General Education courses are a required part of all B.A. and B.S. degree programs and comprise a minimum of 44 of the 180 credit hours necessary for graduation. These courses help students build the foundational skills they will need for advanced study in their academic majors and assists them in developing a foundation of basic knowledge necessary for a more successful personal and professional life.

General education and degree requirements for the Bachelor of Music (B.M.), Honors Program, and Applied Baccalaureate (A.B.) may be found in the WOU Course Catalog. Completion of graduation requirements is the responsibility of the student.

It is critical that students consult with their academic adviser as they select general education courses. Many majors and minors have prerequisites or suggestions for coursework.

Courses completed as part of the general education requirements may also be used to fulfill requirements within a student’s major or minor program. Advisers can assist with clarifying this.

Transfer students who have not completed an approved transfer degree should meet with an adviser in Student Success and Advising. Exceptions to the following requirements may be an option.

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS**

(Two courses, 8 credits) Explore interesting topics in small classes while building foundational skills for college success. A topics list for the academic year may be found at: wou.edu/gened/fys-schedule

- PYS 107 Writing-Focused First-Year Seminar
- PYS 207 Quantitative-Focused First-Year Seminar

NAME:_________________________________________________

MAJOR:_________________________________________________
FOUNDATIONS

(Up to six courses, 10-28 credits) Practice learning skills applicable throughout your college career. The general education program highly recommends completing Foundations requirements, particularly writing and mathematics courses, as soon as possible.

FOUNDATIONS: Writing

(Up to two courses, 0-8 credits) Gain an introduction to processes, strategies, and conventions that promote the effective development and communication of ideas in writing. Students may demonstrate competency on WR 121 by earning a 560-800 score on the writing portion of the SAT and/or 21-30 score on the writing portion of the ACT. Go to wou.edu/english/first-year-writing for writing placement information.

- WR 121 (credit may be earned with an AP writing score of 3 or higher)
- WR 122

FOUNDATIONS: Mathematics*

(One course, 0-4 credits) Learn and practice problem solving, modeling, and quantitative reasoning and the communication of mathematical and logical arguments and concepts. Students may show competency by scoring 61 or higher on the WOU ALEKS Math Assessment, earned in a proctored and timed testing environment. Go to wou.edu/math/aleks for math placement information. *Students taking MTH 211 must also take MTH 212; all other students take one math course or demonstrate competency.

- MTH 105 Math in Society
- MTH 110 Applied College Mathematics
- MTH 111 College Algebra
- MTH 112 Trigonometry
- MTH 211 and MTH 212 Foundations of Elementary Mathematics
- MTH 231 Elements of Discrete Mathematics
- MTH 243 Statistics (credit may be earned with AP Statistics test score of 3 or higher)
- MTH 251 Calculus (credit may be earned with AP Calculus test score of 3 or higher)

FOUNDATIONS: Communication and Language

(One course, 3-4 credits) Create, deliver, analyze and receive meaningful messages.

- A 115 Beginning Design
- A 120 Foundations of Digital Art and Design
- ASL 101, 102, 103 American Sign Language I-III
- ASL 201, 202, 203 American Sign Language IV-VI
- COM 111 Principles of Public Speaking
- COM 112 Interpersonal Communication
- COM 211 Introduction to Mass Communication
- COM 212 Advertising and Society
- COM 236 Contemporary Issues in Media
- D 260 Dance Improvisation
- FR 101, 102, 103 First-Year French
- FR 201, 202, 203 Second-Year French
- FR 301 Intermediate French Composition and Phonetics
- GL 101, 102, 103 First-Year German
- GL 201, 202, 203 Second-Year German
- GL 301 Third-Year German
- LING 101 Language: Misconceptions vs. Reality
- LING 102 Language and Power
- LING 103 English in a Global Context
- SPAN 101, 102, 103 First-Year Spanish
- SPAN 201, 202, 203 Second-Year Spanish
- SPAN 301, 302 Third-Year Spanish
- SPAN 317, 318 Intermediate Spanish for Bilingual/Heritage Speakers

FOUNDATIONS: Critical Thinking

(One course, 3-4 credits) Effectively analyze, evaluate, synthesize and apply information and ideas from diverse sources and disciplines.

