Policy 51

Governors State University

University General Education Requirement

The general education requirement at Governors State University provides graduates with a broad foundation in the liberal arts and sciences. All undergraduate degree-seeking students are required to meet the university general education requirements before graduation.

Students may fulfill this requirement in any one of six ways. They may:

1. Transfer to Governors State University having earned an Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associate of Science (A.S.) degree from a regionally-accredited Illinois community college. Please note: the Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.), Associate of Engineering Sciences (A.E.S.), and the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) do not meet this requirement.
2. Provide documentation of having earned a bachelor's degree from any one of the twelve state universities in Illinois.
3. Complete the Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) at another institution and have it noted on the transcript.
4. Complete an approved undergraduate teacher education program at Governors State University.
5. Complete one of the undergraduate business programs.
6. Complete the distribution requirements in the relevant option, with a grade of "C" or better in each course. Requirements may be met either by presenting acceptable transfer courses as evaluated by the GSU Admissions Office or completing courses that were specifically approved because they meet the relevant general education requirement at Governors State University. These are:

    a. Communication: 3 courses (9 semester credits*), including a two-course sequence in writing (6 semester credits) and one course (3 semester credits) in oral communication

    b. Mathematics: 1 to 2 courses (3 to 6 semester credits)

    c. Physical and Life Sciences: 2 courses (7 to 8 semester credits) with one course selected from the life sciences and one course from the physical sciences, including at least one laboratory course

    d. Humanities and Fine Arts: 3 courses (9 semester credits) with at least one course selected from humanities and at least one course from the fine arts

    e. Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 courses (9 semester credits) with courses selected from at least two disciplines

    TOTAL: 12 to 13 courses (37 to 41 semester credits)

    * For colleges and universities on the quarter calendar system, three (3) quarter credits equal two (2) semester credits.

Information on specific courses that may be applied to the general education course requirements may be obtained from the Admissions Office or from academic advisors.

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