North Carolina Central University
General Education Curriculum
Goals of the General Education Curriculum

The goals are:

• To provide opportunities for students to further develop the skills necessary to succeed in academic, professional, and social environments while facilitating lifelong learning and teamwork;
• To develop students’ ability to master fundamental methods of scientific inquiry;
• To develop sufficient knowledge relating to diverse cultures and the human experience within this global society;
• To develop students’ critical analysis and analytical skills for the globally competitive, technologically-based socioeconomic of the twenty-first century;
• To provide an opportunity for students to become culturally aware of their heritage and traditions; and
• To accommodate a seamless transition for students from community colleges in adherence with the University of North Carolina – North Carolina Community Colleges System (UNC-NCCCS) standards.

Program Learning Outcomes

• Upon completion of the Communications Unit, students will demonstrate marketable skill levels in written and oral expression in English and communication in a second language, and fluency in information technology.
• Students completing the Mathematics and Science Unit will acquire competency in the application of the qualitative and quantitative methods of mathematics and the natural sciences.
• Students completing the Social Science Unit will acquire an understanding of the major historic and social developments that define world cultures.
• Students will be able to articulate the aesthetic, historical, cultural, and social foundations of literature, performing and visual arts, philosophy or religion.
• Students will be able to identify personal, mental, and physical health issues that reflect contemporary trends locally, nationally, and internationally.
• Students will gain an informed awareness of their personal and social skills, as well as career development.
• Students will demonstrate a high level of analytical thinking.
North Carolina Central University's General Education Curriculum (GEC) prepares students academically and professionally for leadership in a culturally diverse world. Emphasis is placed upon oral and written communications, scientific inquiry, technological proficiency, ethics, and critical thinking. The GEC offers students instruction in interdisciplinary as well as single-discipline courses. It is designed to meet the needs of the university’s diverse student population, and is an integral part of each student’s academic experience.

In some areas of study, students may be enrolled in courses according to their demonstrated skill level. However, if they so choose, students have the opportunity to challenge course placement in order to receive advanced standing.

The General Education Curriculum permits students to select courses depending upon their major or interests. In some instances, courses may satisfy both the general education and the degree major requirements.

GEC credits will readily transfer to any four-year institution and the Curriculum complies with all community college transfer agreements.

The General Education Curriculum has six academic components:

- Communications in English and Foreign Languages
- Mathematics and the Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Arts and Humanities
- Health and Wellness
- Social/Career Enhancement and Development

Ethics and technology/computer proficiency are integrated throughout the Curriculum.

The Curriculum is characterized by four unifying themes.

- Communications
- Global Awareness
- Critical and Analytical Thinking
- Professional Development

The number of credit hours in the General Education Curriculum (38 – 43) makes it possible for students to double major, minor in one or more disciplines, or take a variety of electives that will enhance their professional aspirations.

Along with the degree major program, the Curriculum affords each student the opportunity to design for the best career options that a university degree can offer. North Carolina Central University's faculty and staff will work together with students to ensure that all students are placed into the proper GEC courses and that they receive the credits they have earned from all other eligible courses.
The GEC ensures you will know how to Think Critically and WRITE and SPEAK clearly
General Education Curriculum Requirements

I. Communications in English and Foreign Languages
(9 - 15 credit hours)

Students will continue to develop skills and competencies in written expression in English. In addition, students should be able to communicate in and understand a second language.

A. English (6 credit hours)
   Two courses are required.
   ENG 1110 English Composition I (3)
   ENG 1210 English Composition II (3)

   Students may be exempt from ENG 1110 based upon earned AP credit. Academic advisors may suggest that these students complete literature courses. Other students may be required to take EDU 1000—Reading Laboratory based on placement test scores.

B. Foreign Language (3 credits)
   One Level III course of a foreign language is required.
   FREN 1142 French III (3)
   GERM 1162 German III (3)
   JAPN 1172 Japanese III (3)
   SPAN 1152 Spanish III (3)
   MFL  1182 Critical Languages (3)*

   *(In collaboration with NCSU, UNC, and Duke)

First-year students are required to take a placement examination in the desired foreign language. Students who place into Level III must take the Level III course to meet the language requirement. Students who place into Level I must complete Level I, II and III courses. Students who place into Level II must complete Level II and III courses. A student who places beyond Level III will have met the language requirement for the University and no further course work is required.

II. Mathematics and Science
(12-16 credit hours)

Students will continue to develop skills in the application of qualitative and quantitative methods of mathematics and the natural sciences.

A. Mathematics (6-8 credit hours)
   Two of these courses (or a higher level of mathematics) are required.
   MATH 1100 College Algebra and Trigonometry I (3)
   MATH 1110 Elementary Statistics (3)
   MATH 1200 College Algebra and Trigonometry II (3)
   MATH 1210 Finite Mathematics (3)
   MATH 1410 Pre-Calculus Mathematics (5)

