

Curriculum Requirements

Think of the general education program as consisting of three main parts: a first-year experience, a middle phase, and a capstone experience.

The first-year experience is designed to introduce you to university study and to provide you with important and fundamental tools to succeed in upper-level coursework. If you enter the university with no college credit or as a transfer student with fewer than 30 credits, you should build a first-year experience that includes:

- Two courses in writing and composition (English 101, English 102)
- First Year Seminar (a “100-levelG” course) or Science Gateway Seminar (a “187/188S” course)
- One math/quantitative reasoning course

Depending on your schedule, intended major, and other interests, some distribution courses may also be done during the first year.

The middle phase spans the second and third years of your undergraduate career. During this phase, you should declare a major (if you didn’t do so during the first year). In addition to major coursework, you should also:

- Take an intermediate seminar (a “200-level G” course)
- Complete the diversity requirement
- Complete most, if not all, of the areas of knowledge requirements:
 - Arts (AR) and Humanities (HU)
 - Natural Sciences (NS) and Mathematics (MT)
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences (SB)
 - World Languages (WL) and World Cultures (WC)
 - Foreign Language Proficiency (only for BA students)
- Demonstrate writing proficiency by completing the Writing Proficiency Requirement or, for College of Management students, complete BC290.

In the last phase, during your final year, you are expected to devote significant attention to a capstone experience in your major. You may also be doing research with a faculty member, participating in an internship or independent study, or completing major coursework. Given the strong focus on the major at this point, most if not all of the distribution courses should be completed before the senior year.