

General Education

THE PHILOSOPHY OF GENERAL EDUCATION

Undergraduate education offers not only specialized knowledge and professional skills, but also the multiple views and general intellectual abilities developed by the study of liberal arts and sciences. General Education is the component of the undergraduate curriculum devoted to exposing students to multiple areas of knowledge, methods of inquiry, and ideas that the University and scholarly community believe are common to well-educated persons. Ideally, General Education empowers individuals, liberates the mind from ignorance, and cultivates social responsibility. General Education forms the basis for developing important intellectual capacities and skills. It also provides a strong foundation for future learning, both within a college major and for the rest of one's life.

Some people believe that General Education simply means courses to "get out of the way". We could not disagree more. Instead, general education forms the foundation for a life-time of learning and is a critical component of liberal education. According to the American Association of Colleges and Universities (2002) liberal education is "a philosophy of education that empowers individuals, liberates the mind from ignorance, and cultivates social responsibility," and General Education is "the part of a liberal education shared by all students. It provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and forms the basis for developing important intellectual and civic capacities."

GENERAL EDUCATION MISSION

The General Education program at Utah Tech University develops citizen-scholars as it:

- Fosters the development of knowledge across a broad range of liberal arts and sciences disciplines.
- Provides students with the intellectual tools required to think critically and communicate effectively.
- Equips students with the information literacy and quantitative reasoning skills that facilitate success in college and in life.
- Challenges students to explore and appreciate diversity in a globalized world.
- Encourages students to evaluate the responsibilities of citizenship.
- Prepares students for life-long learning.

GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING GOALS

1. Broad Knowledge of the Liberal Arts & Sciences

Students will examine the world and its people from various points of view. They will learn about ideas and beliefs that have guided human beings and shaped civilization for thousands of years. *Students will:*

- a. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the human past, including the historical development of human knowledge in global contexts.
- b. Compare and contrast differing philosophical and cultural perspectives.
- c. Describe and analyze core concepts and theories within the natural sciences and apply the methods of the natural sciences in order to formulate answers to important questions.
- d. Describe and analyze core concepts and theories within the arts and humanities and apply the techniques of the arts and humanities in order to formulate answers to important questions.
- e. Describe and analyze core concepts and theories within the social and behavioral sciences and apply the methods of the social and behavioral sciences in order to formulate answers to important questions.

2. Critical Thinking

Students will gain the ability to use knowledge, claims of evidence, and content to reason ethically and reach conclusions, as well as to innovate in imaginative ways. These steps are equally applicable to different kinds of problems such as scientific theory development and testing, ethical problem solving, and innovation. *Students will:*

- a. Define, analyze, and formulate solutions to problems by synthesizing core concepts within and across disciplines.
- b. Assess the accuracy and validity of findings and conclusions.
- c. Comprehend and examine how one thinks, reasons, and makes value judgments.
- d. Demonstrate sustained intellectual curiosity through exploration of emerging issues.

3. Effective Communication

Students will learn to communicate effectively. Communication is a process by which we assign and convey meaning in an attempt to create shared understanding. Human communication facilitates insight, collaboration, the exchange of ideas, and the progress of culture. *Students will:*

- a. Comprehend and manage basic communicative technologies, tools, and strategies in order to express ideas and facts in written, oral, quantitative, and visual formats.
- b. Comprehend, interpret, analyze, and synthesize the written, oral, quantitative, and visual communication of others.

4. Information Literacy Skills

Students will develop their information literacy skills, including an understanding of the nature, organization, and methods of access and evaluation of both electronic and traditional resources. *Students will:*

- a. Identify the nature, extent, and sources of information needed in order to access information effectively and efficiently.
- b. Critically evaluate information and information sources.
- c. Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
- d. Identify and analyze the economic, social, legal, and ethical issues surrounding the access and use of information.
- e. Identify and use the following as appropriate: content-specific tools, software, and simulations for research, information analysis, problem-solving, and decision-making in content learning.

