

The UK Core – General Education Requirements

The University of Kentucky's general education program—the UK Core—is foundational to a university education at the University of Kentucky. A university education is more than simply learning a set of skills in a specific area in preparation for a job or career. A university education is designed to broaden the students' understanding of themselves, of the world we live in, of their role in our global society, and of the ideals and aspirations that have motivated human thought and action throughout the ages. It must help individuals effectively put into action their acquired knowledge, to provide the bases for critical thinking and problem solving, and to develop life-long learning habits.

The UK Core is composed of the equivalent of 30 credit hours in 10 course areas that address four broad learning outcomes. Depending on choice of major or courses, some students may take more than 30 credit hours to complete the UK Core.

The UK Core Learning Outcomes

The UK Core curriculum is based on a comprehensive set of student learning outcomes that all students are expected to be able to demonstrate upon completion of a baccalaureate degree at the University of Kentucky. All UK Core courses are designed to meet one or more of the following learning outcomes:

I. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ the processes of intellectual inquiry. [12 credit hours]

Students will be able to identify multiple dimensions of a good question (i.e., interesting, analytical, problematic, complex, important, genuine, researchable); determine when additional information is needed, find credible information efficiently using a variety of reference sources, and judge the quality of information as informed by rigorously developed evidence; explore multiple and complex answers to questions/issues/problems within and across the four broad knowledge areas: arts and creativity, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and natural/physical/mathematical sciences; evaluate theses and conclusions in light of credible evidence; explore the ethical implications of differing approaches, methodologies or conclusions; and develop potential solutions to problems based on sound evidence and reasoning. Students will take four 3-credit courses, one in each of the four broad knowledge areas defined above.

II. Students will demonstrate competent written, oral, and visual communication skills both as producers and consumers of information. [6 credit hours]

Students will demonstrate the ability to construct intelligible messages using sound evidence and reasoning that are appropriate for different rhetorical situations (audiences and purposes) and deliver those messages effectively in written, oral, and visual form. Students will also demonstrate the ability to competently critique (analyze, interpret, and evaluate) written, oral, and visual messages conveyed in a variety of communication contexts. Students will take one 3-hour course focusing on the development of effective writing skills, and one 3-hour integrated communications course focusing on oral and visual communication skills, along with continued development of written communication skills.

III. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ methods of quantitative reasoning. [6 credit hours]

Students will (a) demonstrate how fundamental elements of mathematical, logical and statistical knowledge are applied to solve real-world problems; and (b) explain the sense in which an important source of uncertainty in many everyday decisions is addressed by statistical science, and appraise the efficacy of statistical arguments that are reported for general consumption. Students will take one 3-hour course on the application of mathematical, logical and statistical methods, and one 3-hour course devoted to a conceptual and practical understanding of statistical inferential reasoning.

IV. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of citizenship and the process for making informed choices as engaged citizens in a diverse, multilingual world. [6 credit hours]

Students will recognize historical and cultural differences arising from issues such as ethnicity, gender, language, nationality, race, religion, sexuality, and socioeconomic class; students will demonstrate a basic understanding of how these differences influence issues of social justice, both within the U.S. and globally; students will recognize and evaluate the ethical dilemmas, conflicts, and trade-offs involved in personal and collective decision making. Students will take two courses, each with a topical or regional focus. The first course will include critical analysis of diversity issues as they relate to the contemporary United States. The second will be a non-US based course that includes critical analysis of local-to-global dynamics as they relate to the contemporary world. In addition, each course must address at least 2 of these 4 topics: societal and institutional change over time; civic engagement; cross-national/comparative issues; power and resistance.

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The Curricular Framework and Relationship to the Learning Outcomes

Students must take one course from each of the areas listed below in order to complete the UK Core. A course taken to satisfy a requirement in one area of the UK Core cannot be used to satisfy a requirement in another area, even if a specific course is present in more than one area (e.g., some courses are designed to meet the learning outcomes in more than one area).

Course Areas by Learning Outcome	Credit Hours
Learning Outcome I: Intellectual Inquiry	
The Nature of Inquiry in Arts and Creativity	3
The Nature of Inquiry in the Humanities	3
The Nature of Inquiry in the Social Sciences	3
The Nature of Inquiry in the Natural, Physical and Mathematical Sciences	3
Learning Outcome II: Written, Oral and Visual Communication	
Composition and Communication I	3
Composition and Communication II	3
Learning Outcome III: Quantitative Reasoning	
Quantitative Foundations	3
Statistical Inferential Reasoning	3
Learning Outcome IV: Citizenship	
Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA	3
Global Dynamics	3
UK Core Credit-Hour Total*	30

**The UK Core is designed to provide the equivalent of 30 credit hours. Some courses in the UK Core require more than three credits, resulting in more than 30 credits in some cases.*

Please consult your advisor for a complete list of options.

