# General Education Preamble and Overview language revision, 2/8/18

http://catalog.umt.edu/academics/general-education-requirements/

# Preamble

The University of Montana-Missoula's General Education Program provides a broad academic base that supports both undergraduate learning at the University of Montana-Missoula and continued learning following graduation. The General Education Program is designed to provide a high-quality intellectual foundation that accommodates all UM students whether in liberal arts or professional programs. While the General Education Program offers students considerable flexibility in selecting courses, it has a set of common educational objectives for all students.

In accordance with the mission of the University of Montana-Missoula, these objectives are to develop competent and humane individuals who are informed, ethical, literate, and engaged citizens of local and global communities. Students should become acquainted with issues facing contemporary society, participate in the creative arts, develop an understanding of science and technology, cultivate an appreciation of the humanities, and examine the history of different American and global cultures. Upon completion of the general education requirements students should be able to articulate ideas orally and in writing, understand and critically evaluate tangible and abstract concepts, and employ mathematical and other related skills appropriate to a technologically focused society.

~~In summary, the General Education Program is designed to provide a high quality intellectual foundation that accommodates all UM students whether in liberal arts or professional programs. This foundation will be reinforced, expanded, and refined as students continue through their course of study. Students are encouraged to prepare for productive roles in their chosen fields by cultivating civic awareness vital to the greater community and a democratic society. The acquired skills will allow students to examine critically the human experience and achieve genuine confidence in their knowledge and abilities. For the General Education Program to accomplish its goals, students must assume primary responsibility for their growth and education.~~

# Overview

To earn a baccalaureate degree, all students must ~~complete~~ successfully complete the General Education requirements listed below. ~~in addition to any other requirements~~ All courses taken to satisfy the requirements must be taken for a traditional letter grade and must be passed with a grade of C- or better. General Education courses may change from year to year. To be used for General Education credit, a course must be so designated in the catalog the semester it is taken, ~~the following General Education Requirements. Students who have completed an approved lower-division general education program at an approved Montana institution of higher education should refer to the catalog section on General Education for Transfer Students.~~

~~All General Education courses must be at least 3 credits, must be introductory and foundational, and have no more than one pre-requisite. The General Education Committee may allow exceptions for upper-division courses, courses fewer than three credits, and for courses with more than one pre-requisite, if the proposing unit can justify such an exception.~~

~~Some courses may satisfy both the "Writing Course" requirement (1.2) and one of the Groups IV through XI.  
Some courses may satisfy both Group II and Group III Symbolic Systems.  
Some courses may satisfy both Group IX and one of the Groups IV through VIII.  
Some courses may satisfy both Group X and one of the Groups IV through VIII. No course may satisfy both Group IX and Group X.~~

Many ~~of the~~ General Education courses ~~listed below~~ require prerequisites; these  ~~be met before registration. The prerequisites~~ are listed in the individual course descriptions.

**~~NOTE! \*\*\*All courses taken to satisfy General Education Requirements must be taken for a traditional letter grade and must be passed with a grade of C- or better\*\*\*.~~**

~~Students are cautioned that approved courses may change from year to year. To be used for General Education credit, a course must be listed as approved in the Class Schedule for the semester a student registers for it.~~

Students who have completed an approved lower-division General Education program at an accredited institution of higher education should refer to the Catalog section on [General Education for Transfer Students.](http://catalog.umt.edu/academics/admission/transfer/)

[Faculty developing General Education courses must complete the [appropriate forms](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/committees/gened/GE%20Forms.php)].

| **Group Letter and Description** | **Credits** |
| --- | --- |
| Group I: English Writing Skills |  |
| 1. ~~Composition course~~[~~WRIT 101~~](http://catalog.umt.edu/search/?P=WRIT%20101)~~or 201 (ENEX 101, WTS 101, ENEX 200) or an equivalent~~ Introductory College Writing (WRIT 101) | 3 |
| 2. ~~One designated~~ Intermediate College Writing Course | 3 |
| 3. ~~Upper-Division~~ Advanced College Writing Requirement (as specified by major department) | 3 |
| Group II: Mathematics | 3 |
| Group III: Modern and Classical Languages - successful completion of a second semester language (test out provisions apply). Some majors have been granted exceptions to the Modern and Classical Language requirement. ~~The majors are listed below.~~ See list in the [catalog](http://catalog.umt.edu/academics/general-education-requirements/). | 0-10 |
| Group IV: Expressive Arts (A) | 3 |
| Group V: Literary and Artistic Studies (L) | 3 |
| Group VI: Historical ~~and Cultural~~ Studies (H) | 3 |
| Group VII: Social Sciences (S) | 3 |
| Group VIII: Ethics and Human Values (E) | 3 |
| Group IX: ~~American and European Perspectives~~ Democracy & Citizenship (Y) | 3 |
| Group X: ~~Indigenous & Global Perspectives~~ Cultural & International Diversity (X) | 3 |
| Group XI: Natural Sciences - One Natural Science course must include a laboratory experience. (N) | 6-7 |
| ~~Total~~ | ~~28-49~~~~1~~ |
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