   Based upon placement test scores, students may be required to complete MATH 1000—Intermediate College Algebra with a grade of C or better before pursuing the GEC mathematics and science requirements. Students who are placed into MATH 1000 may receive elective credit but not GEC credit for completing the course. Higher-level mathematics or statistics are offered by the mathematics department and approved by the advisor.
B. Sciences (6-8 credit hours)
   Two of these courses are required.
   BIOL 1000 Heredity and Society (3)
   BIOL 1100 General Biology (3)
   BIOL 1300 Molecules and Cell Function (4)
   BIOL 2105 Computational Science and Informatics (3)
   CHEM 1000 Physical Science and Related Chemistry (3)
   CHEM 1100 General Chemistry I (4)
   CHEM 1200 General Chemistry II (4)
   CHEM 1500 Chemistry and Human Life (3)
   CHEM 2105 Computational Science and Informatics (3)
   GEOG 2010 Online Weather (3)
   GEOG 2100 Physical Geography (3)
   GEOG 2120 Geology (3)
   GEOG 2350 Earth Science (3)
   PHYS 1000 Physics with Application to Environmental Topics (3)
   PHYS 1210 The Language of Science (3)
   PHYS 2050 Astronomy (3)
   SCI 1220 Science Odyssey (4)

III. Social Sciences
    (6 credit hours)
    Students will demonstrate an understanding of the major historic and social developments that define world cultures and the impact of anthropological and geographical influences.
    A. Social Sciences
       This course is required.
       HIST 1320 World Societies (3)
       One of these courses is required.
       ECON 2200 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)

ECON 2300 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
GEOG 1000 Introduction to Geography (3)
GEOG 1100 World Regional Geography (3)
HIST 1530 The Black Experience to 1865 (3)
HIST 1540 The Black Experience Since 1865 (3)
POLS 2100 Introduction to American Government (3)
PSY 2100 General Psychology (3)
SOCI 2000 Society and Human Behavior (3)
SOCI 2100 Principles of Sociology (3)
SOCI 2300 Environment, Economy and Society (3)

IV. Arts and Humanities
    (5-6 credit hours)
    Students will demonstrate an understanding of the aesthetic, historical, cultural and social foundations of literature, performing and visual arts, philosophy and/or religion. Emphasis will be placed on the links among the arts and humanities.
    A. Arts and Humanities
       One of these courses is required.
       HUM 2410 Arts and Humanities I (3)
       HUM 2420 Arts and Humanities II (3)

       One of these courses is required.
       ART 1000 Introduction to the Study of Art (2)
       ART 1200 African -American Art History (3)
       ART 1500 Survey of the History of Art (3)
       DRAM 1000 Appreciation of Drama (2)
       DRAM 2110 History of Theatre I (3)
       DRAM 2120 History of Theatre II (3)
VI. Social and Career Enhancement/Development
(2 credit hours)

Students will enhance their personal, social and career development. Emphasis will be placed on basic technology and computer literacy, ethics and values, leadership roles, and social issues and responsibilities.

A. Social and Career Enhancement/Development
This course is required.

HUSC 1521 Dimensions of Learning (2)

VII. Technology/Computer Proficiency

Entering students are expected to have basic computer skills related to the use of the Internet, word processing, and email. By the end of the first year, students should be able to employ technology to research, analyze and present information. These skills will be especially developed in the English Composition, Mathematics and Science, Social Science, and Dimensions of Learning courses. Students will continue to acquire and utilize more advanced computer and technology skills through coursework offered through their departments and majors.

VIII. Ethics

Through Dimensions of Learning, Social Science, Philosophy, and Arts and Humanities courses, students will encounter and examine important topics that will require analysis of ethical issues and behavior. In the major or minor program, students will continue to study the ethics related to a specific discipline.
The GEC ensures you will know how to

USE TECHNOLOGY

take a GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

and put ETHICS FIRST
In addition to completing the above requirements, students must complete a designated “writing-intensive” course and a “speaking-intensive” course. In the writing-intensive course, students will demonstrate their knowledge of the course’s subject matter through constructive critical writing and the production of effective written assignments related to the field. These courses engage students in writing as a form of critical inquiry and scholarly research in disciplines across the curriculum.

Writing-intensive courses require regular practice in and evaluation of writing through brief response papers, mid-length papers, and longer research projects. Assignments may include review essays, argumentative essays, critical essays, lab reports, research articles, policy memos, documented papers, personal responses to readings, business correspondence, and other types of writing required by the discipline.

It is strongly recommended that students complete ENG 1250 – Elements of Speech or ENG 2200 – Public Speaking to satisfy the speaking requirement. Students may complete a course in another subject where they will receive instruction in oral communication and will have opportunities to further develop and practice oral communications skills.

In most speaking-intensive courses, speaking is a part of the course methodology, not the subject matter of the course. Speaking-intensive courses may employ some combination of debates, oral exams, structured class discussion, oral presentations, panel discussions or other methods that use speaking elements in the teaching and learning processes. Writing-intensive and speaking-intensive courses may be listed in the General Education Curriculum, in the major, or as an elective. These courses are identified in the semester schedule of courses by the marker “WI” and “SI.”

General Education Curriculum requirements may also meet the requirements for the major, a minor, or a concentration. Courses that satisfy the General Education Curriculum and major requirements may meet the writing-intensive and speaking-intensive requirements if the courses are designated “WI” or “SI” in the semester course schedule. Therefore, the writing and speaking-intensive requirements may be completed within the General Education Curriculum or in the major.

Students who transfer to NCCU with the associate degree from North Carolina Community Colleges are not required to complete the writing-intensive and speaking-intensive courses unless the courses are part of the major, a minor, or concentration.
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