I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity

Courses in this area are hands-on courses that allow students to engage actively with the creative process. Students will define and distinguish different approaches to creativity, demonstrate the ability to critically analyze work produced by other students, and evaluate results of their own creative endeavors. In general education, a focus on creativity adds to the vitality and relevance of learning and will translate into graduates who are better prepared to face the challenges of a dynamic society.

To fulfill the Arts and Creativity requirement, complete **one** of the following:

A-E 120	Pathways to Creativity in the Visual Arts	ENG 168	All That Speak of Jazz: An Intellectual Inquiry Into Jazz and Democracy
A-S 102	Two-Dimensional Surface	GEO 109	Digital Mapping
A-S 103	Three-Dimensional Form	ICT 200	Information Literacy and Critical Thinking
A-S 130	Drawing	IS 200	Information Literacy and Critical Thinking
A-S 200	Introduction to Digital Art, Space, and Time	LA 111	Living on the Right Side of the Brain
A-S 245	Introduction to Web Design	ME 411	ME Capstone Design I
A-S 270	Ceramics for Non-Majors	MNG 592	Mine Design Project II
A-S 280	Introduction to Photographic Literacy	MUS 123	Beginning Classroom Guitar
A-S 300	Digital Photography	MUS 130	Performing World Music (Subtitle required)
A-S 340	Introduction to Graphic Design, Meaning and Image	MUS 200	Music for Living
A-S 380	Black & White Darkroom Photography	MUS 222	Creativity and Innovation in Rock Music
AAS 168	All That Speak of Jazz: An Intellectual Inquiry Into Jazz and Democracy	PLS 240	Introduction to Floral Design
BAE 402	Biosystems Engineering Design I	TA 110	Theatre: An Introduction
BAE 403	Biosystems Engineering Design II	TA 120	Creativity and the Art of Acting
CME 455*	Chemical Engineering Product and Process Design I	TA 150	Creativity and the Art of Design and Production
DES 100	Design in Your World	TA 220	Shakespeare Page to Stage
EE 101	Creativity and Design in Electrical and Computer Engineering	TA 370	Staging History
ENG 107	Writing Craft: Introduction to Imaginative Writing	TAD 140	Introduction to Dance

**Chemical Engineering students only.*

II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities

These courses develop students' skills in *interpretation* and *analysis* of creations of the human intellect such as art and literature (including folklore, popular culture, film and digital media), philosophical and religious contemplation and argumentation, language systems, and historical narratives. In these courses, students gain the ability not only to analyze the works themselves but to *evaluate* competing interpretations of such works.

To fulfill the Humanities requirement, complete **one** of the following:

A-H 101	Introduction to Visual Studies	HIS 105	A History of Europe from the Mid-Seventeenth Century to the Present
A-H 105	Ancient Through Medieval	HIS 112	The Making of Modern Kentucky
A-H 106	Renaissance Through Modern Art	HIS 119	War and Society, 1350-1914
A-H 334	Reframing Renaissance Art	HIS 121	War and Society, 1914-1945
AAS 253	History of Pre-Colonial Africa	HIS 130	Drugs and Alcohol in Western Civilization, 1492 to the Present
AAS 264	Introduction to Black Writers	HIS 191	A History of World Religions (Subtitle required)
AIS 320	Modern Arabic Literature and Film in Translation	HIS 202	History of the British People to the Restoration
AIS 345	Islamic Mysticism	HIS 203	History of the British People Since the Restoration
ARC 314*	History and Theory III: 20th Century and Contemporary Architecture	HIS 229	The Ancient Near East and Greece to the Death of Alexander the Great
CHI 330	Introduction to Chinese Culture, Pre-Modern to 1840	HIS 230	The Hellenistic World and Rome to the Death of Constantine
CHI 331	Introduction to Chinese Culture, 1840 to Present	HIS 253	History of Pre-Colonial Africa
CLA 135	Greek and Roman Mythology	HIS 296	East Asia Since 1600
CLA 191	Christianity, Culture, and Society: A Historical Introduction	ID 161	History and Theory of Interior Environments I
CLA 229	The Ancient Near East and Greece to the Death of Alexander the Great	ID 162	History and Theory of Interior Environments II
CLA 230	The Hellenistic World and Rome to the Death of Constantine	ITA 263	Studies in Italian Culture (Subtitle required)
CPH 309	Health, History, and Human Diversity	LIN 209	The Structure and Use of English
EGR 201	Literature, Technology, and Culture	MCL 100	The World of Language
ENG 142	Global Shakespeare	MCL 135	Vampires: Evolution of a Sexy Monster
ENG 191	Literature and the Arts of Citizenship	MCL 200	Global Literacy
ENG 209	The Structure and Use of English	MCL 270	Introduction to Folklore and Mythology
ENG 230	Introduction to Literature	MCL 343	Global Horror
ENG 260	Introduction to Black Writers	MUS 100	Introduction to Music
ENG 280	Introduction to Film	PHI 100	Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality
ENG 290	Introduction to Women's Literature	PHI 310	Philosophy of Human Nature
EPE 350	Town and Gown in Fact and Fiction: Campus and Community as Local History	RUS 125	Mapping Russia (Subtitle required)
FR 103	French Cinema	RUS 371	Russian Culture 900-1900
FR 205	The French Graphic Novel	SPA 262	Hispanic Literatures in Translation (Subtitle required)
FR 225	French Film Noir	SPA 330	Spanish and Globalization
GER 103	Fairy Tales in European Context	SPA 371	Latin American Cinema (Subtitle required)
GER 105	German Film Today	SPA 372	Spanish Cinema (Subtitle required)
GWS 201	Gender and Popular Culture	TA 385	World Theatre I
GWS 309	Health, History, and Human Diversity	TA 386	World Theatre II
HIS 104	A History of Europe Through the Mid-Seventeenth Century	TA 388	History of the American Musical

