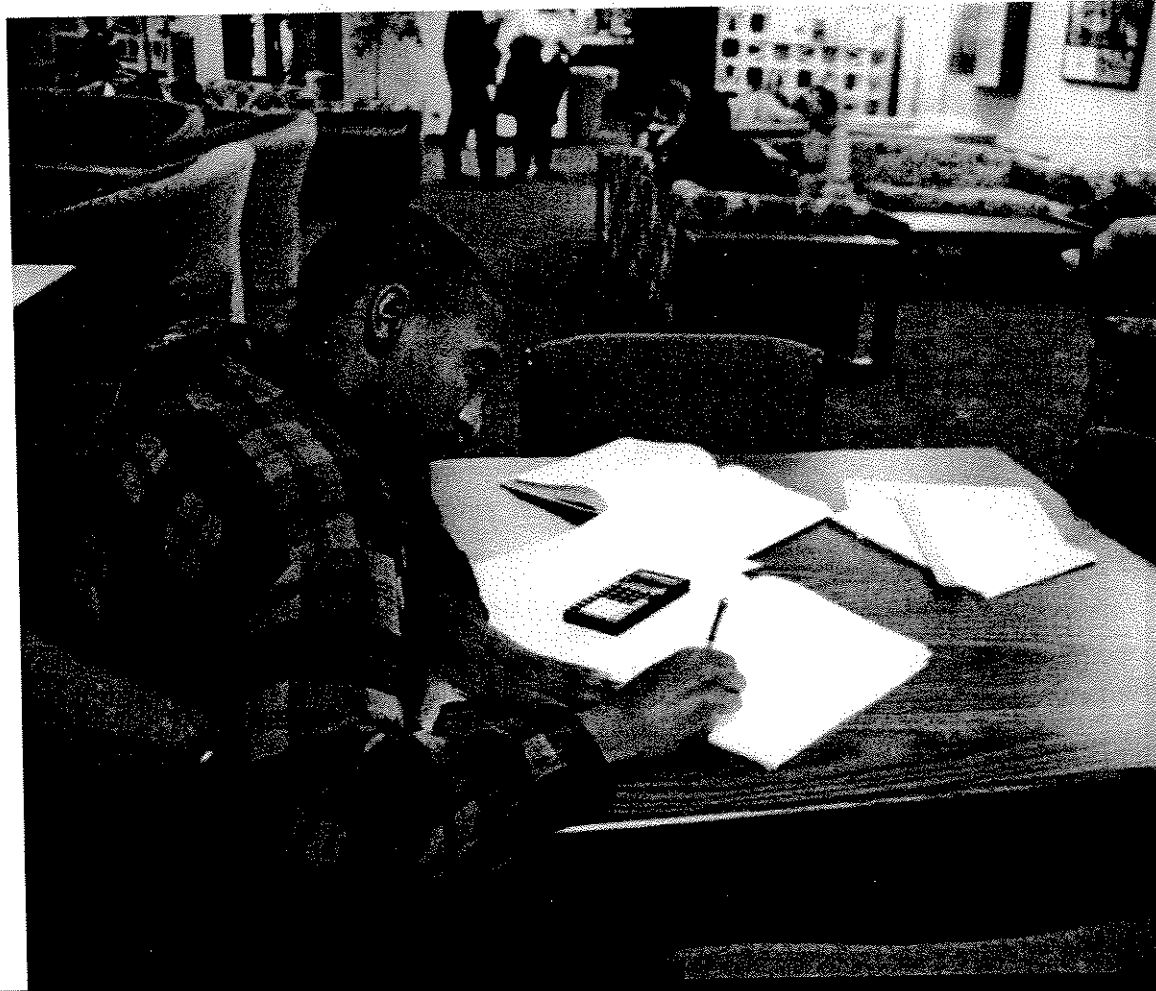


# General Education



"Schools must deal with fundamentals, must build a foundation and furnish a plan for a possible human structure of beauty, strength and service."

