

# Gen Ed Course Planning Guide

## FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED AS TRANSFERS, FALL 2018 THROUGH SPRING 2019

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 **COMMONWEALTH TRANSFER COMPACT (CTC)** at a Massachusetts community college or the **MASS TRANSFER BLOCK (MTB)** at a Massachusetts public 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 for CTC/MTB students and Integrative Experience for MTB students). **Additionally, MTB students 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 <https://www.umass.edu/registrar/students/general-educationacademic-requirements/r1r2-gen-ed-requirements>.

### 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 (DU) and the other on Global Diversity (DG). The DU and DG designations are combined with other Social World courses (such as ALDU, HSDG, SBDG, IDU, etc.). Students who have not fulfilled their Social and Cultural Diversity requirement are expected to take a DU or DG course within their first year.

United States (DU) \_\_\_\_\_ Global (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.