

GENERAL EDUCATION

The General Education Program (Gen Ed) supports the mission of the University of Florida by providing undergraduate students with common collective knowledge about the world in which they live. The curriculum enables students to think creatively, reason critically, communicate effectively, and make informed decisions that affect all aspects of their lives.

Through general education courses, students gain fresh perspectives and discover new approaches to intellectual inquiry that promote understanding of both the traditional and the newly discovered. To achieve these outcomes, the general education curriculum encompasses a breadth of knowledge in composition, diversity studies, humanities, international studies, mathematics, biological, physical, and social and behavioral sciences.

Ultimately, competence in these areas enables students to better understand themselves, their neighbors, other cultures and times, and the principles governing the natural world and the universe; and to participate fully and responsibly as informed citizens in local, national, and global matters. The general education curriculum is organized around eight major subject areas: biological sciences, composition, diversity studies, humanities, international studies, mathematics, physical sciences, and social and behavioral sciences.

General Education Program Requirements

All undergraduate students (except those transferring to UF with an A.A. degree from a Florida public college or an A.A. certificate from a Florida public state university) are required to complete UF's general education requirement to graduate.

Subject Area	UF Core	State Core	Gen Ed Courses	Totals
Composition		3	3	6
Humanities*	3	3		6
Social & Behavioral Science*		3	3	6
Mathematics		3	3	6
Natural Science		3	3	6
Additional Required Gen Ed Coursework (Humanities, Social Science, or Natural Science)**			6	6
OVERALL TOTALS	3	15	18	36

* To complete General Education, student must select a General Education course that features the "International" subject area for 3 credits and a General Education course that features the "Diversity" subject area for 3 credits

** Majors that feature extensive use of one of these subject areas may require a student to complete all 6 "Additional Required Gen Ed Coursework" credits in a particular subject area. See the major Recommended Plan for details.

Important Considerations

- A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. Courses intended to satisfy the general education requirement cannot be taken S-U.
- Some majors require or recommend specific general education courses.
- Certain classes are approved to count for multiple general education program areas. Students can count a general education course toward one area only except for (D) and (N) credits, which must be earned concurrently with another area. For example, a course designated as HD can count toward both the H and D requirements, but a course designated CH can count only as C or H.
- Study abroad courses can fulfill international credit, in addition to fulfilling credit in other subject areas. Study abroad must be approved in advance by an academic advisor and the UF International Center.

Successful completion of these requirements will result in the student learning outcomes.

Selecting General Education Courses

Students can take Gen Ed courses at the 1000-4000 levels. First-year students generally take introductory (1000/2000-level) courses. If a student has the academic background and the interest they may take more advanced courses, but he or she should first check the course prerequisites and/or consult an academic advisor.

Applying Incoming Credits to General Education

AP, IB, AICE, and CLEP credit count toward completion of the general education program requirements. In general, course equivalencies are derived from the course equivalency charts from the student's year of matriculation at UF.

Acceptable dual enrollment and other transfer credit will fulfill the general education requirements that the same UF course fulfills if the course is equivalent. Courses from Florida public colleges and State University System schools generally adhere to the Statewide Course Numbering System. If the prefix (first three letters) and the last three digits of the course number are the same, then the course is considered equivalent.

If the course does not have a common-numbered equivalent at UF (either because UF does not offer the course or because the transferred course was not taken in the state system), then the student's college needs to evaluate the course to determine whether it fulfills a general education requirement.

Objectives and Outcomes

Subject Area Objectives

Biological Sciences

Biological science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the life sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment, and the relevant

processes that govern biological systems. Students will formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of living things, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.

Composition

Composition courses provide instruction in the methods and conventions of standard written English (i.e. grammar, punctuation, usage) and the techniques that produce effective texts. Composition courses are writing intensive, require multiple drafts submitted to the instructor for feedback prior to final submission, and fulfill 6,000 of the university's 24,000-word writing requirement. Course content must include multiple forms of effective writing, different writing styles, approaches and formats, and methods to adapt writing to different audiences, purposes and contexts. Students are expected learn to organize complex arguments in writing using thesis statements, claims and evidence, and to analyze writing for errors in logic.

Diversity

This designation is always in conjunction with another program area.