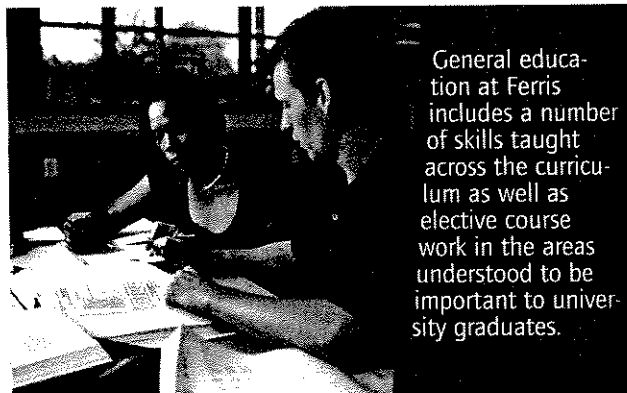
-Woodbridge N. Ferris

# General Education

## General Education Philosophy

Ferris State University is dedicated to the ideal of combining career-oriented professional and technical education with a strong program of general education. While major programs of study provide graduates with the professional/technical skills and knowledge required to enter and pursue a chosen career, a general education provides graduates with the enhanced academic skills, reasoning ability, and general knowledge required for continued learning and advancement in their personal and professional lives. General education at Ferris includes a number of skills taught across the curriculum as well as elective course work in the areas understood to be important to university graduates. General education at Ferris is intended to accomplish the following:

1. Enhance and enrich the skills essential to success in every field and most areas of our lives. These include the ability to communicate effectively; to use quantitative skills appropriately; to work well with others; to use the library, computers, and information technology effectively; to complete projects successfully; to solve problems and think critically about issues.
2. Provide students with the knowledge that will allow them to adapt to change, advance in their careers, and act as informed citizens. An understanding of the fundamental theories about our world and the methods used for that study is essential for an informed and thoughtful response to events. Students should therefore have an understanding of the natural world and the scientific method used to study it; the psychological, social, economic, geographic, and political dimensions of human life; the cultures that influence us; and our global relations. Students also need an understanding and appreciation for the diversity in our culture and the world.
3. Assist students in gaining a better understanding of themselves. Also widen the horizon of their experience by offering them a better understanding and appreciation of some of the best of human achievement. Students need a chance to actively engage in the study of history, philosophy, literature, the arts, music, and theater as a vital part of human existence.



General education at Ferris includes a number of skills taught across the curriculum as well as elective course work in the areas understood to be important to university graduates.

## General Education Requirements

The University's general education requirements for graduation apply to all students, regardless of their majors.

These requirements allow a wide range of choice in courses that may be taken to fulfill general education graduation requirements. Most of Ferris' degree programs, however, require students to complete specific general education courses selected for their special relevance to that particular major.

Consequently, the specific general education courses that a student must take depend on the student's particular program of study and the degree sought. These specific general education requirements are indicated in the individual program descriptions which appear later in this catalog.

In order to make proper course selections that fulfill the program requirements, students must see their academic advisor before registering for classes.

## Outcomes

Ferris State University's general education requirements and curriculum are designed to produce graduates with the skills, flexibility, and knowledge needed for personal competence, responsible citizenship, and continuing career development and advancement.

The following general education outcomes should be shared by all Ferris graduates, regardless of their major program of study.

### Communication Competence

Graduates of Ferris should be able to read, write, speak, and listen effectively in a variety of professional and community situations where complex issues are at stake. These competencies are developed through required English (ENGL) and communication (COMM) courses.

## Reasoning Ability

Graduates should demonstrate competence in problem-solving, critical thinking and independent decision-making with respect to both personal and professional issues. Graduates should also be able to apply principles of ethical decision-making, valuing, and civic responsibility in both their personal and professional lives.

