THE ROLE OF GENERAL EDUCATION IN YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION

A comprehensive college education provides you with knowledge that should enrich your life and prepare you to face the challenges of living and learning in an ever-changing world. Courses in the university general education curriculum are designed to expand your knowledge and experience, preparing you to be an informed and engaged citizen.

The American Association of Colleges and Universities examined skills that employers look for in their employees. These include skills such as the ability to think clearly about complex problems, the ability to analyze a problem to develop workable and creative solutions, an understanding of the global context in which work is done, the ability to apply knowledge and skills in new settings, and a strong sense of ethics and integrity. The UNO general education curriculum strives to help you develop these skills so that you can navigate the demands of the 21st century environment successfully and responsibly.

Learn more about the value of General Education at:
https://www.unomaha.edu/general-education/docs/student-handout-value-gened.pdf

UNO GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

### Fundamental Academic Skills (15 CREDITS)
Proficiency in reading, quantitative skills, and written/oral expression are essential for professional success and effective citizenship. The courses in fundamental academic skills are designed to provide you with the foundation for advanced academic study.

- **ENG 1150/1154** - English Composition I
- **ENG 1160/1164** - English Composition II

### Writing in the Discipline (refer to your majors requirements and advisor)

- **MATH 1120/STEM 1120** – Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Thinking
- **MATH 1220** – College Algebra

- **CMST 1110** – Public Speaking Fundamentals
- **CMST 2120** – Argumentation & Debate

### Distribution Requirements (25 CREDITS)
Beyond the fundamental academic skills, courses within the distribution requirements provide you with the opportunity to:

1. understand, analyze, and explore the human condition;
2. understand the complex dynamics that make up the world, particularly the challenges, problems, and factors that lead to social stability and change; essential for contributing to and living in contemporary society;
3. understanding the nature of scientific inquiry and the inquiry and the operation of the natural, physical, and technological world for making personal and public policy decisions.

#### SOCIAL SCIENCE
(9 credits from at least 2 different disciplines)

#### NATURAL/PHYSICAL SCIENCE
(7 credits from at least 2 different disciplines w/1 lab course)

#### HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS
(9 credits from at least 2 different disciplines)

### Diversity Requirement (6 CREDITS)
A 21st century education requires exposure to cultures and institutions around the world, as well as within your own society, in order to promote intellectual flexibility, cultural understanding and informed citizenship. UNO fosters cultural understanding to assist you in becoming responsible citizens in a diverse world. You must complete 6 credit hours of coursework with 3 credit hours in each of the following areas. The scope of UNO’s diversity courses allows you to meet your diversity requirements through courses in the distribution requirements, major, minors, or as unique courses.

#### US DIVERSITY (3 Credits)

#### GLOBAL DIVERSITY (3 Credits)
For a list of approved courses go to: http://gened.unomaha.edu/approvedcourses.php

### DEFINITION OF TERMS

#### General Education
A set of courses designed to develop a breadth of skills to prepare you to be informed and engaged citizens.

#### College Requirements
Specific course requirements that are determined by the college. These are in addition to the university general education requirements. Not all colleges have additional requirements. See your academic advisor for specifics.

#### Program/Degree Requirements
Specific courses that are required for your major.
GENERAL EDUCATION FAQ’S

What grade is required for general education courses?
You must earn a grade of C- or better for the course to count toward general education completion.

I am changing my major. Will I have to retake general education course work for my new major?
No. The general education curriculum is the same for all students regardless of their major.

Will transfer credits from another institution count toward my general education requirements?
Course equivalencies and articulation agreements have been established with many institutions throughout the state and country. Your academic advisor can assist you in determining how your transfer credits will count toward your UNO general education curriculum.

Why is my advisor requiring me to take more courses than what are listed in the general education distribution requirements?
College requirements can include some of the same courses that are on the approved list of general education coursework. Some colleges and majors have requirements that may include courses that will fulfill the general education curriculum.

Can I find the general education courses through mavLink?
Under “class search,” click on Program, this filter has a pull-down menu, which will allow you to search by general education area.

Can I “test-out” of any general education requirements?
Students who score 23 or higher on the math portion of the ACT exam are considered to be proficient in MATH 1120/STEM 1120 or MATH 1220. Placement exams are given for English composition courses. Test out procedures for CMST 1110 can be accessed by contacting the UNO School of Communication. There are no test-out procedures for distribution requirements.

Can the dual enrollment courses and/or AP classes I took in high school be used to meet general education requirements?
In some instances, dual enrollment courses and qualifying scores on AP exams can be used to meet general education requirements. Consult with your academic advisor to determine how/if these courses will be counted.

For further information about the UNO General Education Curriculum Visit:
www.unomaha.edu/academic-affairs/general-education

Questions?
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