In Diversity courses, students examine the historical processes and contemporary experiences characterizing social and cultural differences within the United States. Students engage with diversity as a dynamic concept related to human differences and their intersections, such as (but not limited to) race, gender identity, class, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, and (dis)abilities. Students critically analyze and evaluate how social inequities are constructed and affect the opportunities and constraints across the US population. Students analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultures and beliefs mediate their own and other people's understandings of themselves and an increasingly diverse U.S. society.

Humanities

Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases and influences that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

International

This designation is always in conjunction with another program area.

International courses promote the development of students' global and intercultural awareness. Students examine the cultural, economic, geographic, historical, political, and/or social experiences and processes that characterize the contemporary world, and thereby comprehend the trends, challenges, and opportunities that affect communities around the world. Students analyze and reflect on the ways in which cultural, economic, political, and/or social systems and beliefs mediate their own and other people's understanding of an increasingly connected world.

Mathematics

Courses in mathematics provide instruction in computational strategies in fundamental mathematics including at least one of the following: solving equations and inequalities, logic, statistics, algebra, trigonometry, inductive and deductive reasoning. These courses include reasoning in abstract mathematical systems, formulating mathematical models and

arguments, using mathematical models to solve problems and applying mathematical concepts effectively to real-world situations.

Physical Sciences

Physical science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the physical sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment, and the relevant processes that govern physical systems. Students will formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures or processes. These courses emphasize the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content and Skills

Content

Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, theories, and methodologies used within the discipline.

Communication

Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written and oral forms appropriate to the discipline.

Critical Thinking

Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

State Core Gen Ed Courses

State Core Gen Ed Biological and Physical Sciences Courses

BSC X085 not offered at UF, but may be transferred in from a Florida public institution.

Code	Title	Credits
AST 1002	Discovering the Universe (P)	3
AST 3018	Astronomy and Astrophysics 1 (P)	3
AST 3019	Astronomy and Astrophysics 2 (P)	3
BOT 2011C	Plant Diversity (B)	4
BSC 2005	Biological Sciences (B)	3
BSC 2010	Integrated Principles of Biology 1 (B)	3
CHM 1020	Chemistry for the Liberal Arts (P)	3
CHM 2045	General Chemistry 1 (P)	3
CHM 2046	General Chemistry 2 (P)	3
CHM 2051	Honors General Chemistry 2 (P)	3
CHM 2096	Chemistry for Engineers 2 (P)	3

ESC 1000	Introduction to Earth Science (P)	3
EVR 2001	Introduction to Environmental Science (B or P, also GE-N)	3
PHY 2020	Introduction to Principles of Physics (P)	3
PHY 2048	Physics with Calculus 1 (P)	3
PHY 2049	Physics with Calculus 2 (P)	3
PHY 2053	Physics 1 (P)	4
PHY 2054	Physics 2 (P)	4

State Core Gen Ed Composition Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ENC 1101	Expository and Argumentative Writing	3
ENC 1102	Argument and Persuasion	3
ENC 2210	Technical Writing	3
ENC 2305	Analytical Writing and Thinking	3
ENC 3246	Professional Communication for Engineers	3
ENC 3254	Professional Writing in the Discipline	3
ENC 3453	Writing in the Health Professions	3
ENC 3459	Writing in the Medical Sciences	3
ENC 3464	Writing in the Social Sciences	3
ENC 3465	Writing in the Law	3

State Core Gen Ed Mathematics Courses

All are pure math except for STA 2023.

Code	Title	Credits
MAC 1105	Basic College Algebra	3
MAC 1140	Precalculus Algebra	3
MAC 1147	Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry	4
MAC 2233	Survey of Calculus 1	3
MAC 2311	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1	4
MAC 2312	Analytic Geometry and Calculus 2	4
MGF 1106	Mathematics for Liberal Arts Majors 1	3
MGF 1107	Mathematics for Liberal Arts Majors 2	3
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1	3

State Core Gen Ed Humanities Courses

HUM X020 not offered at UF, but may be transferred in from a Florida public institution.

Code	Title	Credits
ARH 2000	Art Appreciation: American Diversity and Global Arts (also GE-D)	3
LIT 2000	Introduction to Literature	3
MUL 2010	Experiencing Music (also GE-N)	3
PHI 2010	Introduction to Philosophy	3
THE 2000	Theatre Appreciation (also GE-D)	3

State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Courses

Code	Title	Credits
AMH 2020	United States Since 1877 (also GE-D)	3
ANT 2000	General Anthropology	3
ECO 2013	Principles of Macroeconomics	4
POS 2041	American Federal Government	3
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3
SYG 2000	Principles of Sociology	3