5. Quantitative Reasoning

Students will analyze and communicate appropriately with mathematical and symbolic concepts. They will critically evaluate the quantitative and symbolic information used to represent and draw inference regarding problems. *Students will:*

- a. Gain the ability to visualize abstractions and apply them to a problem.
- b. Model physical and natural phenomena and assess the validity of a model, make predictions from the model, and draw conclusions based on that model.
- c. Understand numbers, analyze uncertainty, comprehend the properties of shapes, and investigate how things change over time.
- d. Identify and apply quantitative principles and methods in the solution of problems and draw and evaluate conclusions in order to check the logic and validity of statements and models.

6. Diversity and Globalization

Students will study groups, cultures, and societies as they interact and challenge each other. They will be encouraged to reflect critically and consciously in order to gain insight into how cultural identities and experiences shape individual perspectives of the world and influence interaction with people from different backgrounds. *Students will:*

- a. Identify cultural differences and examine how these differences influence cross-cultural understanding and conflict.
- b. Recognize and evaluate the implications of various social structures and the ways people are grouped by such characteristics as status, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation.
- c. Identify and analyze sources of cultural bias and prejudice and develop ways to reduce these and other forms of biases and prejudices.
- d. Describe and analyze the concepts of globalization and transnationalism in order to evaluate the interdependent nature of the world in which we live.

7. Responsibilities of Citizenship

Students will critically explore, evaluate, and reflect upon their own lives, careers, and interests in relation to the political process and the general welfare of society as a whole. *Students will:*

- a. Describe and analyze democratic political ideals and the various understandings of rights and obligations that citizens may be said to have in their own communities.
- b. Describe and analyze one's own and others' perceptions regarding responsibility for society's moral / ethical well-being.

ONE-PAGE GENERAL EDUCATION CHECKLIST (PDF) (catalog.utahtech.edu/programs/generaleducation/GenEd_2025-2026.pdf)

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE REQUIREMENTS

ENGLISH (EN)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one 1010 (3-4 credits) or ACT score ≥ 28 ; complete one 2010 (3 credits):		3-7
ENGL 1010	Introduction to Writing (EN)	
or ENGL 1010D	Introduction to Writing (EN)	
ENGL 2010	Interm Writing Selected Topics: (EN)	
or ENGL 2100	Technical Writing (ALCS)	
Total Hours		3-7

MATHEMATICS (MA)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following or ACT score ≥ 26 : (Prerequisite: Math placement score or MATH prerequisite course (Grade C or higher) earned within 2 years previous to enrolling):		3-5
MATH 1030	Quantitative Reasoning (MA)	
MATH 1040	Introduction to Statistics (MA)	
MATH 1050	College Algebra / Pre-Calculus (MA)	

MATH 1060	Trigonometry (MA)
MATH 1080	Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry (MA)
MATH 1100	Business Calculus (MA)
MATH 1210	Calculus I (MA)
MATH 1220	Calculus II (MA)
MATH 2210	Multivariable Calculus (MA)

Total Hours **3-5**

AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS (AI)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following (Prerequisite: Reading placement score):		3-6
ECON 1740	Economic History of the U.S (AI)	
HIST 1700	American History (AI)	
HIST 2700 & HIST 2710	U.S. History to 1877 and U.S. History Since 1877	
POLS 1100	American Government (AI)	

Total Hours **3-6**

GENERAL EDUCATION BREADTH & DEPTH REQUIREMENTS

LIFE SCIENCES (LS)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		3-10
BIOL 1010	General Biology (LS)	
BIOL 1010 & BIOL 1015	General Biology (LS) and General Biology Lab	
BIOL 1200	Human Biology (LS)	
BIOL 1610 & BIOL 1615	Principles of Biology I (LS) and Principles of Biology I Lab	
BIOL 2400 & BIOL 2405	Plant Kingdom (LS, ALPP) and Plant Kingdom Lab (ALPP)	
BIOL 1300 & BIOL 2320 & BIOL 2325 & BIOL 2420 & BIOL 2425	Evolution & Ecology and Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Lab and Human Physiology and Human Physiology Lab	
FSHD 1020	Sci Foundations of Nutrition (LS)	

