

General Education (GE) Requirements

Stepping Outside of your Major



Why GEs?

- Important component of a liberal arts education.
- Designed to cultivate the skills, knowledge, and understanding that will make students effective contributors to society and the world.
- Enables UCI undergraduates to apply the abilities developed in their studies to identify significant issues, gather and evaluate available evidence, analyze alternatives, reach conclusions, communicate the results effectively, and take considered actions.



The Basics

- Some GE courses may also count towards major requirements
- Double count course options are available between some categories
- You may take GE courses Pass/Not Pass as long as the course DOES NOT also count for your major or minor requirements



General Education Requirements

- I. Writing 3 courses
- II. Science & Technology 3 courses
- III. Social & Behavioral Sciences 3 courses
- IV. Arts & Humanities 3 courses
- V. Quantitative, Symbolic, & Computational Reasoning 3 courses
- VI. Language Other Than English 1-3 courses
- VII. Multicultural Studies 1 course
- VIII. International/Global Issues 1 course



I. Writing

- Ia: 2 Lower Division Writing Courses
- Ib: 1 Upper Division Writing Course



Ia. Writing – Lower Division

2 Lower Division Writing Courses

- **WRITING 50:** Critical Reading and Rhetoric &
- **WRITING 60:** Argument and Research

OR

- **WRITING 45:** Intensive Writing &
- **WRITING 60:** Argument and Research

OR

- **Humanities Core Series:** 1AES-1BS-1CS (if need to complete ELWR)
- **Humanities Core Series:** 1AS-1BS-1CS

Ia. Writing – Lower Division

Exceptions

Freshmen entering in Fall 2023 with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP English exam will be placed directly into **WRITING 60**.

A “B” or better in WRITING 45 or 50

If you earn a “B” in 45 or 50, you can enroll in the following options to complete your lower division writing requirement:

- **WRITING 30: Poetry**
- **WRITING 31: Fiction**

REMEMBER: A “B-” is NOT a “B”



Ib. Writing – Upper Division

1 Upper Division Writing Course

- Lower-division writing requirement must be successfully completed
- Upper-division writing requirement usually built into your major
 - Other major courses may be required as a prerequisite
 - Noted with a “W” next to course number
 - **Art** 101W & 115W
 - **Dance** 185W
 - **Drama** 109W, 110W, 112W, 116W, 118W, 126W, 129W, & 180W
 - **Music** 142W, 143W, 144W, 145W, & 180W
- **WRITING 139W** is available to all UCI students



I. Writing

- Lower-division writing must be completed PRIOR to the 7th quarter at UCI, or you will be subject to probation and possible disqualification
- All writing courses must have a grade of “C-” or better in order to satisfy a writing requirement
- Writing courses may be taken Pass/Not Pass as long as the course is not also a major requirement
 - *Entry Level Writing **cannot** be taken P/NP; Must be taken for a letter grade*
 - *If you complete WRITING 45 or 50 with a “P”, you **cannot** enroll in WRITING 30 or 31 to complete your lower division writing requirement*



II. Science & Technology

Scientific inquiry and the operation of the biological, physical, and technological world is essential for making personal and public policy decisions in a technological society.

- **Subjects:** Biology, Chemistry, Earth System Sciences, Computer Sciences, Math, & Physics

Subjects that *may* double count:*

- CHEM (II & Va)
- EARTHSS (II & Va or Vb)
- I&C SCI (II & Va or Vb)
- PHYSICS (II & Va)

**Check UCI Catalogue for actual courses*



III. Social & Behavioral Sciences

Focus on principles, sources, and interpretations of human behavior and on how people organize, govern, understand, and explain social life.

- **Subjects:** African American Studies, Anthropology, Asian American Studies, Chicano/Latino Studies, Criminology & Law Studies, European Studies, International Studies, Political Science, Psychology, & Social Sciences

Subjects that may double count:*

- AFAM, ASIANAM, CHC/LAT, EURO ST (III & VII)
- INTL ST (III & VIII)
- POL SCI (III & VIII)
- SOC SCI (III & VIII)

**Check UCI Catalogue for actual courses*



IV. Arts & Humanities

Expands the student's sense of diverse forms of cultural expression, past and present.

- **Subjects:** Art, Classics, Literature, Dance, Drama, English, History, Music, & Philosophy

Arts students automatically complete this requirement with their major courses:

- **Art:** 1A, 1B, & 1C
- **Dance:** 90A, 90B, & 90C
- **Drama:** 40A, 40B, & 40C
- **Music:** 40B, 40C, & 40D



V. Quantitative, Symbolic, & Computational Reasoning

- Va. Quantitative Literacy
- Vb. Formal Reasoning

Options to complete requirement:

- 2 Va courses + 1 Vb course
- 1 Va course + 2 Vb courses



Va. Quantitative Literacy

Focus on the quantitative description, evaluation, and assessment of events occurring in nature or in human social and political systems.

- **Subjects:** Chemistry, Earth System Science, Physics, & Statistics

Subjects that *may* double count:*

- CHEM (II & Va)
- EARTHSS (II & Va)
- I&C SCI (II & Va)
- PHYSICS (II & Va)

**Check UCI Catalogue for actual courses*



Vb. Formal Reasoning

Focus on aspects of formal reasoning including symbolic logic, mathematical modeling, and algorithmic reasoning.

- **Subjects:** Computer Science, Linguistics, Math, & Philosophy

Subjects that *may* double count:*

- EARTHSS (II & Vb)
- I&C SCI (II & Vb)
- LSCI (III & Vb)

**Check UCI Catalogue for actual courses*



VI. Language Other Than English

Study of a language other than English expands students' horizons by encouraging understanding of another culture through its language and heightens awareness of one's own language through the investigation of another linguistic system.

Completion of college-level course work equivalent to UCI's third quarter of study in a language other than English:

- **Languages:** Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Persian, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese

Some languages require placement exam via the [UCI Testing Center](#) before enrollment

How to Complete Requirement:

- Three years of high school level language with grades of "C" or better the last year; or
- AP score 3+; or
 - Scores of 3+ on AP Chinese must take the placement exam to determine course credit
- SAT Subject Test score of 570+; or
- Exemption or Placement Exam; or
 - Placement must be at least level 2A+ to complete requirement
- Completion through 1C level at UCI; or
- Equivalent of completion through 1C from a community college (ASL accepted); or
- Approved EAP (study abroad) course study



VII. Multicultural Studies

Develops students' awareness and appreciation of the history, society, and/or culture of one or more underrepresented groups in California and the United States.

- **Subjects:** African American Studies, Anthropology, Asian American Studies, Chicano/Latino Studies, Gender & Sexuality Studies, History, Political Science, Social Sciences, & Sociology

Subjects that may double count:*

- AFAM, ASIANAM, CHC/LAT, EURO ST (III & VII)
- GEN&SEX (IV & VII)
- HIST (III, IV & VII)
- SOC SCI (III, IV & VII)

**Check UCI Catalogue for actual courses*



VIII. International/Global Issues

Focus on significant cultural, economic, geographical, historical, political, and/or sociological aspects of one or more countries other than the United States.

- **Subjects:** Art History, Literature, Dance, Drama, East Asian Studies, English, European Studies, History, International Studies, Music, & Political Science

Arts students automatically complete this requirement with their major courses:

- **Art:** ART HIS 40A-C or 42A-D
- **Dance:** 90A, 90B, or 90C
- **Drama:** 40A, 40B, or 40C
- **Music:** 40B, 40C, or 40D

