General Education

at Wright State

A bachelor’s degree awarded by a university implies more than career preparation or specialized technical competency. A university education should be broadly based in order to promote intellectual growth, cultivate critical examination and informed understanding, encourage breadth and flexibility of perspective, and provide students an opportunity to develop skills and knowledge that will form the basis for their life-long learning. Accordingly, the General Education program at Wright State University is a planned and coherent program that is designed to help students:

- sharpen critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills;
- learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community;
- increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future.

The General Education Program is required of all students and serves as a foundation upon which all baccalaureate programs are built.

As a part of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree at Wright State University, students must complete a minimum of 56 hours of course work in the General Education program. The specific requirements are listed below and must be completed prior to graduation. Students should complete English 101 and 102 and the General Education mathematics requirement by the time they have earned 60 credits at Wright State University.

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) in General Education

In addition to ENG 101 and 102, all undergraduate students must complete four writing intensive (WI) general education courses, or allowable substitutions.* GE writing intensive courses will be available within a number of areas, including (but not limited to) the following: Area II (all Non-Western World classes); Area III (SOC 200, SOC 205, WMS 200; EC 290, and some sections of EC 200); Area IV (all Great Books classes); Area V (some classes); Area VI (all classes). Students completing the 1987 General Education program may count writing intensive courses in the 2003 GE program toward fulfilling their writing intensive requirements.

Transfer and returning students should consult the Writing Across the Curriculum information in the Academic Standards and Requirements section of the Undergraduate Catalog or meet with their academic advisor to determine the number of WI classes (if any) needed to complete the WAC in General Education requirement.

*WI sections of approved General Education substitution courses are available. Students should consult with an academic advisor before registering for a GE substitution course.

Registration for Writing Intensive Courses

Each WI course is clearly identified in the quarterly class schedule. When registering for a WI course, students are automatically registered for the writing component of the course, a “0” credit hour lab. Students may not drop a WI course and lab separately.

Alternatives for Meeting WAC Requirement

Students who do not successfully complete the WI portion of four GE courses (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102) may satisfy the GE requirement in other ways. Students should consult the Writing Across the Curriculum information in the Academic Standards and Requirements section of the Undergraduate Catalog or contact an academic advisor for information on these options.

General Education Substitutions

Substitutions can be made for some General Education courses. Some major programs—as well as the preprofessional programs for premedical and predental students (consult the Preprofessional Programs information in the Academic Programs section of the Undergraduate Catalog)—may have program requirements that will affect a student’s choice of General Education courses. Approved substitutions listed in the General Education Program below are open to any student as an option to the General Education course with which they are listed.

Honors Sections

Honors sections of General Education courses are available for both entering freshmen and continuing Wright State students who meet Honors Program criteria. Honors sections are limited to an enrollment of 20; encourage student participation; offer more sophisticated and complex assignments; and provide greater opportunities for analysis, synthesis, and creative expression. Honors students may also choose to substitute UH 201, 202, and 203 for some General Education Areas and courses (these are designated in the General Education Program below in Areas III, IV, and V). For more information consult the University Honors Program information in the Academic Programs section of the Undergraduate Catalog.
Area I - Communication and Mathematical Skills

12 Hours

Area I requirements help students enhance abilities central to academic success, including the abilities to write appropriate academic conventions and to formulate and interpret mathematical models.

English Composition I and II
ENG 101-4 Academic Writing and Reading
ENG 102-4 Writing in Academic Discourse
(Grade of “C” or better in ENG 101 required)

Mathematics* (RS)
MTH 145-4 Mathematics and the Modern World
(DEV 095 or equivalent or at least level three on the math placement test required)

* Substitutions: MTH 143 or MTH 228 or MTH 229 and 230 or STT 264 and 265 or STT 160.

Area II - Cultural-Social Foundations

8 Hours Minimum
Select one course from each category:

Area II requirements help students develop a historical perspective on their own culture, an understanding of cultures beyond their own and an awareness of the realities of global interdependence.

