GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Wayne State has had a University-wide Program in General Education since 1987 for all undergraduate students pursuing bachelor's degrees regardless of their academic specialties. These requirements contribute to the goal of ensuring that all students have the basic skills fundamental to success in college while simultaneously achieving the intellectual breadth necessary to place specialized and professional curricula in proper perspective. By means of the General Education Program, undergraduate students improve their skills and are introduced to methods of inquiry, modes of thought, bodies of knowledge, and representative ideas drawn from a wide range of academic disciplines.

Effective Fall 2018, the university has adopted major revisions to the general education curriculum. While aspects of the new curriculum are shared with the old curriculum, existing topics were revised and new topics created to specifically align with university’s mission and strategic plan. This includes commitments to global learning, diversity, equity and inclusion, and support for students' transition into the Wayne State University academic community. A maximum of 35 credits of Competencies, Group Requirements, and Wayne Experience Requirements shall comprise the General Education Program.

The General Education Requirements for students matriculating or graduating under the 2018-19 University Bulletin are organized into the categories below. Please contact your advisor if you have questions about General Education Requirements specific to your academic plan of work.

Competency Requirements

Learning Objectives: Competency Requirements ensure that students develop and demonstrate early in their academic careers fundamental skills in the following areas that underlie and make possible the acquisition of knowledge.

- Quantitative Experience (QE), satisfied through an appropriate course in mathematics, statistics, or quantitative reasoning.
- Oral Communication (OC)
- Written Communication (Basic Composition - BC, and Intermediate Composition - IC)

General Education Group Requirements

Learning Objectives: Group Requirements have a two-fold purpose:

1. to enable students to acquire knowledge and demonstrate understanding in a broad range of representative branches of knowledge; and
2. to enable students to develop and demonstrate the ability to apply methodological skills which encourage continued exploration on an independent level throughout their lives.

Group Requirements are organized in the following categories of inquiry:

- Cultural Inquiry (CI)
- Natural Scientific Inquiry (NSI)
- Social Inquiry (SI)
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Inquiry (DEI)
- Global Learning Inquiry (GL)
- Civic Literacy (CIV)

Exemptions for Second Degree and Transfer Students (General Education Program)

Students who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and who seek a second bachelor’s degree are exempt from the University-wide General Education Requirements, but must satisfy all School/College, department and program requirements.

Equivalent courses taken at another institution may satisfy General Education Requirements. In cases where this would exceed the limitation of sixty-four credits from a community college accepted on a transfer basis, such courses shall satisfy the requirements, but the credits will not count towards the degree.