

Gen Ed Course Planning Guide

FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED AS TRANSFERS, FALL 2010 AND PRIOR TO FALL 2018

All students must satisfy university and general education requirements AND school/college requirements AND departmental/major requirements.

NOTE: Always consult your Academic Requirements Report and/or an advisor for clarification.

Students who have COMPLETED the **MASSTRANSFER GEN ED FOUNDATION** (formerly called the **MassTransfer Block**) or the **COMMONWEALTH TRANSFER COMPACT (CTC)** at a Massachusetts community college, will have completed the Gen Ed requirements below, but will still need to fulfill their school/college and major requirements (which include Junior Year Writing and Integrative Experience). Additionally, you must take, or have taken, a U.S. or Global diversity course.

ALL OTHER TRANSFERS must complete the requirements outlined below, bearing in mind the following: **a)** from your major department, only one course may apply to Gen Ed requirements and one **additional course may fulfill a Diversity requirement (Gen Eds will be reevaluated if you change your major); b)** after enrollment, Gen Ed courses may not be taken Pass / Fail; and **c)** no more than three I or SI courses will count toward Gen Ed and Diversity requirements.

General Education courses are identified by a specific letter designation, which can be found in SPIRE. To monitor your Gen Ed progress, go to your SPIRE Student Center, and from the blue menu on the left, first click on "Academics," and then click on "Academic Requirements." For further information about Gen Ed, visit the Gen Ed website at <http://www.umass.edu/gened>.

WRITING (2 courses)

_____ COLLEGE WRITING (CW) course OR a satisfactory score on the Writing Placement Test, combined SAT I Critical Reading and Writing Tests, or AP Language and Composition (only) exam.

_____ JUNIOR YEAR WRITING, *to be taken in the student's major department.*

BASIC MATHEMATICS and ANALYTICAL REASONING

_____ BASIC MATH SKILLS (R1) *see text box*

_____ ANALYTICAL REASONING (R2) *see text box*

BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL WORLD (2 courses)

_____ BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE (BS)

_____ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (PS)

Students must complete one course in Basic Math Skills (R1) or get a satisfactory score on the Basic Mathematics Skills Exemption Test. This requirement can also be satisfied with a higher level course that presupposes knowledge of basic math skills. Both the R1 and R2 requirements will be satisfied by taking an R2 course from [here](#).

SOCIAL WORLD (4 courses) The Social World requirements can be combined with Social and Cultural Diversity requirements (see below).

_____ ARTS or LITERATURE (AT, AL)

_____ HISTORICAL STUDIES (HS)

_____ SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (SB)

_____ SOCIAL WORLD (AL, AT, or SB) or INTERDISCIPLINARY (I or SI)

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY (2 courses) Undergraduates must take two Diversity classes, one of which focuses on Diversity in the United States ("U" or "DU") and the other on Global Diversity ("G" or "DG").* The "U" or "DU" and "G" or "DG" designations may be combined with other Social World courses (such as ALU, ALDU, HSG, SBDG, IG, etc.).

United States (U or DU) _____ Global (G or DG) _____

ADDITIONAL GENERAL EDUCATION (2 courses) Two additional courses must be completed in any of the above Gen Ed areas EXCEPT Writing. These additional courses ensure that transfer students earn the appropriate proportion of Gen Ed credits within their overall degree program.

INTEGRATIVE EXPERIENCE (3 credits, no code). Must be taken at UMass Amherst. Approved courses for each student appear on the Academic Requirements Report after Diversity or College requirements.

* Beginning Fall 2018, the designations DU and DG replaced U and G for all courses meeting the Social and Cultural Diversity requirement.