

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

General Education Requirement

Statement of Purpose: General education provides the foundation for successful academic study, for lifelong learning, and for carrying out the duties of local, national, and global citizenship. By building basic skills in communication, analysis, and computation as well as by broadening students' historical and cultural perspectives, the general education curriculum helps students acquire an understanding of both self and society, and thus contributes to their personal enrichment while enrolled and after graduation.

The University of Tennessee's general education program has been designed to enable the student to move among colleges within the university or to move to another institution of higher learning. Although it will provide the students with the skills required by college study, those skills are specific neither to UT Knoxville nor to a particular major or career path.

Outcomes: The program is expected to produce the following outcomes for the students.

Building Basic Skills: Because the hallmark of the educated person is the ability to think independently, students must be trained to acquire, evaluate, and use information.

- Students must be able to **acquire** information by conducting independent research, both in a conventional library setting and through the use of the rapidly developing electronic technologies, including data bases and internet resources.
- Students must then learn to **evaluate** the reliability, accuracy, and logical soundness of that information. The students will be taught to apply evaluative techniques to statistical and rhetorical presentations in arts, humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.
- Students must be trained to **use** the information that they have acquired. They must write clearly, speak convincingly, and solve problems using creative approaches.

Developing Broadened Perspectives: General education should help students develop habits of self-examination in the context of the individual's relationship to family, community, society, and world. To this end, general education should also help foster a commitment to respecting the diversity of personal and cultural values.

- Students should be able to explain their own values and beliefs, as well as to understand the histories and cultures behind those values. Students should also develop a commitment to lifelong learning so that they may continue to examine the relationships between their personal perspectives and the perspectives that arise from other cultures.
- Students should strengthen their sensitivity to cultural diversity by learning other languages, which can provide them with a gateway to the histories and traditions of other cultures, both within and outside the United States; and by understanding the dynamic nature of a multicultural world through interdisciplinary perspectives.

These are the General Education requirements:

A. For Building Basic Skills

- I. Communicating through Writing (3 courses):** Good writing skills enable students to create and share ideas, investigate and describe values, and record discoveries—all skills that are necessary not only for professional success but also for personal fulfillment in a world where communication increasingly takes place through electronic media. Students must be able to identify areas for inquiry, locate relevant information, evaluate its usefulness and quality, and

incorporate the information logically and ethically. They must be able to write correctly, and they must be aware that different audiences and purposes call for different rhetorical responses. To satisfy this requirement, students take the first-year composition sequence and, upon completion of **English 101 and 102** or their equivalent, take one other course designated as "writing-intensive" (WC) in the undergraduate catalog. The writing-intensive courses can be within the student's major or an elective. In order to gain a (WC) designation, courses shall require formal and informal writing assignments that total 5,000 words.

APPROVED COMMUNICATING THROUGH WRITING (WC) COURSES:

Architecture

213 History and Theory of Contemporary Architecture

Civil Engineering

205 Professional Development I

English

254 Themes in Literature

255 Public Writing

295 Business and Technical Writing

355 Rhetoric and Writing

360 Technical and Professional Writing

363 Writing Poetry

364 Writing Fiction

398 Junior-Senior Honors Seminar

455 Persuasive Writing

499 Senior Seminar

Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism

390 Professional Development (*Same as Retail and Consumer Sciences 390.*)

Journalism and Electronic Media

200 Introduction to News Writing

201 Writing for Mass Media

Judaic Studies

322 Medieval Philosophy (*Same as Medieval Studies 322 and Philosophy 322.*)

Medieval Studies

322 Medieval Philosophy (*Same as Judaic Studies 322 and Philosophy 322.*)

Music History

210 History of Music I

220 History of Music II

330 Women in Music (*Same as Women's Studies 330.*)

380 Music in World Cultures

430 Symphonic Literature

Music Education

430 Music Methods for High School

Nuclear Engineering

304 Nuclear and Radiological Engineering Laboratory I

403 Nuclear and Radiological Engineering Laboratory II

Nursing

403 Health Promotion and Maintenance in Childbearing Families

- 290 Social and Political Philosophy
- 320 Ancient Western Philosophy
- 322 Medieval Philosophy (*Same as Medieval Studies 322 and Judaic Studies 322.*)
- 324 17th- and 18th-Century Philosophy
- 326 19th- and 20th-Century Philosophy
- 342 Business Ethics
- 345 Bioethics (*Same as Religious Studies 345.*)
- 346 Environmental Ethics
- 382 Philosophy of Feminism (*Same as Women's Studies 382.*)
- 390 Philosophical Foundations of Democracy

