

# General Education Requirements

The General Education Program is a set of requirements for all students seeking the baccalaureate degree at Western Kentucky University. It is an integral part of the undergraduate curriculum that both complements and supports the students' preparation in their major field or specialization.

The General Education Program helps students maximize their individual potential. Students develop understanding, appreciation, and acceptance of multiple "ways of knowing" (i.e., artistic, literary, philosophical, historical, scientific) through the acquisition, organization, and analysis of specific bodies of knowledge. They are encouraged to acquire aesthetic and appreciative faculties, to explore and test their own values and ethical frameworks, and to demonstrate sensitivity to diverse perspectives and cultures.

The General Education Program provides a foundation for professional success. Students learn to think critically, make rational decisions, and communicate effectively. These skills support their ability to acquire, evaluate, and use the specific knowledge in their major field or specialization and also ensure that they will be adaptable and flexible in the face of changing career plans and requirements. Students' explorations of their own values and perspectives and those of other social groups and cultures prepare them to live in a culturally diverse, globally competitive, and technologically complex world.

The General Education Program prepares students for active membership in society. It is a broadening experience that helps them acquire the shared skills, knowledge, and values that promote the well-being of society. This experience nurtures their capacity for leadership and service and helps them learn to adapt their skills and knowledge to changing societal needs.

In sum, the General Education Program gives meaning to the motto of "Life, More Life" by promoting intellectual growth, lifelong learning, and informed citizenship for all WKU graduates.

A student completing the general education program at Western Kentucky University will have:

## Academic Skills

- ✓ the capacity for critical and logical thinking;
- ✓ proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking;
- ✓ competence in a language other than the native language;
- ✓ the ability to understand and apply mathematical skills and concepts;
- ✓ an informed acquaintance with major achievements in the arts and the humanities;
- ✓ a historical perspective and an understanding of connections between past and present;
- ✓ an appreciation of the complexity and variety in the world's cultures
- ✓ an understanding of the scientific method and a knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives;
- ✓ an understanding of society and human behavior
- ✓ an understanding of factors that enhance health, well-being, and quality of life.

All students following a four-year undergraduate degree program must fulfill certain general education requirements. Students are cautioned to note any special requirements governing the particular program they choose to follow. Students should refer to course descriptions or consult the department head for possible prerequisites for general education courses. The general education

requirements and the courses which will fulfill these requirements are as follows:

[h] Course section regularly offered for honors credit.

[NOTE: The list of examples under each objective is intended to illustrate possible ways to reach the general objective.]

## A. Organization and Communication of Ideas . . . . . 12 hours

### I. English Composition . . . . . 6 hours

English (ENG) 100, Introduction to College Writing [h]  
English (ENG) 300, Writing in the Disciplines [h]

- ◆ CLEP Exam—English College Composition (3 hours applied to Category A-1).

### II. Foreign Language . . . . . 3 hours

Students who begin their college career as degree-seeking students during the 2004 summer term and thereafter will be required to take the second semester level or higher foreign language course.

The general education foreign language requirement will be waived for international students whose first language is not English, contingent upon successful completion of ENG 100 and 300 and either COMM 145 or 161 (i.e., 9 hours instead of 12 in Category A) and an additional 3 hours of course work in General Education courses selected from any category *as long as the course selected is not a foreign language class in the student's native language*. A letter from the Office of International Programs verifying the student is a non-native speaker of English must be attached to the iCAP undergraduate degree exception form and submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

American Sign Language (CD) 101, 102  
Arabic 101, 102, 201, 202  
Chinese (CHIN) 101, 102, 201, 202  
Chinese (CHNF) 102, 201, 202  
French (FREN) 101, 102, 201, 202  
German (GERM) 101, 102, 201, 202  
Greek (BLNG) (also RELS) 384, 385  
Hebrew (BLNG) (also RELS) 382, 383  
Italian (ITAL) 101, 102  
Japanese (JAPN) 101, 102, 201, 202  
Religious Studies (RELS) (Latin) 150, 151, 390, 391  
Russian (RUSS) 101, 102, 201  
Spanish (SPAN) 101, 102, 102[h], 201, 202  
Swahili II, (SWAH) 102

