

General Education Requirements

www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened

To appropriately balance specialized with general education aims, the UIUC Faculty–Student Senate implemented a set of General Education requirements for the campus. The categories that have been implemented for all students entering the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois are: the English Composition requirement, including Composition I and Advanced Composition; the Quantitative Reasoning I and Quantitative Reasoning II requirements; the Cultural Studies requirement; and the Non-Primary Language requirement. Specific requirements could be increased or other categories added. Although existing course requirements for each degree program may cover the implementation of these categories, some modification of requirements is possible when category implementation or expansion occurs and approved course lists for each category are released.

All University of Illinois students are subject to minimum requirements in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Humanities and the Arts, Natural Sciences and Technology, and Quantitative Reasoning. All College of ACES students are required to complete a minimum of six hours in each of the previously listed categories. For some curricula in the College, the General Education requirements are completed through courses already prescribed within the curriculum. For others, students will need to select from the approved list of courses available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened and in consultation with their academic advisors to fulfill the specific requirement. Additional courses are added to the lists as they are certified by the General Education Board. Courses that appear on multiple lists may not be used to fulfill more than one GenEd requirement, except in the case of Advanced Composition (a course can fulfill both the Advanced Composition requirement and any other requirements) and Cultural Studies (courses can fulfill both the Cultural Studies requirement and any other requirements).

Finally, it is important to note that courses may fill General Education requirements only after they have been reviewed and approved for GenEd certification by the UIUC General Education Board. Upon completion of this process, courses are added to the appropriate GenEd list with a certification date. Pay careful attention to this date when filling your degree requirements. A course taken on or after its certification date will count toward the requirement. If the course is taken before the effective date, it will not count. Students may select only GenEd Board–approved courses for fulfilling General Education requirements. Furthermore, courses taken on a credit-no credit basis may not be used to fulfill General Education requirements.

College of ACES Courses may not be used to fulfill both the specific requirements of the major and the Quantitative Reasoning I and II, Social

Sciences, Humanities, or Natural Sciences requirements. These ACE and ACES Courses can count towards ACE and ACES hours.

English Composition

Composition I

This requirement may be fulfilled by the satisfactory completion of one of the following selections or an equivalent: RHET 100 & 101 and RHET 100 & 102, or RHET 103 and 104, or RHET 105, or SPCM 111 and 112, or ESL 114 and 115. The SPCM 111 and 112 sequence fulfills not only the Composition I requirement but also the Speech requirement for all College of ACES Curricula.

Advanced Composition

This requirement is met by completing an approved writing-intensive course. The completion of the campus Composition I General Education requirement is the prerequisite for all Advanced Composition courses. Refer to the online Courses Catalog (www.courses.uiuc.edu/catalog) for additional prerequisites for specific courses. Only those courses or sections of courses designated as Advanced Composition or writing-intensive will fulfill this requirement. The Advanced Composition requirement is met by completing an approved writing-intensive course. Students who entered the College of ACES prior to Fall, 2007 must fulfill this requirement by taking a course offered on the UIUC campus. Students entering in Fall, 2007 and later may be able to transfer a course from another institution, but because Advanced Composition courses are approved on the basis of the methodology of the course rather than the course content, students are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement through a course on the UIUC campus. Some College of ACES curricula designate specific courses or a selection of courses for fulfilling the Advanced Composition requirement, while others allow students to pick any course from the approved list. A student should refer to her or his intended major for identifying the appropriate course(s) for fulfilling this requirement. The Advanced Composition approved course list is available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened. Advanced Composition courses may be used to fulfill other curriculum requirements.

Quantitative Reasoning

Quantitative Reasoning I

To graduate, a student must fulfill a two-part Quantitative Reasoning (QR) requirement designated Quantitative Reasoning I and Quantitative Reasoning II (see description below). Students should consult the requirement for their specific curriculum to identify the appropriate courses. Students in the College of ACES are required to enroll in their required Quantitative Reasoning I (mathematics) course no later than the first semester of their sophomore year. Students failing to complete the requirement that semester must enroll in and successfully complete it the following spring and/or summer. Students will not be allowed to begin their third year as an ACES student until the Quantitative Reasoning I requirement is satisfied. Furthermore, all Quantitative Reasoning I courses have at least one prerequisite. Students may satisfy the prerequisite(s)

by receiving the necessary score on the ACT Mathematics exam for the prerequisite(s) or by taking the prerequisite course(s). Students who are required to take a course to meet the prerequisite(s) for the Quantitative Reasoning I requirement must do so during their first semester of attendance at the UIUC/College of ACES and cannot elect the credit–no credit grading option. Transfer students must have completed their Quantitative Reasoning I requirements prior to their transfer to the UIUC.

Quantitative Reasoning II

The Quantitative Reasoning II requirement may be met in any one of these ways: by completing a second course that has been approved to satisfy the QRI requirement; by completing a course from the areas of mathematics, computer science, statistics, or formal logic that builds on and expands a prerequisite course taken to meet the QRI requirement; or by completing an approved course in any department at the 100, 200, or 300 level in which at least 25 percent of the course's graded material requires the use of mathematics, computer science, probability and statistics, or symbolic language (refer to the UIUC QRI and II guidelines at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened). Consult the QR II requirement for the specific curriculum to identify the appropriate course. In most curricula in ACES, this requirement is fulfilled by completing a course in statistics.

Cultural Studies

The UIUC requires that a minimum of two courses must be completed in the Cultural Studies area. One course must be approved as concentrating on Western culture and one on either non-Western culture or U.S. Minority culture. These courses may fulfill other curriculum requirements. Cultural Studies approved course lists are available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened.

Natural Sciences and Technology

Natural Sciences are those subjects that broaden an understanding of the biological and physical phenomena governing human beings and the universe in which they live. A minimum of six hours is required in all ACES curricula; most require more. For some ACES curricula, the Natural Sciences requirement is completed through courses already prescribed within the curriculum. For others, students will need to select from the approved GenEd lists. Students may only select courses from the approved list for fulfilling this requirement. The Life and Physical Sciences course lists are available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened.

Humanities and the Arts

Humanities and the Arts are those subjects that broaden an understanding of aesthetics and enhance the appreciation of human life, ideas, and values. A minimum of six hours is required in all ACES curricula; some require more. Students may only select courses from the approved list for fulfilling this requirement. The approved course list is available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Social and Behavioral Sciences are those subjects concerned with the understanding of human society and its elements—individuals, families, groups, and others—and of developments, relations, and institutions involved in human existence and well-being. A minimum of six hours is required in all ACES; some require more. Specific Social Sciences courses, prescribed in certain curricula, may be counted toward the six-hour total. Students should be sure to consult with their academic advisor and refer to their curriculum requirements prior to selecting courses to fulfill the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirements. Students may only select courses from the approved lists for fulfilling this requirement. The approved Social and Behavioral Sciences course lists are available at www.courses.uiuc.edu/gened.

Non-Primary Language

The Non-Primary (formerly referred to as foreign language) requirement must be completed for graduation. This requirement may be satisfied by: successfully completing a third-semester college-level course in the student's non-primary language; successful completion, in high school, of the third year of a language other than the student's primary language; or demonstrating proficiency at the third semester level in a language proficiency examination approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the appropriate department. If you enter UIUC without three years of the same non-primary language in high school, you must take a language placement test to determine the courses in which you should enroll. The College of ACES will require transfer applicants to have completed three years of one foreign language in high school or two semesters of one foreign language in college prior to admission.