

# General Education Requirements

## **The General Education Rationale Statement**

General education is the curricular foundation at Northwest Missouri State University. It encourages students to acquire and use the intellectual tools, knowledge, and creative capabilities necessary to study the world as it is, as it has been understood, and as it might be imagined. It also furnishes them with skills that enable them to deepen their understanding and to communicate it to others. Through general education, Northwest equips students for success in their specialized areas of study and for fulfilled lives as educated persons, as active citizens, and as effective contributors to their own prosperity and to the general welfare.

Knowledge is ever changing; therefore general education must alert students to the connections and the potential for interaction among all branches of knowing, ordering, and imagining. General education should inform students that the world is understood in different ways and should provide them with the means to come to terms, intelligently and humanely, with diversity. As a result of their general education, students should acquire appropriate investigative, interpretative, and communicative competencies.

## **The General Education Portion of Degree Requirements**

In order to complete the bachelor's degree, students must take the general education requirements for their specific degree, plus the institutional requirements for their specific degree, plus major and/or minor requirements as specified by the department, plus electives as needed to total a minimum of 124 semester hours.

**It is important for students to work closely with their academic advisors when selecting courses, as not all courses fulfill requirements for all degrees. Students who change their majors, choose double majors or additional certification, or who do not choose courses carefully may need more than 124 semester hours to complete a degree program.**

## **General Education Requirements**

General Education courses are required for the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Fine Arts, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Science in Education, and the Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology.

Required courses for the Bachelor of Technology may be chosen from the General Education Requirements. See page 77 for specific information on this degree.

Any courses taken to fulfill the General Education Requirements cannot also fulfill the Institutional Requirements or Major/Minor requirements, unless specifically permitted in this catalog.

It is recommended that students carefully sequence courses from the General Education Requirements during their freshman and sophomore years.

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

**FRESHMAN SEMINAR** (pages 38, 81, 234, 302) ..... **1 hour**

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATION** ..... **6 hours**

Required Courses:

- Any student with ACT English score of 19 or above
  - Eng 10-111 Composition (page 164) ..... 3 hours
  - Eng 10-112 Composition (page 164) ..... 3 hours
- For students with ACT English score of 27 or above
  - Eng 10-115 Composition (page 164) ..... 3 hours
  - Eng ACT credit upon successful completion of Eng 10-115,  
except for students with previous English composition credit ..... 3 hours

Students who have an ACT English score of 27 or above may elect to take Eng 10-111 and Eng 10-112. Students with credit for Eng 10-111 and an ACT English score of 27 or above may elect to take Eng 10-115 for three hours credit rather than Eng 10-112. **No student may receive more than six hours of credit for the freshman composition requirement.**

**NOTE:** Eng 10-110 Developmental English is a prerequisite for students who do not meet placement criteria for Eng 10-111.

**ORAL COMMUNICATION** ..... **3 hours**

Required Course:

- Com 29-102 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (page 148) ..... 3 hours

**MATHEMATICS: Advisement necessary for correct selection** ..... **3 hours**

Required: One of the following courses:

- Math 17-110 Finite Mathematics (page 205) ..... 4 hours
- Math 17-114 General Statistics (page 207) ..... 3 hours
- Math 17-115 Concepts of Mathematics (page 206) ..... 3 hours
- Math 17-117 Precalculus (page 206) ..... 4 hours
- Math 17-118 College Algebra (page 206) ..... 3 hours
- Math 17-120 Calculus I (page 206) ..... 4 hours
- Math 17-171 Fundamentals of Mathematics (page 206) ..... 3 hours

**POLITICAL SCIENCE** ..... **3 hours**

Required Course:

- PolS 34-102 Introduction to American Government & Politics (page 198) ..... 3 hours
- OR
- PolS 34-201 Missouri Politics (page 198) See note below ..... 1 hour

**NOTE:** PolS 34-201 is the required course for students who have credit for an American Government course which did not include a study of the Missouri Constitution. (Students successfully completing PolS 34-203 State and Local Government at Northwest may have PolS 34-201 Missouri Politics waived. See chairperson of the Department of History, Humanities, Philosophy and Political Science for approval of this waiver.)

**HISTORY .....3 hours**

Required Course:

Hist 33-155 America—A Historical Survey (page 194) ..... 3 hours

**LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES .....8 hours**

Required: One course from each area.

**Life Sciences**

Ag 03-130 Plant Science (page 257) ..... 4 hours

Bio 04-102/103 General Biology/Lab (page 110) ..... 4 hours

Bio 04-112/113 General Botany/Lab (page 110) ..... 4 hours

Bio 04-114/115 General Zoology/Lab (page 110) ..... 4 hours

**Physical Sciences**

Chem 24-112/113 General Chemistry/Lab (page 127) ..... 4 hours

Chem 24-114/115 General Chemistry I/Lab (page 127) ..... 4 hours

Geol 27-110/111 General Geology/Lab (page 180) ..... 4 hours

Geol 27-114/115 General Earth Science/Lab (page 180) ..... 4 hours

Phys 25-110/111 General Physics I/Lab (page 130) ..... 4 hours

Phys 25-112/113 General Physics II/Lab (page 131) ..... 4 hours

Phys 25-120/121 Fundamentals of Classical Physics I/Lab (page 131) .. 5 hours

Phys Sci 40-102/103 The Physical Sciences /Lab (page 130) ..... 4 hours

Phys Sci 40-122/123 Descriptive Astronomy/Lab (page 130) ..... 4 hours

**HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS .....9 hours**

Required: One course from each area.

**Literature**

Eng 10-220 Introduction to Literature (page 162) ..... 3 hours

**Humanities/Philosophy**

Com 29-235 Introduction to Classical Rhetoric (page 149) ..... 3 hours

Hum 26-102 Western Civilization I: The Ancient World  
to 1500 (page 196) ..... 3 hours

Hum 26-103 Western Civilization II: 1500 to the Present (page 196) ... 3 hours

Hum 26-104 The Humanities, The Eastern World (page 196) ..... 3 hours

Phil 39-171 Introduction to Philosophy (page 196) ..... 3 hours

Phil 39-274, 275, 276 Introduction to Ethics (page 197) ..... 3 hours

PolS 34-105 The African World (page 198) ..... 3 hours

**Fine Arts**

Art 13-102 Art Appreciation (page 89) ..... 3 hours

Art 13-110 Survey of Art (page 90) ..... 3 hours

Mus 19-201 The Enjoyment of Music (page 220) ..... 3 hours

Mus 19-202 Jazz Appreciation (page 220) ..... 3 hours

PE 22-262 History of Dance (page 344) ..... 3 hours

Th 43-101 Theatre Appreciation (page 151) ..... 3 hours

**SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES .....6 hours**

Required: One course from each area.

Education degrees require Psych 08-303 Educational Psychology.

**Social Sciences**

Ag 03-102 Introductory Agricultural Economics (page 255) ..... 3 hours

Econ 52-130 Survey of Economics (page 241) ..... 3 hours

Econ 52-150 General Economics I (page 241) ..... 3 hours

Geog 32-101 Introduction to Geography (page 178) ..... 3 hours

Soc 35-101 General Sociology (page 363)..... 3 hours

Soc 35-108 General Anthropology (page 365) ..... 3 hours

**Behavioral Sciences**

Psych 08-103 General Psychology (page 360)..... 3 hours

Psych 08-303 Educational Psychology (page 361)..... 3 hours

**TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS .....42 HOURS**