Latin (credit by departmental examination—3-6 hours)

### III. Public Speaking . . . . . 3 hours

Communication (COMM) 145, Fundamentals of Public Speaking and Communication [h]  
Communication (COMM) 161, Business/Prof Speaking [h]

# General Education Requirements

## B. Humanities ..... 9 hours

At least three fields must be represented across Category B.

### I. Literature ..... 3 hours

- English (ENG) 200, Introduction to Literature [h]
- English (ENG) 398, Hemingway and Faulkner (Honors participation or 3.2 GPA required)
- French (FREN) 314, Introduction to French Literature
- German (GERM) 314, Introduction to German Literature
- Humanities (HUM) 172, Literature/Medieval/Renaissance Europe
- Humanities (HUM) 182, Literature/Modern Western World
- Humanities (HUM) 192, Lit and Drama/Ancient Greece and Rome
- Spanish (SPAN) 374, Literature and Culture of Spain
- Spanish (SPAN) 376, Literature and Culture of Latin America

- ◆ CLEP Exam—Humanities (6 hours: 3 hours applied to B-I; 3 hours applied to B-II).

### II. Electives ..... 6 hours

- Architectural & Manufacturing Sciences (AMS) 180, Prin. of Architectural Practice
- Art (ART) 100, Art Appreciation [h]
- Art (ART) 105, History of Art to 1300
- Art (ART) 106, History of Art since 1300
- Dance (DANC) 110, Dance Appreciation
- French (FREN) 323, French Civilization and Culture
- German (GERM) 333, German Civilization and Culture
- German (GERM) 335, Contemporary Culture and Civilization
- History (HIST) 305, Ancient Greece
- History (HIST) 306, Ancient Rome
- History (HIST) 307, The Middle Ages
- History (HIST) 317, Renaissance Europe
- History (HIST) 318, Age of Reformation
- Humanities (HUM) 171, Fine Arts/Medieval/Renaissance Europe
- Humanities (HUM) 173, Phil/Religion Medieval/Ren. Europe
- Humanities (HUM) 181, Fine Arts/Modern Western World
- Humanities (HUM) 183, Phil/Religion/Modern Western World
- Humanities (HUM) 191, Fine Arts of Ancient Greece and Rome
- Humanities (HUM) 193, Religion/Phil/Ancient Greece and Rome
- Music (MUS) 120, Music Appreciation [h]
- Music (MUS) 326, Music History I
- Music (MUS) 327, Music History II
- Philosophy (PHIL) 101, Truth and Relativism
- Philosophy (PHIL) 102, The Good and the Beautiful
- Philosophy (PHIL) 103, The Committed Life
- Philosophy (PHIL) 201, Love and Friendship
- Philosophy (PHIL) 215, Elementary Logic
- Philosophy (PHIL) 320, Ethics [h]
- Philosophy (PHIL) 321, Morality and Business
- Philosophy (PHIL) 322, Biomedical Ethics
- Philosophy (PHIL) 323, Social Ethics
- Religious Studies (RELS) 100, The New Testament

- Religious Studies (RELS) 101, The Old Testament/Hebrew Scriptures
- Religious Studies (RELS) 102, Introduction to Religious Studies [h]
- Religious Studies (RELS) 305, Christian Religious Traditions
- Religious Studies (RELS) 323, Social Ethics
- Spanish (SPAN) 373, Spanish Civilization and Culture
- Theatre (THEA) 151, Theatre Appreciation

- ◆ CLEP Exam—Humanities (6 hours: 3 hours applied to B-I; 3 hours applied to B-II).
- ◆ When CLEP examination credit is used in Category BII, additional credit may be earned in any course in Category B-II.

