

Proposed Revision of General Education #2: Interdisciplinary Option

I. TIER I (18 hours)

New students take first-tier courses within the first 30 hours. For transfer students, any course that does not substitute or transfer outright from a previous instruction must be taken in the first year after the official transfer. Transitions courses should generally not have prerequisites, except as necessary given the student's previous academic background or because of course sequencing.

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

3 credit hours

IDS 101: Foundations of Critical Thinking in a Diverse Society

An interdisciplinary, team-taught course within the “core of the core” of common learning experiences in the General Education curriculum. The course focuses on the large “human questions” by identifying how they relate to perception, reason, and structure. Focusing on multi-cultural issues of humanity (including race and gender), human thought, society, and technology, investigation will take place across disciplines and through various modes of knowledge. Discussion sections of the course are broken up by college, giving important information about a chosen field while creating a learning community among academic peers. This course **MUST BE TAKEN** within the first 30 hours of coursework. Students who transfer into the university with more than 30 hours or have taken a first-year experience course at another college have the option of having the requirement waived.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION I & II

6 credit hours

ENGL 101 English Composition I

English 101 is an evidence-based, writing intensive course designed to improve critical thinking, reading, and writing proficiencies through guidance in writing the thesis-driven essay. Students develop strategies for turning their experience, observations, and analyses into evidence suitable for academic writing. Emphasis is on writing the short, focused, concretely developed college paper. Students who do not meet the placement score of 18 will be required to take an additional writing lab.

ENGL 102 English Composition II or
ENGL 112 Technical Writing (depending on major)

The second writing course builds upon the critical thinking, reading, and writing capabilities that students developed in ENG 101. Students learn the processes necessary for collecting and incorporating research material in writing. They learn how to evaluate, cite, and document primary and secondary research sources, and how to develop arguments and support them with sound evidence. In addition, the second writing, through rhetorical analysis, begins to explore how writing differs within and between the disciplines.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

3 credit hours

Practical humanistic approach to interpersonal, small group and public communications. Courses listed below focus on the communicative event and its context with special emphasis on communication principles and skills.

COMM 100 Speech Communication

MATHEMATICS

3 credit hours

Mathematics is the knowledge of and confidence with basic mathematical/analytical concepts and operations required for problem-solving, decision-making, and real-world applications. Approved courses introduce students to or extend their knowledge of pre-calculus, calculus, discrete mathematics, probability, statistics and/or data analysis.

MATH 103 Problem Solving and Number Sense (3 cr.)

MATH 111 Mathematics for Liberal Arts (3 cr.)

MATH 120 College Algebra (3 cr.)

SCIENTIFIC REASONING

3 credit hours

Scientific reasoning introduces students to the evolution and interdependence of science and technology. Courses listed below require problem identification, hypothesis evaluation, experimentation, interpretation of results and the use and misuse of scientific data. Courses listed here and within Tier II cannot be used to fulfill both sections.

BIOL 101 Principles of Biology (4 cr.)

BIOL 108 Environmental Biology (4 cr.)

BIOL 110 Economic Biology (4 cr.)

BIOL 120 Fundamentals of Biology (4 cr.)

CHEM 100 Consumer Chemistry (3 cr.)

PHYS 101 Physical Science Survey I (3 cr.)

PHYS 102 Physical Science Survey II (4 cr.)

PHYS 103 Elements of Physical Science (3 cr.)

PHYS 106 Introduction to Physical Geology (4 cr.)

PHYS 110 Weather & Climate (4 cr.)

PHYS 120 Astronomy (3 cr.—students may add the optional 1 cr. lab PHYS 121)

II. TIER II (15-18 HOURS). ALL CATEGORIES MUST BE COVERED THROUGH THE COURSES LISTED BELOW. IDS COURSE.

Students are expected to take courses in the first 45 - 60 hours. These courses may have prerequisites and may include introductory courses within a student's major program. Students must fulfill all of the categories listed below which will be done through mainly through the courses listed below, however, one interdisciplinary course listed in the interdisciplinary option can be used to meet two category requirements.

ARTS

ART 100 Art Appreciation (3 cr.)

ART 101 Studio I - Introduction to Art (3 cr.)

COMM 170 The Art of the Theatre (3 cr.)