Total Hours **3-10**

PHYSICAL SCIENCES (PS)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		3-5
CHEM 1010	Introduction to Chemistry (PS)	
CHEM 1010 & CHEM 1015	Introduction to Chemistry (PS) and Introduction to Chemistry Lab	
CHEM 1020	Culinary Chemistry (PS)	
CHEM 1110 & CHEM 1115	Elementary General/Organic Chemistry (PS) and Elem General/Organic Chemistry Lab	
CHEM 1150 & CHEM 1155	Integrated Chemistry for Health Sciences (PS) and Integrated Chemistry for Health Sciences Lab	

CHEM 1200	Preparation for Gen Chemistry (PS) (3 credits)
CHEM 1210 & CHEM 1215	Principles of Chemistry I (PS) and Principles of Chemistry I Lab
ENVS 1010	Intro to Environmental Science (PS)
GEO 1010	Introduction to Geology (PS)
GEO 1010 & GEO 1015	Introduction to Geology (PS) and Introduction to Geology Lab
GEO 1020	Life of the Past (PS)
GEO 1040	Introduction to Dinosaurs (PS)
GEO 1040 & GEO 1045	Introduction to Dinosaurs (PS) and Introduction to Dinosaurs Laboratory (LAB)
GEO 1050 & GEO 1055	Geology of the National Parks (PS) and Geology National Parks Lab
GEO 1070	Deserts: Natural Hazards and Resources
GEO 1080	Introduction to Oceanography (PS)
GEO 1080 & GEO 1085	Introduction to Oceanography (PS) and Intro to Oceanography Lab (LAB)
GEO 1110 & GEO 1115	Physical Geology (PS) and Physical Geology Lab
GEOG 1000	Physical Geography (PS)
GEOG 1000 & GEOG 1005	Physical Geography (PS) and Physical Geography Lab
PHYS 1010	Elementary Physics (PS)
PHYS 1010 & PHYS 1015	Elementary Physics (PS) and Elementary Physics Lab
PHYS 1040 & PHYS 1045	Elementary Astronomy (PS) and Elementary Astronomy Lab
PHYS 2010 & PHYS 2015	College Physics I (PS) and College Physics I Lab
PHYS 2210 & PHYS 2215	Physics/Scientists Engineers I (PS) and Physics/Scientists Engineers I Lab

Total Hours**3-5****FINE ARTS (FA)**

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		3
ART 1010	Introduction to Art (FA)	
ART 1110	Drawing and Composition (FA)	
ART 1120	2-Dimensional Design (FA)	
ART 2060	Digital Photography (FA)	
ART 2570	Intro to Ceramics	
ARTH 2710	Prehistoric to Gothic Art History (FA)	
ARTH 2720	Renaissance to Contemporary Art History (FA)	
DANC 1010	Dance in Culture (FA)	
IART 1010	Integrated Arts (FA)	
MUSC 1010	Introduction to Music (FA)	
MUSC 1020	Popular Music in America (FA)	
MUSC 1050	Introduction to World Music (FA)	
MUSC 1236	Survey of Jazz History (FA)	
MUSC 1513	Topics in Popular Music: Taylor Swift	
THEA 1013	Introduction to Theatre (FA)	

Total Hours**3**

LITERATURE/HUMANITIES (HU, GC)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		3
COMM 1020	Public Speaking (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2200	Introduction to Literature (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2201	Literature and the Land (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2270	Introduction to Early World Literature (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2280	Introduction to Modern World Literature (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2330	Children's Literature (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2335	Multi-Cultural Child/Young Adult Literature (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2400	American Lit Before 1865 (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2410	American Lit After 1865 (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2500	British Literature Before 1800 (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2510	British Literature After 1800 (HU, GC)	
ENGL 2600	Critical Introduction to Literature (HU, GC)	
HUM 1010	Humanities Through the Arts (HU, GC)	
HUM 1040	East Asian Art & Culture (HU, GC)	
PHIL 1000	Intro to Philosophy (HU, GC)	
PHIL 1250	Reasoning and Rational Decision-Making (HU, GC)	
PHIL 2050	Social Ethics (HU, GC)	
PHIL 2600	World Religions (HU, GC)	
THEA 1023	Understanding Film (HU, GC)	
Total Hours		3