## C. Social and Behavioral Sciences ..... 9 hours

At least three fields must be represented; History 119 or History 120 is required.

- Agriculture (AGRI) 108, Rural Sociology
- Anthropology (ANTH) 125, Intro to Biological Anthropology
- Anthropology (ANTH) 130, Intro to Archaeology
- Consumer and Family Sciences (CFS) 311, Family Relations [h]
- Economics (ECON) 150, Introduction to Economics [h]
- Economics (ECON) 202, Principles of Economics (micro)
- Economics (ECON) 203, Principles of Economics (macro)
- Finance (FIN) 161, Personal Finance
- Folk Studies (FLK) 371, Urban Folklore
- Geography (GEOG) 216, Geographic Information Science and Society
- Geography (GEOG) 350, Economic Geography
- Geography (GEOG) 360, Geography of North America
- Geography (GEOG) 471, Natural Resource Management
- Geography (GEOG) 480, Urban Geography
- Gerontology (GERO) 100, Intro to the Aging Experience
- History (HIST) 119, Western Civilization to 1648 [h]
- History (HIST) 120, Western Civilization since 1648 [h]
- Journalism (JOUR) 154, New Media Literacy: Exploration in Participatory Culture
- Leadership Studies (LEAD) 200, Introduction to Leadership Studies
- Philosophy (PHIL) 202, Racial Justice
- Political Science (PS) 110, American National Government [h]
- Political Science (PS) 250, International Politics [h]
- Political Science (PS) 260, Intro to Comparative Politics
- Political Science (PS) 267, Introduction to East European Studies
- Psychology (PSY) 100, Introduction to Psychology [h]
- Psychology (PSY) 199, Intro to Developmental Psychology [h]
- Psychology (PSY) 350, Social Psychology
- Recreation (REC) 200, Introduction to Recreation
- Religious Studies (RELS) 202, Racial Justice
- Religious Studies (RELS) 325, Religion in Contemporary America
- Social Work (SWRK) 101, Foundations of Human Services [h]
- Sociology (SOCL) 100, Introductory Sociology [h]
- Sociology (SOCL) 210, Interaction: Self in Society

Sociology (SOCL) 220, Marriage and Family  
 Women's Studies (WOMN) 200, Introduction to Women's Studies [h]

- ◆ CLEP Exam—Social Science-History (6 hours: 3 hours applied in Category C and 3 hours applied as elective)
- ◆ When 3 hours of CLEP examination credit are used in Category C, additional credit may be earned by taking courses from two different fields in Category C, including History 119 or 120.

## D. Natural Sciences—Mathematics . . . . . 9 hours

At least two fields must be represented in Science (D-I) including at least one course designated as a lab course. At least three hours in this category must be in Mathematics (D-II).

### I. Science . . . . . *Minimum 6 hours*

Agriculture (AGRI) 101, The Science of Agriculture [h]  
 Agriculture (AGRI) 280, Intro/Environmental Science  
 Architectural and Manufacturing Sciences (AMS) 210, Introduction to Technology  
 Astronomy (ASTR) 104, Astronomy of the Solar System (DL)  
 Astronomy (ASTR) 106, Astronomy of Stellar Systems (DL)  
 Astronomy (ASTR) 108, Descriptive Astronomy  
 Astronomy (ASTR) 214, General Astronomy (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 113, General Biology  
 Biology (BIOL) 114, General Biology Laboratory (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 120, Biological Concepts; Cells, Metabolism and Genetics [h]  
 Biology (BIOL) 121, Biological Concepts; Cells, Metabolism and Genetics Lab (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 122, Biological Concepts; Evolution, Diversity and Ecology  
 Biology (BIOL) 123, Biological Concepts; Evolution, Diversity and Ecology Lab (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 131, Human Anatomy and Physiology (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 207, General Microbiology  
 Biology (BIOL) 208, General Microbiology Lab (DL)  
 Biology (BIOL) 302, Human Biology  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 101, Introduction to Chemistry (DL)  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 102, Introduction to Chemistry Lab (DL)  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 105, Fundamentals of General Chemistry  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 106, Fundamentals of General Chemistry Lab (DL)  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 109, Chemistry for the Health Sciences  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 111, Introduction to Forensic Chemistry (DL)  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 116, Introduction to College Chemistry  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 120, College Chemistry I [h]  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 121, College Chemistry I Lab (DL) [h]  
 Chemistry (CHEM) 280, Intro/Environmental Science  
 Environmental Science (ENV) 280, Intro/Environmental Science  
 Geography (GEOG) 100, Intro to the Physical Environment [h]  
 Geography (GEOG) 121, Meteorology (DL)  
 Geography (GEOG) 280, Intro/Environmental Science  
 Geology (GEOL) 102, Introduction to Geology  
 Geology (GEOL) 111, The Earth