History (RS)
CLS 150-4 Introduction to Greek and Roman Culture
HST 101-4 Ancient and Medieval Europe
HST 102-4 Early Modern Europe: 14th through 18th Centuries
HST 103-4 Modern Europe: 19th and 20th Centuries

The Non-Western World (WI)
CSE 250-4 Comparative Non-Western Economic Systems
CST 221-4 Comparative Non-Western Environments
CST 231-4 Comparative Non-Western Literature
CST 232-4 Comparative Non-Western Religions
CST 241-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures
CST 242-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures: Music
CST 243-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures: Art
CST 251-4 Comparative Non-Western Social Systems
HLT 202-4 Eastern Influences on Western Health
RSE 280-4 Regional Economic Studies: Pacific Rim
RST 261-4 Regional Studies: Japan
RST 262-4 Regional Studies: China
RST 271-4 Regional Studies: Africa
RST 281-4 Regional Studies: Latin America
RST 291-4 Regional Studies: Middle East
SW 272-4 Cultural Competence in a Diverse World
URS 200-4 Growth and Change in Urban Society

Area III - Human Behavior (RS)

8 Hours Minimum
Select two courses from different categories:

Area III requirements help students develop the skills to examine critically the complexity of human behavior and institutions through systematic analysis.

Economics (WI)
EC 200-4* Economic Life (some sections are WI)
EC 290-4 Economic, Business, and Social Issues

* Sequence substitution: EC 204 and 205 (neither is WI).

Political Science
PLS 200-4 Political Life

Psychology
PSY 105-4 Psychology: The Science of Behavior

Sociology (WI)
SOC 200-4 Social Life
SOC 205-4 The Sociological Imagination
WMS 200-4 Approaches to Women’s Studies

Substitution: Honors course UH 202 for any one Area III course.

Area IV - Human Expression (RS)

4 Hours Minimum
Select one course:

Area IV requirements will help students develop an intellectual and aesthetic appreciation of significant artistic works and of important literary, religious, and philosophical texts. Students will explore how such works express both personal vision and cultural concerns. They will also examine the specific means writers, composers and creative and performing artists adopt to communicate with their audience.

Great Books (WI)
CLS 204-4 Great Books: Classical Beginnings
ENG 204-4 Great Books: Literature
PHL 204-4 Great Books: Philosophy
REL 204-4 Great Books: Religion

Fine and Performing Arts
ART 214-4 Visual Art in Western Culture
MUS 214-4* Music in Western Culture
MUS 290-4 (WI) African American Music: America and Beyond
TH 214-4 Theatre in Western Culture

* Sequence substitution: MUS 121 and 122.

Area Substitution: Honors course UH 201 (WI) for Area IV.

Additional Courses from Areas II, III, and IV

8 Hours

This component provides students the opportunity for in depth study and thus the opportunity to strengthen understanding and competencies in two of three areas.

Select two additional courses from Areas II, III, or IV, one course from two of these three areas. Except for Area II, the course selected must come from a different subcategory than the course(s) chosen to meet the area requirement.

Select two additional courses from Areas II, III, or IV, one course from two of these three areas. Except for Area II, the course selected must come from a different subcategory than the course(s) chosen to meet the area requirement.
Area V - Natural Sciences (RS)

12 Hours
Select three courses (lecture and lab):
At least one must be WI (some section offerings are WI)

Area V courses emphasize scientific inquiry as a way to discover the natural world, and they explore fundamental issues of science and technology in human society.

Biology*
BIO 105-4 Introductory Biology: Food
BIO 106-4 Introductory Biology: Biodiversity
BIO 107-4 Introductory Biology: Disease

* Sequence substitution: BIO 111, 112, and 115.

Chemistry*
CHM 105-4 Chemistry of our World: Living Things
CHM 106-4 Chemistry of our World: Materials
CHM 107-4 Chemistry of our World: Energy and the Environment

* Sequence substitution: CHM 121, 122, and 123; or CHM 102, ANT 201 and 202.