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (SS, GC)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		3
COMM 1270	Critical Thinking and Communicating (SS)	
COMM 2110	Interpersonal Communication (SS, GC)	
COMM 3190	Intercultural Communication (SS, GC)	
ECON 1010	Economics of Social Issues (SS, GC)	
ECON 2010	Micro Economics (SS, GC)	
ECON 2020	Macro Economics (SS, GC)	
EDUC 2400	Foundations Multicultural/ESL (SS, GC, ALCI)	
FIN 1750	Personal Finance: Financial Citizenship in Social and Economic Systems (SS, GC)	
FSHD 1500	Human Development Lifespan (SS, GC)	
FSHD 2400	Family Relationships (SS, GC)	
HIST 1100	Western Civilization: From Pre-History to 1715 (SS, GC)	
HIST 1110	Western Civilization: From 1715 to Present (SS, GC)	
HIST 1500	World History to 1500 (SS, GC)	
HIST 1510	World History Since 1500 (SS, GC)	
HIST 2700	U.S. History to 1877	
HIST 2710	U.S. History Since 1877	
MDIA 2010	Media and Pop Culture (SS, GC)	
POLS 2100	Introduction to International Relations (SS, GC)	
POLS 2200	Intro to Comparative Politics (SS, GC)	
PSY 1010	General Psychology (SS, GC)	
PSY 1100	Human Development Through Lifespan (SS, GC)	
PSY 2800	Human Sexuality in a Diverse Society (SS, GC)	

RSM 1110	Leisure in Society (SS, GC)
SOC 1010	Introduction to Sociology (SS, GC)
SOC 1020	Social Problems (SS, GC)
SOC 2370	Gender in Contemporary Society (SS)
SOC 2600	Sociology of the Family (SS, GC)
SOC 2630	Sociology of Racial and Ethnic Relations (SS)

Total Hours**3**

ADDITIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR ASSOCIATE OF ARTS OR BACHELOR OF ARTS

Check program requirements for program restrictions on foreign languages

Code	Title	Hours
Bachelor of Arts: Foreign Language Requirement		3-16

Complete one of the following:

- Complete 16 credits in a single foreign language, through earned credit (grade C or higher), credit by examination, or vertical credit from the courses listed on the GE Foreign Language Requirement page ¹
- Complete a 2020 or higher foreign language course (grade C or higher)
- Complete a 3060 foreign language course listed below (grade C or higher)
- Receive 16 transfer credits for GEFL 1000 (8) and GEFL 2000 (8) in a single foreign language (grade C or higher)

OR

Complete a 1010 course listed below in a second foreign language (grade C or higher) AND one of the following:

1. In a language not taught at Utah Tech, receive 12 FLATS exam credits for FLAT 1000 (8) and FLAT 2000 (4)

or

2. In a language not taught at Utah Tech, receive 12 transfer credits articulated as GEFL 1000 (8) and GEFL 2000 (4) (all grade C or higher)

OR

Available only to students who are nonnative English speakers, complete one of the following:

- Complete 16 credits of ESL courses listed below (grade B or higher)
- Complete ESL 2750 or ESL 2760 (grade B or higher).
- Submit one of the following test scores required for unconditional Utah Tech admission: TOEFL (61 iBT, 173 CBT, or 500 PBT); or Michigan (70); or USU-IELE equivalent score. Other tests may be accepted for admission to Utah Tech but will not fulfill this requirement. Official scores must be submitted to the Registrar's Office.