Geology (GEOL) 113, The Earth Lab (DL)  
 Geology (GEOL) 112, Earth History  
 Geology (GEOL) 114, Earth History Lab (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 100, Energy  
 Physics (PHYS) 101, Concepts of Motion (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 103, Light, Color and Vision (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 105, Concepts of the Physical World (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 130, Acoustics of Music and Speech (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 180, Introduction to Modern Physics  
 Physics (PHYS) 181, Lab-Introduction to Modern Physics (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 201, College Physics I (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 231, Introduction to Physics and Biophysics I  
 Physics (PHYS) 232, Physics Lab for 231 (DL)  
 Physics (PHYS) 255, University Physics  
 Physics (PHYS) 256, University Physics Lab (DL)  
 Public Health (PH) 280, Intro/Environmental Science

- ◆ CLEP Exam—Natural Science 6 hours: 3 hours applied as Biological Sciences and 3 hours applied as Physical Sciences)
- ◆ When 6 hours of CLEP examination credit are used in Category D-I, an additional lab must be taken to fulfill Category D-I.  
  
(DL) Designated Lab course.

### II. Mathematics . . . . . *Minimum 3 hours*

Math (MATH) 109, General Mathematics  
 Math (MATH) 116, Fundamentals of College Algebra [h]  
 Math (MATH) 117, Trigonometry  
 Math (MATH) 118, College Algebra and Trigonometry  
 Math (MATH) 119, Fundamentals of Calculus  
 Math (MATH) 136, Calculus I [h]  
 Math (MATH) 142, Calculus with Applications for Life Sciences  
 Math (MATH) 183, Statistics

- ◆ CLEP Exam - Mathematics (6 hours)
- ◆ When 6 hours of CLEP examination credit are earned in mathematics, 3 hours may be used in fulfilling the requirement in Category D-II and the additional 3 hours credit may be used as elective credit.

### E. World Cultures and American Cultural Diversity . . . 3 hours

African American Studies (AFAM) 190, African American Experience [h]  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 350, Peoples and Cultures of Africa  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 358, Blacks/Amer Hist to 1877  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 359, Blacks/Amer Hist since 1877  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 360, History of Africa  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 368, African Governments and Politics  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 377, African American Folklife