## Lifelong Learning and Organizational Skills

Graduates should demonstrate skills which are critical not only for success in college coursework, but also for lifelong learning and effective performance of personal and professional responsibilities. These include:

1. **Library and information skills**—the ability to identify, access and evaluate information and materials as needed for both personal and professional purposes;
2. **Project organization skills**—the ability to organize individual and group projects with effective time-management, goal-setting, and resource allocation strategies;
3. **Collaborative skills**—the ability to work as part of a team, to learn and teach cooperatively, to appreciate individual differences, and to assess one's own and others' roles in a working group; and
4. **Computer competence**—the ability to use and learn more about computers, as needed, in their personal and professional lives.

## Quantitative Skills

Because of the increasing importance of math and statistics in everyday life and the professions, graduates of Ferris should demonstrate functional mathematical competence (e.g., in computations and problem solving), the ability to employ quantitative reasoning, and understanding of elementary statistics and their use.

These competencies are developed through required mathematics (MATH) courses.

## Scientific Understanding

In light of the pervasive relevance of science and technology to both everyday life and the professions, graduates should have a basic understanding of scientific concepts, scientific methods, and contemporary issues in science and technology. They should also be able to read, understand, and assess medical and environmental issues they may encounter as well as community or political issues involving science, technology, and medicine.

These competencies are developed through courses in the following scientific areas:

ASTR	Astronomy
BIOL	Biology
CHEM	Chemistry
GEOG	Geography (Physical)
GEOL	Geology
PHSC	Physical Sciences (Interdisciplinary)
PHYS	Physics

## Social Awareness

In a culturally diverse nation and a changing world, social awareness is essential to graduates' interpersonal relationships, professional competence, and responsible citizenship. Therefore, graduates should be able to understand and address issues involving social institutions, interpersonal and group dynamics, social tradition and change, cultural diversity, and human development and behavior. These competencies are developed through courses in the following social science areas:

ANTH	Anthropology
ECON	Economics
GEOG	Geography (Cultural)
PLSC	Political Science
PSYC	Psychology
SOCY	Sociology
SSCI	Social Awareness (Interdisciplinary)

Social awareness foundations courses, as well as those dealing with issues of race/ethnicity and/or gender, are identified and listed in "Courses Meeting General Education Category Requirements."

## Cultural Enrichment

Graduates should be able, through the humanities, arts and literature, to enrich their own lives, to increase their understanding of themselves and their culture, and to expand their understanding of others' experience and cultures, including the experience and cultures of other nations and cultural traditions.

These competencies are developed through courses in the following areas.

ARTH	Art (Art History)
ARTS	Art (Studio)
FREN	French
GERM	German
HIST	History
HUMN	Humanities (Interdisciplinary)
LITR	Literature
MUSI	Music
SPAN	Spanish
THTR	Theater

Selected other courses also count in this category. See the outline of "General Education Requirements for Specific Degrees."

## Global Consciousness

In an increasingly interdependent world and global economy, graduates should be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the world, its diverse cultures, and the geographic, economic, cultural, and historical interrelationships of nations and peoples. See "Courses Meeting General Education Category Requirements."

# General Education Requirements for Specific Degrees

Each type of degree offered by Ferris State University carries a different set of University general education course requirements which are indicated below. General education outcomes which are not addressed through specific course requirements, e.g., reasoning ability, computer competence, are infused across the general education curriculum and developed in a wide variety of courses.

Note: Zero-level courses (010, etc.) do not count either as credit toward graduation or for general education requirements.

## Bachelor of Science (BS) and Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

### Communication Competence: 12 credit hours

English and speech communication:  
ENGL 150; ENGL 250 or ENGL 211

**Choose one:**  
COMM 105, COMM 121, COMM 221 or COMM 251

Advanced ENGL, WIC, COMM, complete one of the following options:

1. ENGL 311, 321, 323 or 325
2. Two "Writing-Intensive Courses" (WIC) plus one COMM course at the 200 level or higher.
3. Three WIC courses.