Total Hours**3-16**

¹ General Education Foreign Language Classes may be found on the General Education page. (p. 2)

GENERAL EDUCATION FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

(for Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts only)

Foreign Language Placement

- Students may not enroll in a language course if that language was the primary language of instruction for the student at the high school level (as determined by the chair of the Humanities Department).
- Placement in all foreign language classes is at the discretion of the Department Chair. Students whose abilities and experience in a language are above the course level may be placed in a higher level class and may earn "vertical credit" for lower level courses.

DEFINITIONS

Vertical Credit: Once a student completes a 1020, 2010, 2020, or 3060 foreign language class with a grade of C or higher, s/he may request credit for language classes in the same language below that level. Posting fee required.

FLATS: Based on score of BYU Foreign Language Assessment Test (available at Utah Tech). Maximum 12 credits, cannot duplicate already earned credit, posting fee required,

Nonnative Speaker: For the purposes of earning credit in Utah Tech foreign language classes and/or fulfilling any Utah Tech foreign language requirement, a native speaker's primary language of instruction at the high school level (as determined by the chair of the Humanities Department) is his/her native language.

ESL Test Scores: Test scores required for unconditional Utah Tech admission in 2013-2014: TOEFL 61 iBT, 173 CBT, or 500 PBT; or 70 Michigan; or equivalent USU-IELT test score.

VERTICAL CREDIT

Once a student completes a Utah Tech 1020, 2010, 2020, or 3060 foreign language class with a grade of C or higher, s/he may request credit for language classes in the same language below that level. Posting fee required.

- Receiving a grade of C or higher in a foreign language 1020 course enables a student to request "vertical credit" for the 1010 course in the same language (4 additional credits graded "P").
- Receiving a grade of C or higher in a foreign language 2010 course enables a student to request "vertical credit" for the 1010 and 1020 courses in the same language (8 additional credits graded "P").
- Receiving a grade of C or higher in a foreign language 2020 course enables a student to request "vertical credit" for the 1010, 1020, and 2010 courses in the same language (12 additional credits graded "P").
- Receiving a grade of B or higher in ESL 2750 enables a student to request "vertical credit" for ESL 1550 (4 additional credits graded "P").
- Receiving a grade of B or higher in ESL 2760 enables a student to request "vertical credit" for ESL 1560 (4 additional credits graded "P").
- Receiving a grade of C or higher in a foreign language 3010, 3040 and 3060 course enables a student to request "vertical credit" for the 1010, 1020, 2010, and 2020 courses in the same language (16 additional credits graded "P") unless the 3060 course is the same language as the primary language of secondary instruction

PROCEDURE FOR VERTICAL CREDIT

1. Vertical Credit Request form is completed and signed by the instructor who taught the advanced class and the department chair.
2. Form is submitted to the Registrar's Office and the posting fee is assessed on the student's account.
3. The posting fee must be paid at the cashier's office and the receipt submitted to the Registrar's Office.
4. After the above steps are completed foreign language credit \ graded "P" will be awarded for the preparatory foreign language course(s).

PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS

Some programs have restrictions on which languages can be used to fulfill the Bachelor of Arts foreign language requirement. Check the Degree Worksheet for specific programs to verify which languages are accepted. In 2013-2014, programs in the Fine Arts Division (Art, Music, and Theatre) do not accept ASL.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

Code	Title	Hours
Bachelor of Arts: Foreign Language Requirement		3-16
Complete one of the following:		
- Complete 16 credits in a single foreign language, through earned credit (grade C or higher), credit by examination, or vertical credit from the courses listed on the GE Foreign Language Requirement page ¹		
- Complete a 2020 or higher foreign language course (grade C or higher)		
- Complete a 3060 foreign language course listed below (grade C or higher)		
- Receive 16 transfer credits for GEFL 1000 (8) and GEFL 2000 (8) in a single foreign language (grade C or higher)		
OR		
Complete a 1010 course listed below in a second foreign language (grade C or higher) AND one of the following:		
1. In a language not taught at Utah Tech, receive 12 FLATS exam credits for FLAT 1000 (8) and FLAT 2000 (4)		
or		
2. In a language not taught at Utah Tech, receive 12 transfer credits articulated as GEFL 1000 (8) and GEFL 2000 (4) (all grade C or higher)		
OR		
Available only to students who are nonnative English speakers, complete one of the following:		
- Complete 16 credits of ESL courses listed below (grade B or higher)		
- Complete ESL 2750 or ESL 2760 (grade B or higher).		

