

General Education Curriculum Policy Proposal | Effective Fall 2026

Overview	Guiding Principles - General Education requirements should be the same across all undergraduate degrees. - A change of major should not lead to the “uncompletion” of a previously completed degree requirement. - Reduce the complexity of curriculum to better support students navigating their degree programs. General Education Curriculum - Recommendations based on the work of the Civic Learning/Civic Knowledge (CLCK) Advisory Group. - Adds a 3-unit requirement for Civic Institutions, reduces Building Connections requirement from 9 units to 6 units to maintain overall General Education total of 32 units. - Removes General Education Attribute definitions from university policy in order to focus only on requirements for students. Attribute definitions will be included on General Education website as additional information for faculty and students. General Education Implementation Advisory Group - Advisory group has been established by the Provost to identify implementation considerations and concerns; review implementation options and provide feedback; and ensure appropriate communication and coordination.		
Policy Sponsor	Greg Heileman, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs		
Responsible Unit	Undergraduate Education General Education	URL	https://undergraduate.arizona.edu/ https://ge.arizona.edu
Career Applicability	☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate ☐ Law ☐ Medicine ☐ Pharmacy ☐ Veterinary Medicine		
Approvals Granted <i>(for council use only)</i>	University-Wide GE Committee	Scheduled: 8/20/25, 9/3/25, 9/17/25	Status: Approved 9/17/25
	UGC Policies Subcommittee	Scheduled: 9/9/25	Status: Discussed 9/9/25
	Undergraduate Council	Scheduled: 9/23/25	Status: Approved 9/23/25
	Undergraduate CAAC	Scheduled: 9/23/25	Status: Approved 9/23/25
	Faculty Senate Executive Committee	Scheduled: 9/22/25	Status: Discussed 9/22/25
	Faculty Senate	Scheduled: 10/6/25	Status:
	Provost	Scheduled:	Status:

Policy Revision Side by Side

Additions in Green – Deletions in Yellow

Existing Policy			Proposed Edit		
General Education Curriculum			General Education Curriculum		
The University's General Education curriculum helps University of Arizona graduates attain fundamental skills and a broad base of knowledge to respond effectively to a complex world. The Office of General Education administers the University of Arizona's General Education Curriculum, in consultation with the University-Wide General Education Committee, which approves all courses that satisfy General Education requirements. All degree-seeking undergraduates must complete a minimum of 32 units of General Education coursework, including the minimum requirements from each category specified below. Additional general education courses may be selected as needed to meet the overall minimum requirement.			The University's General Education curriculum helps University of Arizona graduates attain fundamental skills and a broad base of knowledge to respond effectively to a complex world. The Office of General Education administers the University of Arizona's General Education Curriculum, in consultation with the University-Wide General Education Committee, which approves all courses that satisfy General Education requirements. All degree-seeking undergraduates must complete a minimum of 32 units of General Education coursework, including the minimum requirements from each category specified below. Additional general education courses may be selected as needed to meet the overall minimum requirement.		
	Minimum Requirement	Details		Minimum Requirement	Details
Foundations Writing	3 units	Designated courses offered by the Writing Program. Courses teach strong writing skills and effective communication for academic success and professional growth.	Foundations Writing	3 units	Strong writing skills and effective communication for academic success and professional growth. Designated courses offered by the Writing Program.
Foundations Mathematics	3 units	Designated courses offered by Mathematics or other academic department. Courses teach mathematical	Foundations Mathematics	3 units	Mathematical knowledge and quantitative reasoning. Designated courses offered by Mathematics or other academic department.

Existing Policy			Proposed Edit		
		knowledge and quantitative reasoning.	Foundations Second Language	Varies	See the Second Language for Undergraduate Degrees policy.
Foundations Second Language	Varies	See the Second Language for Undergraduate Degrees policy.	Introduction to General Education	1 unit	Introduction to General Education, reflecting on learning, and developing an e-Portfolio. Required for students admitted as first-year students; optional for all other students.
Introduction to General Education	1 unit	Introduces students to General Education, reflecting on learning, and developing an e-Portfolio. Required for students admitted as first-year students; optional for all other students.	Exploring Perspectives	12 units (<i>3 units per domain</i>)	Emphasis on ways of thinking, knowing, and doing in four disciplinary domains . Students will choose at least one course from each domain: • Artist • Humanist • Natural Scientist • Social Scientist
Exploring Perspectives	12 units (<i>3 units per domain</i>)	Introduce students to four disciplinary domains. The emphasis is on ways of thinking, knowing, and doing in those disciplines . Students will choose at least one course from each domain: • Artist • Humanist • Natural Scientist • Social Scientist	Building Connections	6 units	Combines knowledge and modes of thinking from two or more disciplines and/or perspectives.
Building Connections	9 units	Courses bring together knowledge and modes of thinking from two or more disciplines and/or perspectives.	Civic Institutions	3 units	Emphasis on the U.S. Constitution, principles and institutions of governance, and civic engagement.

Existing Policy			Proposed Edit		
General Education Capstone	1 unit	Facilitates student reflection on their General Education experience to complete their e-Portfolio. Required for students admitted as first-year students; optional for all other students.	General Education Capstone	1 unit	Facilitates student reflection on their General Education experience to complete their e-Portfolio. Required for students admitted as first-year students; optional for all other students.
General Education Attributes Exploring Perspectives and Building Connections courses enhance learning experiences so that faculty and students explore perspectives and build interdisciplinary connections to be prepared for meaningful engagement in a global context. Each General Education course focuses on one or more of the following: Quantitative Reasoning Classes will focus on generating, analyzing, and/or interpreting quantitative information, developing the ability to construct coherent arguments based on that information, and effectively communicating those arguments. Diversity and Equity Classes will focus on issues such as racism, classism, sexism, ableism, imperialism, colonialism, transphobia, xenophobia, and other structured inequities. It is our responsibility as Wildcats to promote greater social equity. World Cultures and Societies			General Education Attributes To provide breadth and depth to General Education learning, one or more attributes (fundamental areas of knowledge) will be attached to each course's overall Exploring Perspectives, Building Connections, or Civic Institutions category. General Education attributes enhance learning experiences and enable faculty and students to explore perspectives and build interdisciplinary connections for meaningful engagement in a global context.		

Existing Policy	Proposed Edit
Classes focus on a broad array of questions that have shaped our global community both past and present, promote understanding and respect for societies outside the United States, and explore our place in the world. Writing Founded on principles of Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC), courses promote engaged learning, critical thinking, and greater facility with written communication across rhetorical situations. Classes teach writing as a process and transfer writing practices to different genres of writing across academic disciplines.	