Religious Studies

- 345 Bioethics (*Same as Philosophy 345.*)

Retail and Consumer Sciences

- 390 Professional Development (*Same as Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism 390.*)

Social Work

- 314 Human Behavior and the Social Environment

Women's Studies

- 330 Women in Music (*Same as Music History 330.*)
- 382 Philosophy of Feminism (*Same as Philosophy 382.*)

II. Communicating Orally (1 course): The ability to communicate one's ideas orally is as important as the ability to express them well in writing. The well-educated person should be able to speak in an informative and/or convincing manner to other individuals and to groups, both small and large. Being able to express one's thoughts clearly has always been a critical component of good citizenship. Students should be able to locate relevant information, evaluate its usefulness and quality, and incorporate the information logically and ethically in public address. (See Note 4.)

This requirement may be completed by

- (1) Completion of **Communication Studies 210** or **240** or
- (2) Completion of a course with an (OC) designation.

APPROVED COMMUNICATING ORALLY (OC) COURSES:

Civil Engineering

- 205 Professional Development I

Environmental and Soil Sciences

- 301 Professional Development

Legal Studies

- 344 Professional Responsibility (*Same as Religious Studies 344 and Philosophy 344.*)

Nursing

- 452 Professional and Workplace Issues
- 454 Professional Leadership Issues

Philosophy

- 344 Professional Responsibility (*Same as Legal Studies 344; Religious Studies 344.*)

Religious Studies

- 344 Professional Responsibility (*Same as Legal Studies 344; Philosophy 344.*)

III. Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses): In today's world, arguments and claims often rely for support on scientific studies and statistical evidence. Students should possess the mathematical and quantitative skills to evaluate such evidence. Furthermore, students should possess the skills both to recognize the quantitative dimension of problems and to use mathematical reasoning to formulate and solve the problem. Finally, students need strong quantitative skills because they are indispensable in managing everyday-life situations.

This requirement may be completed by either of the following:

- (1) taking two mathematics or statistics courses from the list below. (Preferably, these courses would be taken in one of the following pairings: Mathematics 110 and 115; Mathematics 123 and 125; Mathematics 141 and 142; Mathematics 147 and 148; Mathematics 151 and 152; Mathematics 125, 141 or 147 and Statistics 201 or 207; Mathematics 115 and 123 or 125 or 202.)

Mathematics

- 110 Intermediate Algebra
- 115 Statistical Reasoning
- 123 Finite Mathematics
- 125 Basic Calculus
- 141–142 Calculus I, II
- 147–148 Honors: Calculus I, II
- 151–152 Mathematics for the Life Sciences I, II
- 202 Probability, Statistics, and Euclidean Geometry

Statistics

- 201 Introduction to Statistics
- 207 Honors: Introduction to Statistics

or

- (2) taking one mathematics course from the list above and one course designated in the undergraduate catalog as having a quantitative component (QR). The course designated as having a quantitative component may be within the student's major or an elective.

APPROVED QUANTITATIVE REASONING (QR) COURSES:

Architecture

- 331 Architectural Structures I

Computer Science

- 100 Introduction to Computers and Computing
- 102 Introduction to Computer Science

Music Technology

- 290 Sound Recording Techniques

B. For Developing Broadened Perspectives

I. Natural Sciences (2 courses): As science and technology come to play an increasingly important role in contemporary life, it is essential for all educated persons to have a fundamental understanding of science and its methods. All students should be familiar with one or more scientific disciplines and the role of science in contemporary society. Such familiarity may be gained through acquisition of knowledge of a discipline's basic vocabulary, chief discoveries, and fundamental principles; exposure to a discipline's experimental techniques; and the ability to analyze issues with scientific dimensions. This requirement is satisfied by taking two courses from the approved list. At least one of the courses must have a laboratory.

