

OVERVIEW OF GENERAL EDUCATION

Wayne State has had a University-wide Program in General Education since 1987 for all undergraduate students pursuing bachelor's degrees regardless of their academic specialties. These requirements contribute to the goal of ensuring that all students have the basic skills fundamental to success in college while simultaneously achieving the intellectual breadth necessary to place specialized and professional curricula in proper perspective. By means of the General Education Program, undergraduate students improve their skills and are introduced to methods of inquiry, modes of thought, bodies of knowledge, and representative ideas drawn from a wide range of academic disciplines.

Competency Requirements

Learning Objectives: Competency Requirements ensure that students develop and demonstrate early in their academic careers fundamental skills in the following areas that underlie and make possible the acquisition of knowledge.

- Written Communication
 - Basic Composition
 - Intermediate Composition
 - Writing Intensive Course in Major
- Mathematics
- Oral Communication
- Critical/Analytical Thinking

Group Requirements

Learning Objectives: Group Requirements have a two-fold purpose: (1) to enable students to acquire knowledge and demonstrate understanding in a broad range of representative branches of knowledge; and (2) to enable students to develop and demonstrate the ability to apply methodological skills which encourage continued exploration on an independent level throughout their lives.

- Natural Sciences
 - Physical Science
 - Life Science
- Humanities
 - Visual and Performing Arts
 - Philosophy and Letters
- Society And Institutions
 - Social Science
 - American Society and Institutions
 - Historical Studies
 - Foreign Culture

Natural Sciences Group Requirement

At least two courses (a minimum of three credits each) in the natural sciences; one in the physical sciences and one in the life sciences. A minimum one-credit laboratory section must be associated with at least one of these courses.

Humanities Group Requirement

At least one course in the visual and performing arts, and one course in philosophy and letters.

Society And Institutions Group Requirement

At least one course in historical studies, one course in American society and institutions, one course in basic social science, and one course in foreign culture

WSU General Education Requirements
Total credits = 43 - 47 with no place outs

Competencies

18 -22 credits if student does not test or place out. * indicates course/requirement that can be met through examination and/or placement

Written Communication: 9 - 11 credits (10 credits typical)

BC* ENG 1020 (4)

IC ENG 3010 (3)

WI Varies by major; typically 3 credits (2 - 4 credits range)

Math (MAT)*: 3 - 7 credits

MAT 1000 (3) or MAT 1050 (5 or 7; STEM disciplines take 7)

Oral Communication (OC)* - 3 credits

Critical Thinking (CT)* - 3 credits

Group requirements

25 credits minimum.

It is possible to place out by "...an appropriate score on designated placement, national or departmental examinations." (e.g. Advanced Placement and CLEP examinations)

Natural Science - 7 credits

Two courses, one in the physical sciences and one in the life sciences, one of which is a 4 credit lab course

Humanities - 6 credits

Two courses: one course in the visual and performing arts, and one course in philosophy and letters (a minimum of three credits each)

Society and Institutions - 12 credits

One course in historical studies, one course in American society and institutions, one course in basic social science, and one course in foreign culture (a minimum of three credits each).