

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 Music Education, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Science in Education, the Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Sciences, and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program.

Required courses for the Bachelor of Technology may be chosen from the General Education Requirements. See pages 77-78 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 82, 253, 318) 1 hour

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION 6 hours

Required Courses:

Any student with ACT English score of 19 or above

ENGL 10-111 Composition I: Academic Literacies (page 95) 3 hours

ENGL 10-112 Composition II: Writing as Engagement (page 96) . . . 3 hours

For students with ACT English score of 27 or above

ENGL 10-115 Accelerated Composition (page 96) 3 hours

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

NOTE: ENGL 10-110 Introduction to College Writing is a prerequisite for students who do not meet placement criteria for ENGL 10-111.

ORAL COMMUNICATION 3 hours

Required Course:

COM 29-102 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (page 303) 3 hours

MATHEMATICS: Advisement necessary for correct selection 3 hours

Required: One of the following courses:

MATH 17-110 Finite Mathematics (page 182) 4 hours

MATH 17-114 General Statistics I (page 184) 3 hours

MATH 17-115 Concepts of Mathematics (page 182) 3 hours

MATH 17-117 Precalculus (page 182) 4 hours

MATH 17-118 College Algebra (page 182) 3 hours

MATH 17-120 Calculus I (page 182) 4 hours

MATH 17-171 Fundamentals of Mathematics (page 183) 3 hours

NOTE: MATH 17-090/091 Math Skills is a prerequisite for students who do not meet placement criteria for the Mathematics choices listed above.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 3 hours

Required Course:

POLS 34-102 Introduction to American
Government & Politics (page 162) 3 hours

OR

POLS 34-201 Missouri Politics (page 162) 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 Humanities and Social Sciences for approval of this waiver.)

HISTORY 3 hours

Required Course:

HIST 33-155 America—A Historical Survey (page 158)..... 3 hours

LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES 8 hours

Required: One course from each area.

Life Sciences

AGRI 03-130 Plant Science (page 267) 4 hours

BIOL 04-102/103 General Biology/Lab (page 225)..... 4 hours

BIOL 04-112/113 General Botany/Lab (page 226) 4 hours

BIOL 04-114/115 General Zoology/Lab (page 226) 4 hours

Physical Sciences

CHEM 24-112/113 General Chemistry/Lab (page 231) 4 hours

CHEM 24-114/115 General Chemistry I/Lab (page 231)..... 4 hours

GEOG 27-110/111 General Geology/Lab (page 234) 4 hours

GEOG 27-114/115 General Earth Science/Lab (page 234)..... 4 hours

PHYS 25-110/111 General Physics I/Lab (page 243) 4 hours

PHYS 25-112/113 General Physics II/Lab (page 243)..... 4 hours

PHYS 25-120/121 Fundamentals of Classical Physics I/Lab (page 243) . 5 hours

PHSC 40-102/103 The Physical Sciences /Lab (page 242)..... 4 hours

PHSC 40-122/123 Descriptive Astronomy/Lab (page 243) 4 hours

HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS9 hours

Required: One course from each area.

Literature

ENGL 10-220 Introduction to Literature (page 93) 3 hours

Humanities/Philosophy

COM 29-235 Introduction to Classical Rhetoric (page 303) 3 hours

HUM 26-102 Western Civilization I: The Ancient World
to 1500 (page 155) 3 hours

HUM 26-103 Western Civilization II: 1500 to the Present (page 155) . . . 3 hours

HUM 26-104 The Humanities, The Eastern World (page 155)..... 3 hours

PHIL 39-171 Introduction to Philosophy (page 161) 3 hours

PHIL 39-274, 275, 276 Introduction to Ethics (page 161)..... 3 hours

POLS 34-105 The African World (page 162)..... 3 hours

Fine Arts

ART 13-102 Art Appreciation (page 111) 3 hours

ART 13-109 Survey of Art I: Prehistory through
Medieval Art (page 113)..... 3 hours

ART 13-111 Survey of Art II: Renaissance to the Present (page 113) . . 3 hours

MUS 19-201 The Enjoyment of Music (page 123)..... 3 hours

MUS 19-202 Jazz Appreciation (page 123) 3 hours

MUS 19-222 American Popular Music (page 123) 3 hours

THEA 43-101 Theatre Appreciation (page 136) 3 hours

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES6 hours

Required: One course from each area.

