

Gen Ed Planning Sheet for Freshmen & Transfer Students Entering in Fall 2011 or Spring 2012

As part of Binghamton University's comprehensive General Education (Gen Ed) curriculum, all students must take courses in the following areas of study: Aesthetics, Composition and Oral Communication, Foreign Language, Global Interdependencies, Humanities, Laboratory Science, Mathematics, Physical Activity/Wellness, Pluralism in the United States, and Social Science. More information on Gen Ed is online at <http://gened.binghamton.edu>

General Education Requirement	Course
<p>Aesthetics (A) A courses enhance students' understanding of the creative process and the role of imagination in it. The A requirement may also be fulfilled with an AP score of 3 or better in Art History, Art Studio or Music Theory or a HIB fine arts score of 4-7.</p>	
<p>Composition (C), Oral Communication (O) or Joint Composition/Oral Communication (J) C courses emphasize writing as a process of revision and require a minimum of 20 pages of expository prose. The C requirement may also be fulfilled by an HIB English A1 score of 4-7. O courses involve at least two oral presentations and evaluation of speaking. J courses combine both Composition and Oral Communication. Students must complete one of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ one C course plus one O course ▪ one J course 	
<p>Foreign Language This requirement may be fulfilled by demonstrating proficiency in high school in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>High school language courses:</u> Completion of four or more units of one high school foreign language with a course grade in the fourth unit (i.e., the unit beyond the Regents exam in NY Regents high schools) of 85 or better, or three units each of two high school languages with course grades in each third unit of 85 or better ▪ <u>Exam credit:</u> Score of 3 or better on AP foreign language exam or score of 4-7 on the HIB or standard IB exam ▪ <u>Demonstrated proficiency:</u> See http://www2.binghamton.edu/general-education/forlang.html for more information <p>Students who do not demonstrate proficiency in high school must complete one of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3rd semester college-level course in one language ▪ 2nd semester college-level course in each of two foreign languages ▪ some other significant activity that requires second-level foreign language proficiency as a prerequisite, such as study abroad in a non-English environment or an internship serving people who can communicate only in a language other than English. <p>Note: Students who have completed a fourth-level high school language with a passing grade or third-level high school language with a Regents score or (for students from non-Regents high schools only) a course grade of 85 are considered to have completed two semesters of a college-level language and can fulfill the requirement by completing either the third semester college-level course of that language or the second semester college level course of a second foreign language.</p> <p>Exemptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The foreign language requirement is waived for students in the Watson School engineering programs. 2. The foreign language requirement for students in the Decker School of Nursing and the Watson School computer science program is fulfilled by one college course in foreign language at any level. This requirement may also be fulfilled in high school by demonstrating a level of proficiency equivalent to passing the corresponding Regents foreign language evaluation with a score of 85 or higher. 3. The foreign language requirement for transfer students is fulfilled by one college course in foreign language at any level. This requirement may also be fulfilled in high school by demonstrating a level of proficiency equivalent to passing the corresponding Regents foreign language examination with a score of 85 or higher. 	
<p>Global Interdependencies (G) The primary focus of Global Interdependencies (G) courses is to study how two or more distinctive world regions have influenced and interacted with one another and how such interactions have been informed by their respective cultures or civilizations.</p>	
<p>Humanities (H) H courses enhance students' understanding of human experience through the study of literature or philosophy. This requirement may also be fulfilled with an AP score of 3 or better in English Lit/Comp, French Literature, German Literature, Latin Literature or Spanish Literature or a HIB humanities score of 4-7.</p>	

<p>Laboratory Science (L) L courses emphasize the formulation and testing of hypotheses and the collection, analysis and interpretation of data. In some instances, appropriate AP credit may be used to satisfy this requirement. For more information, please visit the following website: http://www.binghamton.edu/general-education/ap-lab.doc</p>	
<p>Mathematics (M) Mathematics/Reasoning (M) courses include any course in the Mathematics Department numbered 130 or above, any of several designated statistics courses, or any of several designated logic courses. This requirement may also be fulfilled by AP score of 3 or better in Calculus or Statistics or a HIB Math score of 4-7 or a CLEP scaled score of C or better.</p>	
<p>Physical Activity/Wellness (Y, S, B) Exercise, body awareness and wellness are essential components of a healthy and productive lifestyle. Physical Activity courses are designated Y; Wellness courses are designated S, and courses that combine both Physical Activity/Wellness are designated B. Students must complete one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1-credit (or more) Y course plus a 1-credit (or more) S course ▪ 1-credit B course plus one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1-credit Y course ○ 1-credit S course ○ 1-credit B course ▪ 2-credit (or more) B course 	
<p>Pluralism in the United States (P) P courses consider three or more cultural groups in the United States -- African Americans, Asian Americans, European Americans, Latino Americans, and Native Americans -- in terms of their specific experiences and how they have affected and been affected by the basic institutions of American society. Most P courses assume a basic knowledge of US History, measured by demonstrating proficiency in high school in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Exam score</u>: AP score of 3 or better in US History ▪ <u>For NY Regents high school students</u>: Score of 85 or better on the US History Regents exam ▪ <u>For students from non-Regents high schools ONLY</u>: Grade of 85 or better or a B in US History <p><u>If you are proficient</u>: Students who demonstrate proficiency can take any designated P course.</p> <p><u>If you are not proficient</u>: Students who do not demonstrate proficiency must select from a specific group of P courses that pay significant attention to a broad span of US History. If you are not proficient, your DARS will display a current list of these specialized courses. The list is also available online at http://www2.binghamton.edu/general-education/faq.html#specific.</p>	
<p>Social Science (N) N courses emphasize the major concepts, models and issues of at least one of the social sciences. The N requirement may be satisfied with an AP score of 3 in American History, Economics, European History, Human Geography, Political Science or World History or a HIB social science score of 4-7.</p>	

How do I know if a course meets a Gen Ed requirement?

Gen Ed courses are identified in the Schedule of Classes. To receive Gen Ed credit, a course must be identified with a Gen Ed letter (A, C, etc.) in the semester in which you take it. Gen Ed designations are finalized by the add deadline for each semester. For all General Education requirements, a "course" is understood to be four credits. There are exceptions to this rule: transfer courses that earned three credits at the student's original school; Physical Activity/Wellness courses; Laboratory Science courses of one and two credits that have a four-credit pre- or co-requisite; Oral Communication courses of varying credits; schools or programs in which three-credit courses are the norm.

Can a course fulfill more than one Gen Ed requirement?

Some Gen Ed courses may carry more than one Gen Ed tag (for example, CHP). However, except for C, O, J or Foreign Language classes, Gen Ed courses may be used to fulfill only one Gen Ed category. C, O, J or Foreign Language courses may double-count with one other Gen Ed requirement. Your DARS report will use double-tagged courses in the category in which they are needed; for example, if you take a course designated CNP, you will receive either the CP or the CN, whichever DARS decides you need most.

Can Gen Ed courses be taken pass/fail?

Gen Ed courses must be taken for a letter grade (normal grading option) unless a course is only offered pass/fail.

Can my transfer courses fulfill Gen Ed requirements?

Transferred college courses are considered for Gen Ed on a course-by-course basis. Courses taken at another SUNY school prior to matriculation at Binghamton that fulfilled a SUNY-wide General Education requirement will fulfill the corresponding Binghamton Gen Ed requirement. Contact your advisor for more information.