APPROVED NATURAL SCIENCES (NS) COURSES:

Astronomy

- 151–152 Introductory Astronomy
- 161–162 Introductory Astronomy with Laboratory
- 217–218 Honors: Introductory Astronomy

Biology

- 101–102 Humankind in the Biotic World
- 130 Biodiversity
- 140 Organization and Function of the Cell

Botany

- 110–120 General Botany

Chemistry

- 100 Principles of Chemistry
- 110 Introduction to Organic and Biochemistry

- 120–130 General Chemistry
- 128–138 Honors: General Chemistry

Entomology and Plant Pathology

- 201 Impact of Insects and Plant Diseases on Human Society

Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries

- 250 Conservation

Geography

- 131–132 Geography of the Natural Environment

Geology

- 101 The Dynamic Earth
- 102 Earth, Life and Time
- 103 The Earth's Environment
- 107 Honors: The Dynamic Earth
- 108 Honors: Earth, Life and Time
- 201 Biodiversity: Past, Present and Future
- 202 Earth As An Ecosystem: Modern Problems and Solutions
- 203 Geology of National Parks

Microbiology

- 210 General Microbiology

Nutrition

- 100 Introductory Nutrition

Physics

- 101–102 How Things Work
- 135–136 Introduction to Physics for Physical Science and Mathematics Majors
- 137–138 Honors: Fundamentals of Physics for Physics Majors
- 161 Elements of Physics for Architects and Interior Design Students
- 221–222 Elements of Physics
- 231 Fundamentals of Physics: Electricity and Magnetism
- 232 Fundamentals of Physics: Wave Motion, Optics, and Modern Physics

II. Arts and Humanities (2 courses): To live well in the present, one must have an acquaintance with the past, especially with the cultural achievements that are the distinctive hallmarks of all human societies. An appreciation of art, music, theater, literature, and philosophy will not only enrich the lives of students, but it will also help them understand their own and other's aspirations, both in a historical and a contemporary context. This requirement is satisfied by taking two courses from the list below.

APPROVED ARTS AND HUMANITIES (AH) COURSES:

African and African-American Studies

- 162 Art of Africa, Oceania, and Pre-Columbian America (*Same as Art History 162.*)
- 233 Major Black Writers (*Same as English 233.*)

Architecture

- 211 History and Theory of Architecture I
- 212 History and Theory of Architecture II

Art History

- 162 Art of Africa, Oceania, and Pre-Columbian America (*Same as African and African-American Studies 162.*)
- 167 Honors: Art of Africa, Oceania, and Pre-Columbian America
- 172 Western Art I
- 173 Western Art II
- 177 Honors: Western Art I
- 178 Honors: Western Art II
- 183 Asian Art
- 187 Honors: Asian Art

Classics

- 232 Archaeology and Art of Ancient Greece and Rome
- 253 Greek and Roman Literature in English Translation

English

- 201 British Literature I: Beowulf through Johnson
- 202 British Literature II: Wordsworth to the Present
- 207 Honors: British Literature I
- 208 Honors: British Literature II
- 221 Literature of the Western World I: Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance
- 222 Literature of the Western World II: Enlightenment, Romantic, and Modern
- 231 American Literature I: Colonial Era to the Civil War
- 232 American Literature II: Civil War to Present
- 233 Major Black Writers (*Same as African and African-American Studies 233.*)
- 237 Honors American Literature I: Colonial Era to the Civil War
- 238 Honors American Literature II: Civil War to Present
- 251 Introduction to Poetry
- 252 Introduction to Drama
- 253 Introduction to Fiction
- 254 Themes in Literature

Music History

- 110 Introduction to Music in Western Culture
- 115 Music of the United States
- 120 History of Rock
- 125 Jazz in American Culture
- 290 Introduction to World Musics

Philosophy

- 110 The Human Condition: Values and Reality
- 111 The Human Condition: Knowledge and Reality
- 240 Ethics
- 242 Ethical Theory and its Application
- 290 Social and Political Philosophy

Theatre

- 100 Introduction to Theatre

III. Social Sciences (2 courses): The goal of the social sciences is to help us understand the way that we live, especially the relation between the individual and the group, sometimes from an historical but often from a contemporary perspective. Vital to the continued health and success of our society is an understanding of the complex individual, political, and social dynamics that make up the modern world. Students should not only have knowledge of the principal concerns of the social sciences, but they should also understand the methods by which social scientists collect and evaluate knowledge. This requirement is satisfied by taking two courses from the following list.

