

The General Education Curriculum at WVU Tech

May 2011

The Purpose of General Education

WVU provides students with a foundation of skills and knowledge necessary to reason clearly, communicate effectively, and contribute to society. The General Education Curriculum is designed to ensure that students meet these goals through inquire-based learning across the disciplines. In conjunction with a major field, and in consultation with their advisors, students will design programs of study that satisfy the GEC's Objectives. The learning objectives reflect the fact that, in an increasingly interdependent world, it is crucial that students learn to interact constructively with people from different cultures and understand viewpoints different from their own, and to identify and resolve issues of personal and professional ethics. The GEC strives to help students to become thoughtful participants in a democratic society, and to achieve the intellectual integration and awareness they need to meet changes and challenges in their personal, social, and professional lives.

Policies Governing the GEC

1. Students must complete between 42 and 44 credits to fulfill nine (9) GEC objectives.
2. Most courses fulfill two GEC objectives. The student will choose which one of those objectives a particular course will fulfill. One course cannot fulfill two objectives at the same time.
3. Unless disallowed by the major, courses satisfying GEC objectives may also satisfy course requirements for the major.
4. Students may fulfill up to three of the GEC objectives 2 through 9 (including 2A, 2B lab, 2B other, and 2C) with courses in one subject area (as defined by a common prefix, such as POLS or SOCA) and may fulfill GEC objectives 2 through 9 with up to two courses in each of any other subject areas. For example, a student might complete objectives 2 through 9 with three BIOL courses, one MATH, one CS, two HIST courses, two SPAN courses, one SOCA course, and one MUSC course.
5. No more than 3 credit hours of ROTC may count towards fulfillment of the GEC in each objective.
6. In addition to the nine objectives listed below, all students must successfully complete at least one course that requires a substantial writing component (officially designated as "W" courses) and in which the grade is partially determined by writing skills. English 102 must be completed before fulfilling the writing course requirement. A list of W courses follows the list of courses under the nine GEC objectives. The major program may require a specific W course.
7. Students working on a second bachelor's degree are exempt from the GEC requirements except for those courses designated as GEC that are required for the degree or are pre-requisites for courses required for the degree.

General Education Curriculum Objectives

1. Communication (6 credits)

Requirements

Successful completion of English 101, 102.

A component of Objective 1 requires the successful completion of a 'writing' (W) course, preferably in the major. **Currently, the following courses have been approved for meeting this requirement.**

ENGL 305

For Majors Only:

NSG 333

HIST 484

ACE 330

SM 487

CHE 451

2. Basic Mathematical Skills and Scientific Inquiry (14-16 credits)

Use quantitative and scientific knowledge effectively

Requirements

Successful completion of one course in mathematics or statistics. (3-4 credits)

Successful completion of a two course sequence with lab in the natural or physical sciences. (8 credits)

Successful completion of one additional course from Group A, Group B, or Group C that satisfies the objective. (3-4 credits)

Courses fulfilling this Objective:

Group A Math and Statistics

MATH 121(120)

MATH 155

MATH 123(124)

MATH 156

MATH 126

MATH 218

MATH 128

STAT 211 (210)

MATH 150

ECON 225

Group B. Lab science courses

BIOL 111

PHYS 101

BIOL 112 PHYS 102
CHEM 111 PHYS 111
CHEM 112 PHYS 112
CHEM 115 PHSC 101
CHEM 116 PHSC 102
CHEM 117
CHEM 118

Group C. Additional classes
CS 101

3. The past and its traditions (3 credits)

Apply knowledge, methods and principles of inquiry to understanding the past

Requirements

Successful completion of one course focused upon the historical, cultural or intellectual development of society.

Courses fulfilling this Objective:

ARHS 101 HIST 180
ENGL 225 HIST 207
ENGL 261 HIST 277
ENGL 262 HIST 354
ENGL 263 MATH 218
ENGL 272 POLS 102
HIST 152 POLS 220
HIST 153 SM 275
HIST 179

4. Contemporary Society (3-4 credits)

Apply knowledge, methods, and principles of inquiry to contemporary problems, ideas, and/or values

Requirements

Successful completion of one course focused upon contemporary issues, ideas, and/or values as seen from a humanistic or scientific perspective.

Courses fulfilling this Objective:

BIOL 122
COMM 100
COMM 102 MUSC 111

CS 101	POLS 102
ECON 201	POLS 220
ECON 202	POLS 260
ECON 301	PSYC 101
ECON 225	PSYC 241
ECON 401	PSYC 281
EDUC 200	SEP 271
GEOG 240	SEP 272
HIST 209	SOCA 101
HIST 261	SOCA 107 (207)
MILS 101	SOCA 221
MILS 102	SOCA 232
MILS 201	SPA 270
MILS 202	STAT 211 (210)

5. Artistic Expression (3 credits)

Apply methods and principles of critical inquiry to the analysis of literary or artistic expression

Requirements

Successful completion of one course in art, literature, or music.

Courses fulfilling this Objective:

ARHS 101	ENGL 241
ENGL 131	ENGL 242
ENGL 225	ENGL 261
ENGL 232	ENGL 262
ENGL 233	ENGL 263
ENGL 234	ENGL 272
ENGL 235	MUSC 111
	MUSC 115

6. The Individual in Society (4 credits)

Develop an awareness of human experience, including both personal and social dimensions

Requirements

Successful completion of UNIV 101 or equivalent course (1 credit) **

Successful completion of one additional course addressing personality, cognition, behavior, social interaction, critical reasoning, ethical judgment, psychological and physiological growth, and/or health and well-being. (3 credits)

** Students transferring to WVU Tech with 29+ hours for whom UNIV 101 or equivalent course requirement has been waived, may fulfill GEC 6 with 3 credits

Courses fulfilling this Objective:

BIOL 122	MILS 202
COMM 100	PSYC 101
COMM 102	PSYC 241
EDUC 200	PSYC 281
MILS 101	SEP 272
MILS 102	SOCA 221
MILS 201	SPA 270

7. American Culture (3 credits)

Develop knowledge critical to understand the issues that shape the culture of the United States

Requirements

Successful completion of one course that explores issues that have shaped the development of society in the United States.

ENGL 241	HIST 354
ENGL 242	MUSC 115
GEOG 240	SEP 271
HIST 152	SOCA 101
HIST 153	SOCA 107(207)
HIST 261	SOCA 232

8. Western Culture (3 credits)

Analyze historical, cultural, and/or political issues of a Western nation in an international context

Requirements

Successful completion of one course that explores issues pertaining to a western nation in an international context.

ECON 201	JRL 101
ECON 202	POLS 260
ECON 301	SOCA 105
HIST 207	SPAN 101

HIST 209
HIST 277
GEOG 102

SPAN 102
SPAN 203
SPAN 204

9. Non-Western culture (3 credits)

Analyze historical, cultural, and/or political issues of a non-Western area or nation

Requirements

Successful completion of one course that explores issues pertaining to a non-western nation in an international context.

GEOG 102
HIST 179
HIST 180
JRL 101
SOCA 105

SPAN 101
SPAN 102
SPAN 203
SPAN 204