DEGREE AND GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

General Education Requirements
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign requires that all undergraduate students take General Education - or "Gen Ed" - courses to gain and use broad knowledge beyond the specialized learning they will do in a major field of study. These Gen Ed requirements cover the kinds of knowledge all students should have: the humanities and arts, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences and technology, quantitative reasoning, composition/writing, and cultural studies.

General Education courses at Illinois are mindful of our students' diverse backgrounds, needs, and interests, and are an essential component of the transformative learning that prepares our graduates to become alumni who make a significant societal impact. These courses build students' abilities to think critically, solve problems, generate new ideas and create knowledge, make connections between academic disciplines, respect and understand differences, and develop as citizens and leaders.

General Education at Illinois is more than a set of required courses; it is a gateway into the Illinois experience.

Courses are noted as fulfilling one or more of the following categories:

- Composition I
- Advanced Composition
- Humanities and the Arts: Literature & the Arts or Historical & Philosophical Perspectives
- Natural Sciences and Technology: Life Science or Physical Science
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures, Non-Western Cultures, and US Minority Cultures

For a list of current courses approved for General Education credit, please visit the Course Explorer (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/).

Written Communication Requirement
Undergraduate Students:
- Satisfactory proficiency in written communication is a requirement for all undergraduate degrees awarded at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This proficiency can be certified by the satisfactory completion of the “Composition I” general education requirement via the one-semester, four-hour course Rhetoric 105 (Writing and Research); the two-semester, eight-hour sequence of Rhetoric 101 (Principles of Writing) and 102 (Principles of Research) with Rhetoric 100 tutorials in both semesters; or the two-semester, six-hour sequence Communication 111 and 112 (Oral & Written Communication I and II).
- A student who achieved, prior to enrolling in college-level coursework, a sufficiently high score on either the appropriate college-preparatory English exam (currently ACT, SAT, AP, or IB) will earn course credit that fulfills the general education “Composition I” requirement and thus will satisfy the Written Communication requirement for graduation. More information can be found under “Proficiency Testing” at go.illinois.edu/pnp (http://go.illinois.edu/pnp/).

Graduate Students:
- Satisfactory proficiency in academic writing in English is a requirement for all graduate degrees awarded at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Graduate students who are admitted on limited status because they do not meet this proficiency requirement prior to admission may be placed into mandatory ESL courses based on the results of the EPT exam.
- Proficiency can then be certified by the satisfactory completion of a one-semester course (ESL 515) or the two-semester sequence (ESL 511 and 512). Students may also select equivalent coursework from the "English for specific purposes" tracks available through ESL (e.g., business track ESL 521, 522). International graduate students may also be required to take ESL 510 (Pronunciation).
- Mandatory ESL course assignments must be fulfilled in order to be eligible for graduation.

Kinesiology, Language Other Than English, and Undergraduate Open Seminar Credit
Credit for Kinesiology
Kinesiology courses numbered from 100 through 110 are activity courses. Credit earned in kinesiology activity courses may be included in the grade point average at the discretion of the individual colleges and may, at the discretion of the individual colleges, be included in the total hours required for graduation.

Language Other Than English Credit
- Effective for all entering freshmen in Fall 2000 or later, the following language requirement must be completed for graduation.

  1. Successfully completing a third-semester college-level course in a language other than English;
  2. Successful completion, in high school, of the third year of a language other than English; or
  3. Demonstrating proficiency at the third semester level in a language proficiency examination approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the appropriate department.
• Generally, one year of high school language study is equivalent to one
  semester of college study.

• Current list (http://fms.registrar.illinois.edu/Report/?
  file=CatalogInformation%5CLanguage%20Reqs
%5CCourses_Approved_Language_Requirements.xml) of courses
  approved to satisfy the language requirement.

• If you enter UIUC without three years of language other than English
  in high school, or you plan to continue with the language you studied
  in high school, you must take a language placement test to determine
  the courses in which you should enroll.

• An exception to the University third-level requirements is for the
  students in the Gies College of Business (BUS) who matriculated prior
  to Fall 2021 and all students in the Sciences and Letters Curriculum
  of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS). These students are
  expected to gain language knowledge equivalent to the completion
  of the fourth semester of college study in a language. The Language
  requirement may be met in any of the following ways:

  1. Successfully completing a fourth-semester college-level
     course in a language other than English;
  2. Successful completion, in high school, of the fourth year
     of a language other than English;
  3. Successful completion of the third-semester level in each
     of two different languages other than English by any
     combination of high school and college work;
  4. Demonstrating proficiency at the fourth-sememster level
     in a language proficiency examination approved by the
     College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the appropriate
     department.

• Students enrolled in the LAS Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
  Specialized Curricula are exempt from the four semester LAS
  Language requirement and must instead adhere to the Campus
  requirement of three semesters or equivalent. Please contact your
  adviser if you have any further questions.

• Except as prohibited or limited by the established policy of the
  student's college, credit in University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  language courses other than English taken to remove high school
  entrance deficiencies may, at the discretion of the college:

     1. be counted in the total hours required for graduation, or
     2. be accepted in partial or complete satisfaction of the
        language other than English requirement for the degree.

• Normally no more than ten hours of proficiency credit for the study
  of a single language other than English at the elementary and
  intermediate level shall be counted for graduation in the College
  of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Additional credit may be granted for
  advanced courses emphasizing literature and language structure
  rather than communicative competence in the language.

• Students with a verified Seal of Biliteracy will earn 8 hours of credit
  equivalent to the first two levels of foreign language regardless of
  the language other than English. The credit will appear as 8.00 Earned
  hours from Seal of Biliteracy on the official University of Illinois at
  Urbana-Champaign transcript in the Transfer Credit Accepted by the
  Institution section.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 05/2021