See WIC course definition and listing in "Courses Meeting General Education Category Requirements."

**Scientific Understanding:** 7 credit hours

Choose two general education approved courses, one with a lab: ASTR, BIOL (except BIOL 207, 307), CHEM (except CHEM 307), GEOG 111, GEOG 121, GEOL, PHSC, PHYS.

**Quantitative Skills:**

Complete one of the following options:

1. Pass MATH 115 or higher;
2. Pass a course proficiency exam for MATH 115 or higher; or
3. Submit an ACT math subtest score of 24 or higher +1 year of high school algebra with a grade of C- or better.

**Cultural Enrichment:** 9 credit hours

Choose three general education approved courses with at least one course at the 200 level or higher; no more than 5 credit hours in music activities or theater activities courses: ARCH 244, ARTH, ARTS, COMM 231, ENGL 322, FREN, GERM, HIST, HUMN, LITR, MUSI, PHOT 101 SPAN, THTR.

**Social Awareness:** 9 credit hours

Choose three general education approved courses in at least two different subject areas, one social awareness foundation course, one course dealing with issues of race/ethnicity and/or gender, and one course at the 300 level or higher: ANTH, ECON, PLSC, PSYC, SOCY, GEOG (except GEOG 111, 121 and 421), SSCI.

**Global Consciousness**

Each student must complete one course from the global consciousness group that may also count toward fulfilling the cultural enrichment or social awareness requirement.

Global consciousness courses deal specifically with contemporary cultures, languages, and societies outside North America or with contemporary Native American culture and civilization.

## Associate in Arts (AA) Associate in Science (AS)

**Communication Competence:** 9 credit hours

**English and speech communication:**  
ENGL 150; ENGL 250 or ENGL 211

**Choose one:**  
COMM 105, COMM 121, COMM 221 or COMM 251

**Scientific Understanding:** 7 credit hours

**Choose two general education approved courses, one with a lab:**  
ASTR, BIOL (except BIOL 207, 307), CHEM (except CHEM 307), GEOG 111, GEOG 121, GEOL, PHSC, PHYS

**Quantitative Skills**

Complete one of the following options:

1. Pass MATH 110 or higher;
2. Pass the course proficiency exam for MATH 110 or higher; or
3. ACT math subtest score of 19 or higher + 2 years of high school algebra with grades of C- or better.
4. ACT math subtest score of 22 or higher + 1 year of high school algebra with a grade of C- or better.

**Cultural Enrichment:** 9 credit hours

Choose three general education approved courses with at least one course at the 200 level or higher; no more than 3 credit hours in music activities or theater activities courses: ARCH 244, ARTH, ARTS, COMM 231, ENGL 322, FREN, GERM, HIST, HUMN, LITR, MUSI, PHOT 101, SPAN, THTR.

**Social Awareness:** 9 credit hours

Choose three general education approved courses from the following list in at least two different subject areas, including one social awareness foundation course. One "foundation" course in a social awareness subject area is required. ANTH, ECON, GEOG (except GEOG 111, 121 and 421), PLSC, PSYC, SOCY, SSCI (except SSCI 100).

(Bachelor of science degree general education requirements include a 300 or higher social awareness course and a course fulfilling global consciousness. For students intending to continue to a BS degree, completion of these requirements within the associate degree is recommended.)

## Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

**Communication Competence:** 6 credit hours

ENGL 150; ENGL 250 or ENGL 211

**Scientific Understanding:** 3 credit hours

Choose one general education approved course with a lab: ASTR, BIOL (except BIOL 207, 307), CHEM (except CHEM 307), GEOG 111, GEOG 121, GEOL, PHSC, PHYS.

### Quantitative Skills

Complete one of the following options:

1. Pass MATH 110 or higher.
2. Pass a course proficiency exam for MATH 115 or higher; or
3. Submit an ACT math subtest score of 19 or higher + 2 years of high school algebra with grades of C- or better.
4. Submit an ACT math subtest score of 22 or higher + 1 year high school algebra with a grade of C- or better.

