SYG regulation talking points
Regulation 8.005 – "General Education Core Course Options"

- Faculty at our school, not just sociology faculty, have expressed concern about the proposed removal of an entire field of study from counting as a GE requirement.

- This would likely make us the only state that would no longer include sociology as a core course.

- Administration is concerned about the loss to students of this option and of how this may affect students transferring into or out of our state. This could affect articulation agreements and accreditation.

- Sociology is the basis of criminology studies, marriage and family counseling, social work, urban planning, healthcare (physicians and nurses), and many other fields. Eliminating sociology will, in other words, have a ripple effect on other fields.

- Most students are not going to take a course unless it counts toward necessary courses for graduation. This means many students will not experience sociology. The bottom line is this is a great disservice to students.

- The cross pollination of ideas is one of the foundations of the general education experience. Removing the sociology requirement will undoubtably affect other general education disciplines.

- Sociology is a data-driven study of group structure and social behavior found in modern societies.

- Sociology is often misperceived as personal opinion rather than science.

- Sociology is a currently required course for many fields such as healthcare and eliminating it would impact future physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals.

- While the statewide faculty committee recommended adding an early American history course, it did not recommend removing sociology as a general education requirement.

- The sociology requirement was removed by a last-minute amendment introduced by the commissioner.

- Sociology is a currently required course for many fields including healthcare, dental hygiene and human services and eliminating it would have a negative impact of lasting consequence.