

**EXCERPT FROM THE PRELIMINARY REPORT
OF THE REAFFIRMATION COMMITTEE**

Statement Regarding the Report

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for making the final determination on reaffirmation of accreditation based on the findings contained in this committee report, the institution's response to issues contained in the report, other assessments relevant to the review, and application of the Commission's policies and procedures. Final interpretation of the Principles of Accreditation and final action on the accreditation status of the institution rest with SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

Name of the Institution: **University of South Carolina - Columbia**

Date of the Review: **November 3-4, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. Timothy S. Brophy**
Director, Institutional Assessment
and Professor, Music Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32606

8.2.b Student Outcomes: General Education

8.2.b Student learning outcomes for collegiate-level general education competencies of its undergraduate degree programs.

(Student outcomes: general education)

Compliance

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee found support for the institution's case for compliance.

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee reviewed the student outcomes assessment, process, and procedure for general education. These align with the institution's mission and goals. The General Education Committee (GEC) was formed in early 2008 and develops recommendations for the institutional general education core curriculum. In April 2009, the new general education requirements were renamed the Carolina Core, and a website for communicating the new requirements for general education was designed in 2012. Assessment of the new Carolina Core learning outcomes started in fall 2013. The institution formally instituted a comprehensive outcomes assessment plan for its general education curriculum that requires all general education courses to undergo ongoing outcomes assessment. The narrative provides links to the live Carolina Core Assessment Results site. When the Committee logged in using the provided username and password, assessment reports for each Carolina Core outcome were found for 2015 through 2019. These reports provide detailed data of student performance on the outcomes, recommendations from the Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics (OIRAA), as well as specific actions for the future based on the review of these results. The institution identifies outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results in student learning outcomes for collegiate-level general education competencies of its undergraduate degree programs.