- CS 160 Survey of Computer Science
- CS 122 Introduction to Computer Science for Non-Majors
- PHL 100 Critical Thinking: Informal Logic
- PHL 103 Introduction to Logic
- SOC 224 Introduction to Sociology: Research

FOUNDATIONS: Health Promotion

(One course, 3-4 credits) Apply strategies for maintaining and improving health across the lifespan.

- HE 257 Health Promotion
EXPLORING KNOWLEDGE

(Six courses, 20-26 credits) Discover new content and ideas through exploration of a wide variety of scholarly topics. Begin your major while also gaining knowledge beyond it. Check with your adviser to see which of the Exploring Knowledge courses can also count in your major.

EXPLORING KNOWLEDGE: Literary and Aesthetic Perspectives

(Two courses, 6-8 credits) Study and participate in creative work to foster a deeper comprehension of human culture and the ways in which it affects who we are, both as communities and as individuals.

- A 116 Beginning Design: Three Dimensional
- A 130 Beginning Drawing
- A 204, 205, 206 Art History
- D 101, 102, 103, 104 Exploring Technique and Performance
- ED 230 Children’s Literature in Diverse Classrooms
- FR 110 Introduction to French Literature in Translation
- GEOG 207 Geography and Film
- GL 110 Introduction to German Literature in Translation
- LIT 101 Topics in Literature
- LIT 102 Literary Genres
- LIT 201, 202 Western Literature
- MUEN 101, 102, 103, 111, 112, 120, 141, 143, 151, 152, 161, 162, 163, 170, 171, 172, 201, 202 (Music Ensembles: Students may take 3-4 credits of MUEN coursework to fulfill one of the two courses required for Exploring Knowledge: Literary and Aesthetic Perspectives.)
- MUS 101 Pop Music in America
- MUS 102 Rock Music, A Social History
- MUS 103 Jazz History
- MUS 104 Music in Film
- MUS 105 Magic of Mozart
- MUS 107 Introduction to Music and its Literature
- MUS 111 Musicianship
- PHL 282 Philosophy of Art
- SPAN 110 Introduction to Spanish Literature in Translation
- SPAN 210 Topics in Hispanic Film
- SPAN 240 Greater Mexico: Culture and the Arts
- TA 110 Intro to the Theater Arts
- TA 112 Introduction to Film
- TA 251 Elements of Acting
- TA 252 Technical Theater Makeup
- TA 343 Costume Design
- WR 260 Creative Fiction Writing
- WR 301 Integrating Writing and Design

EXPLORING KNOWLEDGE: Scientific Perspectives

(Two courses, 6-8 credits) Engage in systematic study of the natural world and gain knowledge about the nature of science, the attitudes of science, and the skills needed for scientific inquiry.

- BI 101, 102 General Biology
- BI 134, 135 Introductory Human Anatomy and Physiology
- BI 211, 212, 213 Principles of Biology
- CH 103, 104, 105, 106 Introductory Chemistry
- CH 221, 222, 223 General Chemistry
- ES 104, 105, 106 Earth System Science
- ES 201, 202, 203 Principles of Geology
- GEOG 105 Introductory Physical Geography
- GEOG 240 Map & Air Photo Interpretation
- PH 201, 202, 203 General Physics
- PHL 283 Philosophy of Religion
- PS 193 Introduction to Model United Nations
- PS 201 American National Government
- PS 202 State and Local Government
- PS 203 International Relations
- PSY 201, 202 General Psychology
- R 201, 202, 204 Introduction to the World’s Religions
- SOC 223 Introduction to Sociology: Theory
- SOC 225 Social Problems
- SPAN 245 Translanguaging

EXPLORING KNOWLEDGE: Social, Historical and Civic Perspectives

(Two courses, 6-8 credits) Explore different approaches to the study of society and politics, including the contemporary and historical constitution of social and political ideas, relationships, structures and institutions.