APPROVED SOCIAL SCIENCES (SS) COURSES:

Anthropology

- 130 Cultural Anthropology

Child and Family Studies

- 210 Human Development
- 220 Marriage and Family: Roles and Relationships (*Same as Women's Studies 230.*)

Economics

- 201 Introductory Economics: A Survey Course
- 207 Honors: Introductory Economics

Political Science

- 102 Introduction to Political Science

Psychology

- 110 General Psychology
- 117 Honors: General Psychology

Sociology

- 110 Social Justice and Social Change
- 117 Honors: Social Justice and Social Change
- 120 General Sociology
- 127 Honors: General Sociology

Women's Studies

- 230 Marriage and Family: Roles and Relationships (*Same as Child and Family Studies 220.*)

IV. Cultures and Civilizations (2 courses): Knowledge of foreign languages and cultures and their histories have long been required of educated people. Today technologies of travel and communication create global communities, and so increase the importance of this knowledge. While it is not possible to become expert in all cultures and civilizations, a perspective on which to build knowledge over a lifetime can be gained by study of foreign languages and the study of the cultures and histories of their speakers. This perspective improves the ability of students to function effectively in the global community of the twenty-first century by developing an appreciation of linguistic, historical, and cultural diversity.

This requirement is satisfied by

- (1) taking two courses from the following list or
- (2) taking two courses in a foreign language at the intermediate level.

APPROVED CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS (CC) COURSES:

African and African-American Studies

- 235–236 Introduction to African Studies

Asian Studies

- 101–102 Asian Civilization

Classics

- 201 Introduction to Classical Civilization

Geography

- 101–102 World Geography

Global Studies

- 250 Introduction to Global Studies (*Same as Sociology 250.*)

History

- 241–242 Development of Western Civilization
- 247–248 Honors: Development of Western Civilization
- 255–256 Introduction to Latin American Studies (*Same as Latin American Studies 251–252.*)
- 261–262 A History of World Civilization

Latin American Studies

- 251–252 Introduction to Latin American Studies (*Same as History 255–256.*)

Medieval Studies

- 201–202 Medieval Civilization

Religious Studies

- 101 World Religions in History
- 102 The Comparison of World Religions

Sociology

- 250 Introduction to Global Studies (*Same as Global Studies 250.*)

INTERMEDIATE FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES:

Arabic

- 221–222 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I, II (*Same as Asian Studies 221–222.*)

Asian Languages

- 231–232 Intermediate Chinese I, II (*Same as Chinese 231–232.*)
- 251–252 Intermediate Japanese I, II (*Same as Japanese 251–252.*)

Asian Studies

- 221–222 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I, II (*Same as Arabic 221–222.*)
- 241–242 Intermediate Modern Hebrew I, II (*Same as Hebrew 241–242.*)
- 261–262 Intermediate Persian (*Same as Persian 261–262.*)

Chinese

- 231–232 Intermediate Chinese I, II (*Same as Asian Languages 231–232.*)

Classics

- 251 Intermediate Latin: Grammar Review and Readings and
- 252 Intermediate Latin: Vergil's Aeneid
- 261 Intermediate Greek: Grammar Review and
- 264 Readings and Intermediate Readings in Greek

French

- 211–212 Intermediate French
- 217–218 Honors: Intermediate French

German

- 201–202 Intermediate German

Hebrew

- 241–242 Intermediate Modern Hebrew I, II (*Same as Asian Studies 241–242.*)

Italian

- 211–212 Intermediate Italian

Japanese

- 251–252 Intermediate Japanese I, II (*Same as Asian Languages 251–252.*)

Persian

- 261–262 Intermediate Persian (*Same as Asian Studies 261–262.*)

Portuguese

- 211–212 Intermediate Portuguese

Russian

- 201–202 Intermediate Russian

Spanish

- 211–212 Intermediate Spanish
- 217–218 Honors: Intermediate Spanish

NOTES

- (1) Some courses on the various General Education course lists may have prerequisites. Students are responsible for meeting all course prerequisites.
- (2) The following are exempt from the General Education Requirement until fall 2005:
 - All majors in the College of Engineering
 - Bachelor of Science in Biosystems Engineering
 - Bachelor of Fine Arts (Graphic Design major and Studio Art major—all concentrations)
 - Bachelor of Music (Music major—all concentrations)
- (3) Subcommittees of the Undergraduate Council General Education Committee are charged with management of the courses to be included on the General Education course lists for the Basic Skills and Broadened Perspectives areas.
- (4) The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is committed to providing equal opportunities for students with disabilities at the University of Tennessee. Appropriate accommodations will be made to enable persons with disabilities to satisfy the General Education requirements. Students with documented disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services for assistance with appropriate accommodations at 865-974-6087 or ods@tennessee.edu.