mexico Tech General Education Core Curriculum Courses serve two main purposes:

1. Provide introductory foundation in Communications (Area I), Math (Area II), Laboratory Sciences (Area III), Social Sciences (Area IV), and Humanities (Area V) applicable at all NM state institutions of higher education and therefore should/must be transferable among NM state institutions of higher education;
2. Provide introductory foundation for New Mexico Tech students and thus include courses that every NMT student must take in Communications (Area 1), Math (Area 2), Laboratory Sciences (Area 3), Social Sciences (Area 4), and (Area 5) Humanities.

Two Possibilities for Making NMT Compliant with Rule 5 NMAC 55.3:

1. Continue to require the 8 additional Laboratory Sciences credit hours as General Education Core Courses, but allow these to be courses in *any major* that offers a Laboratory Science Lecture with associated Lab.

 This allows all transfer Laboratory Science courses to count for the 8 additional hours

 This allows *all* of NMT’s laboratory science courses (lecture with associate lab) to count for the 8 additional hours.

 This keeps our 26 hours of Laboratory Science requirement for Area 3.

 **All majors with Laboratory Science courses would need to assess those courses as General Education Core Courses as well as assess them as UG Program (Major) requirements.**

 **[Student Learning Coordinators, Department Chairs and I can work to make this a viable process.]**

1. Move this requirement out of the General Education Core Requirements and allow each department to require these 8 credit hours in the manner that best serves their majors and their department mission.

 As most Majors are using these courses are Major requirements, this would not affect them at all, EXCEPT that they would NOT be required to assess these courses as Gen. Ed. Core.

 NMT’s General Education Core Requirement for Area 3 would be changed to 18 hours (rather than 26 hours).

Note about Re-Accreditation Process:

\*Why we are doing what we are doing [why do our Programs require the courses that are required?]

\*Is what we are doing working?

 Are students learning the skills in this course/program?

 Are these skills (program outcomes) degree-relevant [preparing students for

 a higher degree] and industry-relevant [preparing students for work in their

 field]?

 Are students passing/advancing with their degree?

 Are students staying at NMT to complete a degree?

 Are students

\*If not, what will we pilot to improve student learning, retention, persistence and completion?