- ANTH 213 Language and Culture
- ANTH 214 Physical Anthropology
- ANTH 215 Archaeology
- ANTH 216 Cultural Anthropology
- ASL 205 Introduction to ASL Studies
- CJ 213 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CJ 219 Ethics and Leadership in Criminal Justice
- CJ 220 Introduction to Homeland Security
- D 252 Dance in the Latin Diaspora
- D 253 Dances that Changed the World
- D 254 Dance, Gender and Society
- EC 201 Introduction to Microeconomics
- EC 202 Introduction to Macroeconomics
- ED 200 Foundations of Education
- ED 220 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- ED 231 Typical and Atypical Development
- ED 250 Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood
- GEOG 106 Introductory Economic Geography
- GEOG 107 Introductory Cultural Geography
- GER 320 Introduction to Gerontology
- HST 104, 105, 106 World History
- HST 201, 202, 203 History of the United States
- PHL 101, 102 Introduction to Philosophy
- PHL 251 Ethics
- PHL 283 Philosophy of Religion
- PS 193 Introduction to Model United Nations
- PS 201 American National Government
- PS 202 State and Local Government
- PS 203 International Relations
- PSY 201, 202 General Psychology
- R 201, 202, 204 Introduction to the World’s Religions
- SOC 223 Introduction to Sociology: Theory
- SOC 225 Social Problems
- SPAN 245 Translanguaging
INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE:

Citizenship, Social Responsibility and Global Awareness

(One course, 3-4 credits) Examine the intersection of citizenship with other forms of identity, explore the moral and life obligations inherent to being human, and the degree to which we have an obligation to benefit the whole of society and the world.

- ANTH 370 Women in Cross-Cultural Perspectives
- ANTH 376 Cultures of South Asia
- ANTH 380 Africa
- ANTH 392 Applied Anthropology
- ANTH 396 Environmental Anthropology
- ANTH 494 Northwest Indian Cultures
- CJ 267 Social Justice Research and Writing
- D 170, 171, 172 World Dance
- D 177 Hip Hop
- D 251 Introduction to Dance
- ED 481 Introduction to ESOL and Bilingual Education
- GEOG 327 Popular Culture in Global Perspective
- GEOG 330 Geography and Social Justice
- GEOG 380 Environmental Conservation
- GER 200 The Aging Self
- GER 340 Vulnerabilities in Older Adulthood
- GER 420 Global Aging
- HST 404, 405 Gender Issues in History
- HST 412 Yugoslavia
- HST 414 British History to 1300
- HST 423 Germany 1914-1945
- HST 426 Modern France
- HST 436 Modern Paris
- HST 444 Colonial North Africa
- HST 447, 448, 449 Middle Ages
- HST 459 Medieval Saints and Sinners
- PS 355 Civic Literacy and Engagement
- PS 414 Political Parties, Pressure Groups and Elections
- PS 433 Health Care Politics and Policy
- PS 492 Political Ideologies
- PSY 310 Building Resilience in Children
- WR 412 Writing Center Internship

INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE:

Science, Technology, and Society

(One course, 3-4 credits) Examine the myriad relationships and mutual influences between science and technology and society, culture, and/or politics.

- ANTH 369 Visual Anthropology
- BI 370 Humans and the Environment
- BI 441 Human Heredity
- CS 340 Ethics and Information Management
- ES 324 Living with Earthquakes and Volcanoes
- ES 420 Medical Geology
- GEOG 331 Environmental Justice
- GEOG 480 Nature and the American West
- HST 460 The Black Death
- HST 496 Empire and Environment
- WR 401 Writing Across Media

General education is a crucial component of the learning experience at Western Oregon University, providing students with fundamental skills for lifelong learning. Students apply, communicate and integrate ideas from a variety of disciplines. They gain abilities to think and act critically as citizens of a complex and ever-changing world. The curriculum empowers students to pursue diverse interests and perform varying roles in their personal, social and professional lives.

503-838-8348 | gened@wou.edu | Instructional Technology Center 205C