**Cultural Enrichment:** 3 credit hours

Choose one general education approved course: ARCH 244, ARTH, ARTS, COMM 231, ENGL 322, FREN, GERM, HIST, HUMN, LITR, MUSI, PHOT 101, SPAN, THTR.

**Social Awareness:** 3 credit hours

Choose one general education approved course: ANTH, ECON, PLSC, PSYC, SOCY, GEOG (except GEOG 111, 121 and 421), SSCI

## Courses Meeting General Education Category Requirements

The following general education requirements fall into five categories:

- Foundation courses in social awareness subject areas;
- Race, ethnicity and/or gender courses in social awareness subject areas;
- Global consciousness courses;
- Courses satisfying the "WIC" requirements.

## Foundation Courses in Social Awareness (F)

Courses		Credit hours
ANTH 121	Introduction to Physical Anthropology	3
ANTH 122	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
ECON 221	Principles of Economics	3
ECON 222	Principles of Economics	3
GEOG 100	Geography of World Regions	3
GEOG 112	Cultural Geography	3
PLSC 121	American Government: People and Politics	3
PLSC 122	American Government 2: Policy Making	3
PSYC 150	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOCY 121	Introductory Sociology	3
SOCY 122	Social Problems	3

All foundation courses, except ECON 221 and 222, fulfill the race, ethnicity and/or gender requirement. If your foundation course is ECON, take race, ethnicity and/or gender course requirement.

## Race, Ethnicity and/or Gender Courses in Social Awareness Subject Areas (R/E/G)

Courses		Credit hours
ANTH 121	Introduction to Physical Anthropology	3
ANTH 122	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH 310	North American Indians	3
ANTH 320	Contemporary American Indian Issues	3
ECON 331	Labor Economics and Labor Relations	3
GEOG 100	Geography of World Regions	3
GEOG 112	Cultural Geography	3
GEOG 202	Geography: Latin America, America, Africa & Asia	3
GEOG 301	Geography of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region	3
PLSC 121	American Government 1: People and Politics	3
PLSC 122	American Government 2: Policy Making	3
PLSC 221	American Political Parties	3
PLSC 225	Government Processes and Procedures	3
PLSC 251	Public Administration	3
PLSC 311	American State and Local Government	3
PLSC 323	International Organization	3
PLSC 331	Comparative World Governments	3
PLSC 341	International Politics	3
PSYC 150	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYC 226	Life-Span Human Development	3
PSYC 231	Child Psychology	3
PSYC 241	Psychology of Exceptional Children	3
PSYC 310	Psychology of Teaching	3
PSYC 325	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 326	Industrial-Organizational Psychology	3
PSYC 331	Psychology of Personality	3
PSYC 342	Psychology of Adolescence	3
PSYC 410	Behavior Modification	3
PSYC 422	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 430	Interpersonal/Cultural Perception	3
SOCY 121	Introductory Sociology	3
SOCY 122	Social Problems	3
SOCY 225	Marriage and the Family	3
SOCY 230	Gender Roles in Society	3

SOCY 242	Sociology of Deviant Behavior	3	SOCY 225	Marriage and the Family	3
SOCY 340	Minority Groups in America	3	SOCY 344	World Urban Sociology	3
SOCY 341	Community Studies	3	SOCY 460	Social Change	3
SOCY 344	World Urban Society	3	SPAN 101	Beginning Spanish 1	3
SOCY 345	The Field of Aging	3	SPAN 102	Beginning Spanish 2	3
SOCY 361	Leisure and Society	3	SPAN 201	Intermediate Spanish 1	3
SOCY 373	Health and Illness in Society	3	SPAN 202	Intermediate Spanish 2	3
SOCY 443	Social Stratification/Inequity	3	SPAN 301	Advanced Spanish 1	3
SOCY 450	Criminology	3	SPAN 302	Advanced Spanish 2	3
SOCY 460	Social Change	3	SPAN 331	Contemporary Culture and Society of Spain	3