Geology *
GL 105-4 The Planet Earth
GL 106-4 The Evolving Earth
GL 107-4 The Earth and Human Affairs

* Sequence substitutions: GL 251/252, 253/254, and 255/256.

Physics *
PHY 105/115-4 Sounds and Colors
PHY 106/116-4 Planetary Astronomy
PHY 107/117-4 Stars, Galaxies and the Cosmos

* Sequence substitutions: PHY 111/101, 112/102, and 113/103 or PHY 240/200, 242/202, and 244/204.

Substitution: Honors course UH 203 for any one Area V course, but not for a program science requirement.

Additional Area V sequence substitutions: BIO 345, CHM 245 or 246, GL 345 and PHY 245 or 246; BIO 107, HPR 250, and HPR 251.

Area VI - College Component (RS; WI; T)

4 Hours
Select one course specific to the college of your major:

Area VI requirements link general education more closely with study in the major, thereby making more apparent the applicability and transferability of general competencies to specialized study.

College of Education and Human Services
CNL 210-4 Understanding Emotional Intelligence
ED 210-4 Education in a Democracy
RHS 210-4 Introduction to Alcohol and Drugs

College of Engineering and Computer Science*
EGR 190-4 Fundamentals of Engineering and Computer Science

* Required of students admitted to this college with 45 or fewer quarter hours; students admitted with more hours must select another Area VI course approved by the department advisor.

College of Liberal Arts
AFS 200-4 What is African and African American Experience?
ATH 241-4 Introduction to Physical Anthropology
ATH 242-4 Introduction to Archaeology
CSE 250-4 Comparative Non-Western Economic Systems
CLS 204-4 Great Books: Classical Beginnings
CLL 260-4 Introduction to Classical Mythology
CST 221-4 Comparative Non-Western Environments
CST 231-4 Comparative Non-Western Literature
CST 232-4 Comparative Non-Western Religions
CST 241-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures
CST 242-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures: Music
CST 243-4 Comparative Non-Western Cultures: Art
CST 251-4 Comparative Non-Western Social Systems
EC 290-4 Economic, Business, and Social Issues
ENG 204-4 Great Books: Literature
HST 200-4 Western Europe and Non-Western World
HST 220-4 Introduction to Gender History
HST 221-4 American Diversities
MUS 290-4 African American Music: America and Beyond
PHL 200-4 Critical Thinking
PHL 204-4 Great Books: Philosophy
REL 204-4 Great Books: Religion
RSE 260-4 Regional Economic Studies: Pacific Rim
RST 261-4 Regional Studies: Japan
RST 262-4 Regional Studies: China
RST 271-4 Regional Studies: Africa
RST 281-4 Regional Studies: Latin America
RST 291-4 Regional Studies: Middle East
SOC 200-4 Social Life
SOC 205-4 The Sociological Imagination
SW 272-4 Cultural Competence in a Diverse World
TH 250-4 Script Analysis
URS 200-4 Growth and Change in Urban Society
WMS 200-4 Approaches to Women’s Studies

Raj Soin College of Business
EC 290-4 Economic, Business, and Social Issues
FIN 205-4 Personal Financial Decision Making

College of Science and Mathematics*
EH 205-4 Environmental Science and Society
PSY 110-4 Psychology: The Science of Behavior II

* Majors in this college may be able to select other Area VI courses; consult the major program advisor.

WSU - Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health
HLT 201-4 Human Expressions of Health
HLT 202-4 The Languages of Health Data
NUR 212-4 Nursing for Health and Wellness Lifestyle

Total Hours Required 56

Descriptions of individual courses are available in the Course Descriptions section of the catalog.

RS = A required substitution or a required selection is possible; consult major program requirements.
WI = Writing Intensive courses. EC 200 (Area III) and Natural Sciences courses (Area V) offered as WI may vary from quarter to quarter; consult quarterly class schedule for WI offerings.
T = Students who complete an Area VI course in one college and then transfer to another may not need to take another Area VI course. Consult with the college to determine its transfer policy.

Note: A course listed in two areas may only be used to meet one area requirement.