MUS 104 American Music: A Panorama (3 cr.)

MUS 107 Appreciation of Music (3 cr.)

HUMANITIES

- COMM 140 Film Appreciation (3 cr.)
- COMM 240 Film History: The Narrative Tradition (3 cr.)
- COMM 245 Film History: The Documentary Tradition (3 cr.)
- ENGL 150 Introduction to Literature (3 cr.)
- ENGL 154 Mythology and Folklore (3cr.)

NATURAL SCIENCE (must be different than course taken for Scientific Reasoning)

- BIOL 101 Principles of Biology (4 cr.)
- BIOL 108 Environmental Biology (4 cr.)
- BIOL 110 Economic Biology (4 cr.)
- BIOL 120 Fundamentals of Biology (4 cr.)
- CHEM 100 Consumer Chemistry (3 cr.)
- PHYS 101 Physical Science Survey I (3 cr.)
- PHYS 102 Physical Science Survey II (4 cr.)
- PHYS 103 Elements of Physical Science (3 cr.)
- PHYS 106 Introduction to Physical Geology (4 cr.)
- PHYS 110 Weather & Climate (4 cr.)
- PHYS 120 Astronomy (3 cr.—students may add the optional 1 cr. lab PHYS 121)

SOCIAL SCIENCE

- ECON 101 American Economy (3 cr.)
- EDUC 201 Human Growth and Development (3 cr.)
- POSC 100 Introduction to Government and Politics (3 cr.)
- PSYC 151 General Psychology (3 cr.)
- SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3 cr.)

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

- ANY 101-102 FOREIGN LANGUAGE (3 cr.)
- FREN 205 A View of Changing Culture (3 cr.)
- INTS 250 Diversity in Africana Studies (3 cr.)
- POSC 210 International Relations (3 cr.)
- SPAN 205 Spain and its Culture (3 cr.)
- SOC 305 Birth, Death, and Migration (3 cr.)

HISTORIES

- HIST 201 World History (3 cr.)
- HIST 202 World History (3 cr.)
- HIST 207 American History to 1865 (3 cr.)
- HIST 208 American History from 1865 (3 cr.)
- POSC 101 American National Government (3 cr.)

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES OPTION

Courses listed below are focused in integrated knowledge exploration and are writing intensive courses. Students can take an interdisciplinary course after 45 degree hours and these courses may have additional prerequisites. Courses listed as IDS in the catalog will identify what **TIER II** categories they fulfill. To be listed here means that the GE Committee, using the criteria for inclusion above, has certified that the course is integrative and will achieve required objectives in both categories. Students may only use one course to fulfill Tier II requirements. ***ALL COURSES LISTED ARE FOR EXAMPLE ONLY** courses in this section would need to be created by faculty who want to teach them.

- IDS 201.1: Culture of War (*Humanities and Histories*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.2: Dystopian Worlds (*Humanities and Social Science*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.3: The Art of Business (*Art and Social Science*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.4: Literature and Music of the Grand Tour (*Art and Humanities*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.5: Uncertainty and Creation of Knowledge (*Humanities and Social Science*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.6: Food and Culture (*Social Science and Well-Being*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.7: Physics through Photography (*Art and Natural Science*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.8: Owner's Guide to the Body (*Natural Science and Well-Being*) (3 cr.)
IDS 201.9: Owner's Guide to the Planet (*Natural Science and Social Science*) (3 cr.)

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDIT HOURS 33-36

NOTES:

1. **TIER II: IN BOLD** are areas in which courses are to be taken. Every area will have multiple courses that fulfill that area. It is expected that certain departments will fulfill each area better than others. However, any department is welcome to submit courses that they believe meet the criteria to the GE Committee for approval.
2. The minimum number of credits that must be taken is 33. However, this number recognizes that there are paths in which a student might opt for a 4 credit course or choose not to take the interdisciplinary option, making his / her actual number higher; however, the full requirements can be achieved in 33 hours.
3. Specific majors may direct their students to take certain courses outside of their department in the Core Curriculum. For instance, a major program might require students to take a foreign language in **International Perspectives**.
4. Credits of courses within **TIER II** can also be used to count towards both the Core Curriculum requirements and the requirements of a minor or a major. This is referred to as "course-sharing," or may be more familiarly known as "double-dipping."