## Global Consciousness Courses (G)

Courses		Credit hours
ANTH 122	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
ECON 311	Economic Development	3
ECON 312	Comparative Economic Systems	3
ECON 451	International Economics	3
FREN 100	French for Travelers and Business	3
FREN 101	Beginning French 1	3
FREN 102	Beginning French 2	3
FREN 201	Intermediate French 1	3
FREN 202	Intermediate French 2	3
GEOG 100	Geography of World Regions	3
GEOG 112	Cultural Geography	3
	(GEOG 100,112 and ANTH 122 are also Foundation Courses.)	3
GEOG 202	Geography: Latin America Africa and Asia	3
GEOG 421	National Parks of the World	3
GEOG 424	Current Global Problems	3
GERM 101	Beginning German 1	3
GERM 102	Beginning German 2	3
GERM 201	Intermediate German 1	3
GERM 202	Intermediate German 2	3
HIST 152	Western Civilization: 1500 AD to the Present	3
HIST 320	The U.S. and the War in Vietnam	3
HIST 341	U.S. Foreign Policy in the Twentieth Century	3
HIST 360	Contemporary European History	3
HIST 371	East Asia in the Twentieth Century	3
HIST 372	Middle East in the Modern Era	3
HIST 373	Twentieth Century Russia	3
HIST 375	Latin American History	3
HIST 385	American Military History	3
HUMN 240	Popular Culture	3
HUMN 325	Eastern Religions	3
INTB 310	International Business Systems	3
LITR 203	Introduction to African Literature	3
LITR 300	Global Understanding Through Literature: Africa	3
LITR 301	Global Understanding Through Literature: Caribbean	3
LITR 302	Global Understanding Through Literature: Europe	3
LITR 303	Global Understanding Through Literature: Asia	3
LITR 304	Global Understanding Through Literature: India	3
LITR 305	Global Understanding Through Literature: South America	3
LITR 330	Contemporary Literature	3
MGMT 377	International Human Resource Management	3
MKTG 441	International Marketing	3
PLSC 323	International Organization	3
PLSC 331	Comparative World Governments	3
PLSC 341	International Politics	3

SPAN 332	Contemporary Culture and Society of Mexico	3
SPAN 333	Contemporary Culture and Society of Hispanic America	3
SSCI 201	Perspectives on the Third World	3

## Writing Intensive Courses (WIC)

A WIC is a course at the 200-level or higher which demands a substantial amount of writing, various types of writing, and attention to the revision process.

The student must have satisfactorily completed ENGL 250 before enrollment in WIC.

Courses designated as WIC are listed below:

Courses		Credit hours
BIOL 340	Evolution	3
CONM 323	Issues in Construction Management	3
CONM 412	Construction Contracts	3
CONM 422	Construction Supervision	3
CRIM 321	Police Report Writing	3
ISYS 330	Systems Analysis and Design	3
LITR 286	Justice in Literature	3
LITR 287	Business in Literature	3
LITR 311	American Literature 1	3
LITR 312	American Literature 2	3
LITR 323	Shakespeare	3
LITR 326	Children's Literature	3
LITR 327	Adolescent Literature	3
LITR 328	Golden Age of Children's Literature	3
LITR 330	Contemporary Literature	3
LITR 343	Crime and Violence	3
LITR 351	English Literature 1	3
LITR 352	English Literature 2	3
MFGE 324	Manufacturing Tool Engineering	3
MFGE 393	Internship in Manufacturing Engineering	3
MFGE 421	Automation and System Design	3
SURE 365	Legal Aspects of Surveying 1	3
SURE 420	Professional Practice of Surveying	3
TVPR 326	Television Production Writing	3
TVPR 466	Instructional Design	3