African American Studies (AFAM) 393, African American Lit  
 African American Studies (AFAM) 410, African American  
 Music  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 120, Introduction to Cultural  
 Anthropology [h]  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 277, Introduction to World Music  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 335, Old World Prehistory  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 336, New World Prehistory  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 343, Anthropology of Gender  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 350, Peoples and Cultures of Africa  
 Anthropology (ANTH) 410, African-American Music  
 Communication (COMM) 263, Fundamentals of  
 Communication and Culture  
 Consumer and Family Sciences (CFS) 170, Introduction to  
 International Food and Culture  
 Dance (DANC) 360, Dance in Culture  
 Design, Merchandising, and Textiles (DMT) 346, Architecture/  
 Culture  
 (Honors participation or 3.2 GPA required.)  
 Design, Merchandising, and Textiles (DMT) 431, Clothing and  
 Human Behavior  
 English (ENG) 370, Multicultural Literature in America  
 English (ENG) 387, Studies in Autobiography  
 English (ENG) 393, African American Literature  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 277, Introduction to World Music  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 280, Cultural Diversity in U.S. [h]  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 350, Peoples and Cultures of Africa  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 377, African American Folklife  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 410, African American Music  
 Geography (GEOG) 110, World Regional Geography [h]  
 Geography (GEOG) 200, Introduction to Latin America  
 Health Care Administration (HCA) 347, International  
 Comparisons of Health Care System  
 History (HIST) 110, Introduction to Asian Civilizations  
 History (HIST) 200, Introduction to Latin America  
 History (HIST) 353, Indian Peoples of North America  
 History (HIST) 358, Blacks in American History to 1877  
 History (HIST) 359, Blacks in American History since 1877  
 History (HIST) 360, History of Africa  
 History (HIST) 364, Latin America: Colonial Period  
 History (HIST) 365, Latin America: The Republics  
 History (HIST) 370, Modern South Asia  
 History (HIST) 461, Modern East Asia  
 History (HIST) 463, 1492 and the Atlantic World: The  
 Intersection of Cultures  
 Music (MUS) 119, Jazz Appreciation  
 Music (MUS) 277, Introduction to World Music  
 Political Science (PS) 200, Introduction to Latin America  
 Political Science (PS) 365, Government and Politics of the  
 Middle East  
 Political Science (PS) 366, Government and Politics of East  
 Asia

Political Science (PS) 368, African Government and Politics  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 103, Religions of Asia  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 302, Buddhist Religious Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 303, Hindu Religious Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 304, Judaic Religious Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 306, Islamic Religious Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 307, Native American Religious  
 Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 308, East Asian Religious Traditions  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 318, Daoism  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 320, Religions of the Middle East  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 324, Christianity in Africa  
 Sociology (SOCL) 353, Sociology of Modern Japan  
 Sociology (SOCL) 362, Race, Class and Gender  
 Sociology (SOCL) 375, Diversity in American Society  
 Spanish (SPAN) 200, Introduction to Latin America  
 Spanish (SPAN) 372, Latin American Civilization and Culture  
  
 International Baccalaureate (IB) Exam in History of Africa,  
 History of West South Asia, and History of East Southeast Asia  
 accepted

## F. Health and Wellness . . . . . 2 hours

Animal Science (ANSC) 232, Basic Equitation  
 Consumer and Family Sciences (CFS) 111, Human Nutrition  
 Dance (DANC) 108, Beginning Men's Ballet Technique  
 Dance (DANC) 111, Ballet I  
 Dance (DANC) 113, Jazz I  
 Dance (DANC) 117, Modern I  
 Dance (DANC) 211, Ballet II  
 Dance (DANC) 213, Jazz II  
 Dance (DANC) 217, Modern II  
 Dance (DANC) 311, Ballet III  
 Dance (DANC) 313, Jazz III  
 Dance (DANC) 317, Modern III  
 Military Science (MIL) 101, Military Mountaineering and  
 Leadership  
 Music (MUS) 347, Marching Band  
 Performance (PERF) 105, Taiji  
 Performance (PERF) 110 Mat Pilates  
 Physical Education (PE) 100, Concepts of Lifetime Fitness and  
 Wellness  
 Physical Education (PE) 101, 102, Activity Course  
 Psychology (PSY) 250, Adjustment and Personal Growth  
 Public Health (PH) 100, Personal Health  
 Public Health (PH) 111, Human Nutrition  
 Public Health (PH) 165, Drug Abuse  
 Safety (SFTY) 171, Safety and First Aid

## Total Minimum General Education Requirements . . . . . 44 hours