Education degrees require PSYC 08-303 Educational Psychology.

Social Sciences

AGRI 03-102 Introductory Agricultural Economics (page 265) 3 hours

ECON 52-130 Survey of Economics (page 282) 3 hours

ECON 52-150 General Economics I (page 282) 3 hours

GEOG 32-101 Introduction to Geography (page 156) 3 hours

SOC 35-101 General Sociology (page 331) 3 hours

SOC 35-108 General Anthropology (page 333) 3 hours

Behavioral Sciences

PSYC 08-103 General Psychology (page 328) 3 hours

PSYC 08-303 Educational Psychology (page 329) 3 hours

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**42 HOURS**

Institutional Requirements

The Institutional Requirements Rationale Statement

Preparing students to enter a world of constant change entails preparing them for a global multicultural world. Changes in the cultural and international profile of the world have been constant and continue to impact the consciousness of us all, even in isolated rural areas of the world. In today's world, it is rare to be involved in business or leisure activities that do not involve diversity of class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, exceptionalism, religion, language, and age. Helping students to understand the importance of recognizing and respecting differences in behaviors, values, opinions, and points of view across these dimensions will greatly enrich their lives as they enter an environment of change and diversity. Technology, also, is constantly evolving. In fact, changes occur at such a fast pace that skills acquired only months ago can quickly become outdated. Thus, in order to prepare students to be autonomous learners, students should understand cutting edge technologies; how technology shapes and forms us as individuals, as communities, and as a world; and how technology enables us to continue to improve and evolve.

The Institutional Requirements Portion of Degree Requirements

In order to complete the bachelor's degree, students must take the general education requirements for their specific degree, plus 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.

Institutional Requirements

Institutional Requirements courses are required for the existing degrees: Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Fine Arts, the Bachelor of Music Education, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Science in Education, the Bachelor of Technology, the Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Sciences, and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program.

Any course taken to fulfill the Institutional Requirements cannot also fulfill the General Education Requirements or Major/Minor requirements, unless specifically permitted in this catalog. Language courses meeting the Multicultural/Diversity competency requirement may also be counted toward the B.A. degree Language Requirement.

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

Institutional Requirements

Required: one course from each area

MULTICULTURAL/DIVERSITY COMPETENCY 3 hours

- COM 29-225 Intercultural Communication (page 303) 3 hours
- EDUC 61-252 Pluralism in a Multicultural Society (page 365) 3 hours
- ENGL 10-224 Multiethnic Literature of the U.S. (page 93) 3 hours
- ENGL 10-226 Modern and Contemporary World Literature (page 93) 3 hours
- GEOG 32-102 People and Cultures of the World (page 156) 3 hours
- HUM 26-162 Comparative Religions (page 155) 3 hours
- LANG 14-131 French: Communication and Culture I (page 98) 3 hours
- LANG 14-132 French: Communication and Culture II (page 98) 3 hours
- LANG 14-141 Spanish: Communication and Culture I (page 99) 3 hours
- LANG 14-142 Spanish: Communication and Culture II (page 99) 3 hours
- LANG 14-151 Introduction to American Sign Language and
Deaf Culture (page 100) 3 hours
- MCOM 20-221 Ethnographic Film Study (page 306) 3 hours
- MUS 19-280 World Music (page 123) 3 hours
- REC 45-211 Leisure and Society (page 350) 3 hours

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPETENCY 3 hours

- CSIS 44-130 Computers and Information Technology (page 185) 3 hours
- EDCI 62-130 Educational Computing and Technology (page 367) 3 hours
- EDUC 61-145 Information and Educational Technology (page 364) 3 hours
- GEOL 27-130 Information Technology and Science (page 234) 3 hours
- HUM 26-105 Information Technology and Culture (page 155) 3 hours
- PHSC 40-106 Computational Methods in Science (page 243) 3 hours