

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 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 that 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 or College Composition Modular (3 hours).

### 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 (ASL) 101, 102
- Arabic (ARBC) 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
- Latin (RELS) 150, 151
- Pali (RELS) 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]

## 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/Renaissance 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, Symbolic 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, Christianity

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 B-II, 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  
 Economics (ECON) 150, Introduction to Economics [h]  
 Economics (ECON) 202, Principles of Economics (micro)  
 Economics (ECON) 203, Principles of Economics (macro)  
 Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) 311, Family Relations [h]  
 Finance (FIN) 161, Personal Finance  
 Folk Studies (FLK) 371, Urban Folklore  
 Gender and Women's Studies (GWS) 200, Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies [h]  
 Geography (GEOG) 216, Geotechnologies in a Global Community  
 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

- ◆ 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 (DL). 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) 280, Intro to Environmental Science
- 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, Introduction to Modern Physics Lab (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 I
- Physics (PHYS) 256, University Physics I Lab (DL)
- Public Health (PH) 280, Intro/Environmental Science

- ◆ When 3 hours of CLEP examination credit in Natural Science 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, 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 (3 hours) - Category D-II

### 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 Literature
- 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
- Dance (DANC) 360, Dance in Culture  
(Honors participation or 3.2 GPA required.)

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 Systems  
 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, Colonial Latin America, 1400-1825  
 History (HIST) 365, Modern Latin America, 1800-Present  
 History (HIST) 370, Modern South Asia  
 History (HIST) 461, Modern East Asia  
 History (HIST) 463, The Atlantic World  
 Hospitality Management and Dietetics (HMD) 170, International Cuisine  
 Interior Design Fashion Merchandising (IDFM) 346, Architecture/Culture (Honors participation or 3.2 GPA required.)  
 Interior Design Fashion Merchandising (IDFM) 431, Clothing and Human Behavior  
 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, Buddhism  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 303, Hinduism  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 304, Judaism  
 Religious Studies (RELS) 306, Islam  
 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, Social Institutions: 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 and South Asia, and History of East and Southeast Asia accepted.

**F. Health and Wellness . . . . . 2 hours**

Animal Science (ANSC) 232, Basic Equitation  
 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  
 Hospitality Management and Dietetics (HMD) 211, Human Nutrition  
 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) 165, Drug Abuse  
 Safety (SFTY) 171, Safety and First Aid

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

The revised Kentucky General Education Transfer Policy (2012) outlines the purpose and guidelines for the transfer of general education across Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions. WKU supports the policy. For more details see: <http://cpe.ky.gov/policies/>. In accordance with KRS 164.2951 an appeal process regarding statewide general education transfer credit is available. For more details see: [http://www.wku.edu/admissions/transfer/documents/appeals\\_process.pdf](http://www.wku.edu/admissions/transfer/documents/appeals_process.pdf).

**General Education Requirements for Associate Degrees**

Students in Associate Degree programs must take a minimum of 15 hours of General Education courses as outlined below:

- **Category A1: Organization and Communication of Ideas . . . . . 3 hours**  
 ENG 100/ENGL 100C, Freshman English
- **Category B: Humanities . . . . . 3 hours**  
 Any class from section I or section II (Electives)
- **Category C: Social and Behavioral Sciences . . . . . 6 hours**  
 Any two classes
- **Category D: Natural Sciences-Mathematics . . . . . 3 hours**  
 Any class from section I (Science) or section II (Mathematics)