- Submit one of the following test scores required for unconditional Utah Tech admission: TOEFL (61 iBT, 173 CBT, or 500 PBT); or Michigan (70); or USU-IELE equivalent score. Other tests may be accepted for admission to Utah Tech but will not fulfill this requirement. Official scores must be submitted to the Registrar's Office.

Total Hours**3-16**

¹ General Education Foreign Language Classes may be found on the General Education page. (p. 2)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE

Code	Title	Hours
Associate of Arts: Foreign Language Requirement		3-8
Complete one of the following:		
- Complete 8 credits numbered 1000 or above in a single foreign language, through earned credit (grade C or higher), credit by examination, or vertical credit from the courses listed on the GE Foreign Language Requirement page ¹		
- Complete a 1020 or higher foreign language course listed below (grade C or higher)		
- Receive 8 FLATS exam credits for FLAT 1000		
- Receive 8 transfer credits GEFL 1000 (grade C or higher) in a language not currently taught at Utah Tech		
Available only to students who are nonnative English speakers, complete one of the following:		
- Complete 8 credits of ESL courses listed below (grade B or higher)		
- Submit one of the following test scores required for unconditional Utah Tech admission: TOEFL (61 iBT, 173 CBT, or 500 PBT); or Michigan (70); or USU-IELE equivalent score. Other tests may be accepted for admission to Utah Tech but will not fulfill this requirement. Official scores must be submitted to the Registrar's Office.		

¹ General Education Foreign Language Classes may be found on the General Education page. (p. 6)

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foreign Language Classes		
ASL 1010	Beginning American Sign Language I (FL, ALCI)	4
ASL 1020	Beginning American Sign Language II (FL, ALCI)	4
ASL 2010	Intermediate American Sign Language I (FL,ALCI)	4
ASL 2020	Intermediate American Sign Language II (ALCI)	4
ASL 3060	Advanced American Sign Language I	3
CHIN 1010	Beginning Mandarin Chinese I (FL)	4
CHIN 1020	Beginning Mandarin Chinese II	4
CHIN 2010	Intermediate Mandarin Chinese I	4
CHIN 2020	Intermediate Mandarin Chinese II	4
ESL 1550	Interm Academic Writing (FL)	4
ESL 1560	Intermediate English Grammar (FL)	4
ESL 2750	Advanced Academic Writing (FL)	4
ESL 2760	Adv English Grammar (FL)	4
FLAT 1000 (Language (FLATS) (1010, 1020)) ¹		4-8
FLAT 2000 (Language (FLATS) (2010)) ¹		4
FREN 1010	Beginning French I (FL)	4
FREN 1020	Beginning French II (FL)	4
FREN 2010	Intermediate French I	4
FREN 2020	Intermediate French II	4
GEFL 1000 (Language (1010, 1020)) ²		4-8
GEFL 2000 (Language (2010, 2020)) ²		4-8
JAPN 1010	Beginning Japanese I (FL)	4
JAPN 1020	Beginning Japanese II (FL)	4
JAPN 2010	Intermediate Japanese I	4
JAPN 2020	Intermediate Japanese II	4
SPAN 1010	Beginning Spanish I (FL)	4
SPAN 1020	Beginning Spanish II (FL)	4

SPAN 2010	Intermediate Spanish I (FL)	4
SPAN 2020	Intermediate Spanish II (FL)	4
SPAN 3060	Advanced Spanish: Human Writing in the Tech Era	3
1 FLAT prefix is used for FLATS credit in languages not taught at Utah Tech		
2 GEFL prefix is used for transfer credit in languages not taught at Utah Tech		