

General Education & WAC Advising Worksheet

What will I learn doing Gen Ed? See Page 2 for the answers.

(revised September 15, 2009)

Gen Ed advising on the web: http://www.union.edu/Resources/Academic/advising/gen_ed/

Part A CORE	FYP _____	SRS _____	First-Year Preceptorial and Scholars or Sophomore Research Seminar		
Part B DISTRIBUTION		_____	Social Sciences - Any course from ANT, ECO, HST, PSC, SOC, or PSY-101		
	_____	_____	Humanities - Any 2 courses from AAH, AMU, ATH, AVA, CLS, EGL, MLL, or PHL. At least one must be a Lit (HUL) course		
	_____	_____	Linguistics and Cultural Competency Language OR Int'l Study OR 2 LCC courses		
		_____	Quantitative and Mathematical Reasoning Any Math or QMR course		
		_____	Natural Sciences with Lab (SCLB) - Any lab course in AST, BIO, CHM, GEO, PHY, and some PSY		
		_____	Science or Science/Technology - Any Science (lab or no) or engineering or technology (SET) course		
Part C CONNECTIONS			Cluster - Three thematic courses from at least two departments, or a major or minor in an Interdisciplinary Program or Organizing Theme		
	OT / ID major or minor name:		_____		
or Cluster name:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cluster finder: http://www.union.edu/applications/clusters					
WAC/WS WRITING			Writing Across the Curriculum - Five WAC credits in at least two Divisions		
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
		_____	Senior Writing Experience (WS)		

WAC web: <http://www.union.edu/Resources/Academic/WAC/>

Some Aspects to Consider

For Gen Ed (Parts A, B and C), you will take between 10 and 13 Courses.

You can double-count courses taken in Part B with Part C, but you are required to take at least 10 courses in total to complete the Gen Ed Requirements.

You may also satisfy any of the requirements in Parts B and C with appropriate courses taken on a term abroad.

You may count one Cluster course towards your major (one in each department if you are doing an interdepartmental or full double major). The SRS may not count towards a major.

What will I learn by completing my General Education requirements?

The Gen Ed and Writing Across the Curriculum programs offer you the opportunity to become liberally educated, so that you are prepared to contribute effectively in a complex world.

Part A: Core Learning Outcomes

- The First-Year Preceptorial seminar introduces you to the critical reading, analytic writing, and critical thinking skills necessary to succeed in college courses and beyond.
- The Sophomore Research Seminar prepares you for the academic research skills, including writing and information literacy that you will need in advanced courses in all disciplines.

Part B: Distribution Requirement Learning Outcomes

- **Social Sciences:** In a Social Sciences course, you will learn about the methods and theories of social science inquiry in order to develop critical thought about current social issues and problems.
- **Humanities:** In a humanities course, you will improve your understanding of culture and develop analytic and reflective abilities through study of important literary or philosophical texts or works of art.
- **Literature:** Works of literary imagination play a large and important role within the humanities as a whole. In a literature course you will learn to critically read, interpret, reflect upon, and write about some of the important works of world literature.
- **Linguistic and Cultural Competency:** Competence in foreign languages and/or knowledge of foreign or unfamiliar cultures is necessary in today's world in order for you to contribute most effectively to a diverse, global, and technologically complex society.
- **Quantitative and Mathematical Reasoning:** These courses prepare you to understand the complexities of the modern world by ensuring a basic ability to reason mathematically (broadly defined), and an appreciation for more advanced mathematical thinking and analysis.
- **Science and Technology:** In your lab science course, you will gain an understanding of the content and process of natural science in order to become scientifically literate citizens. You may continue with a second science course, or explore engineering or technology in either a technical course or in a course which explores historical or cultural implications of technology.

Part C: Making Connections across Disciplines (Clusters)

- Knowledge does not come packaged in neat one-course-at-a-time packages. Clusters, three or more courses that relate to some theme, help you develop key intellectual skills by fostering the ability to bridge disciplines and understand their interconnections.
- You choose your own cluster, making connections among courses in Part B that offer the most coherence to you. If you are already majoring or minoring in a program that is built on an interdisciplinary theme, then you are already fulfilling this objective.

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC)

- Your writing skills will improve with practice, and there are three components of this practice built into your curriculum. The first is in Part A of the Gen Ed curriculum above: the First-Year Preceptorial and the Sophomore (or Scholars) Research Seminar. The second is in enrolling in at least five courses (in or outside your major) designated "WAC." The third is a capstone senior writing experience (thesis or research seminar), generally done as part of your major.
- You will find many WAC courses that fulfill the second requirement within the normal disciplinary offerings. With writing built in as an important and sequential part of the coursework, WAC courses offer you opportunities to work to improve your skill as a writer.

You can learn much more about the learning objectives of the different parts of the General Education curriculum at the Gen Ed website:
http://www.union.edu/Resources/Academic/advising/gen_ed/