*Architecture students only.

III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences

These courses promote an understanding of the relationships between individuals and society and how scholars have come to understand these relationships using conceptual models and processes of inquiry. Through a discipline-based study of social problems or themes, students will learn to critically evaluate the variety of social situations with which they may be confronted in their everyday lives.

To fulfill the Social Sciences Requirement, complete **one** of the following:

AIS 430	Islam in America	ECO 101	Contemporary Economic Issues
ANT 101	Introduction to Anthropology	EPE 174	Theories of College Student Success
ANT 102	Archaeology: Mysteries and Controversies	EPE 374	Theories of College Student Development and Mentoring
ANT 103	Sports, Culture, and Society	GEO 172	Human Geography
ANT 335	Religion in Everyday Life	GWS 200	Sex and Power
ANT 339	Human Rights in Global Perspective	HP 101	Historic Preservation
CLD 102*	The Dynamics of Rural Social Life	MCL 135	Vampires: Evolution of a Sexy Monster
COM 101	Introduction to Communications	MCL 270	Introduction to Folklore and Mythology
COM 311	Taking Control of Your Health: Patient-Provider Communication	PCE 201	Introduction to Peace Studies
COM 313	Interpersonal Communication in Close Relationships	PS 235	World Politics
COM 314	The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication and Relationships	PSY 100	Introduction to Psychology
COM 317	Communication in Family and Marital Relationships	RUS 370	Russian Folklore (in English)
CPH 201	Introduction to Public Health	SOC 101*	Introduction to Sociology
CPH 202	Public Health Through Popular Film	UKC 130	How Past Informs Future
CPH 203	Sexual Health		

**Students may not receive credit for both SOC 101 and CLD 102.*

IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

These courses engage students in the fundamental processes of science through the exploration of an area in science. Students will be expected to use their knowledge of scientific concepts to formulate predictions, collect and analyze data, and construct explanations for the questions posed.

To fulfill the Natural, Physical and Mathematical Sciences requirement, complete **one** of the following:

ABT 120	Genetics and Society	EES 110	Endangered Planet: An Introduction to Environmental Geology
ANT 230	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	EES 120	Sustainable Planet: The Geology of Natural Resources
ARC 333	Environmental Controls II	EES 150	Earthquakes and Volcanoes
AST 191	The Solar System	EES 170	Blue Planet: Introduction to Oceanography
BIO 102	Human Ecology	ENT 110	Insect Biology
BIO 103	Basic Ideas of Biology	GEO 130	Earth's Physical Environment
CHE 101	Molecular Science for Citizens	GEO 135	Global Climate Change
CHE 105*	General College Chemistry I	MUS 140	Acoustics of Music
CHE 109**	General Chemistry I	PHY 120	How Things Work
CHE 110**	General Chemistry II	PHY 130	Science and Technology for the Future
CHE 111*	Laboratory to Accompany General Chemistry I	PHY 140	Quantum Theory for Everyone
CPH 310	Disease Detectives: Epidemiology in Action	PHY 211	General Physics
EE 167	Fundamentals of Nanotechnology and Applications in Renewable Energy	PHY 231***	General University Physics
		PHY 241***	General University Physics Laboratory
		PLS 104	Plants, Soils, and People: A Science Perspective

**CHE 105 and 111 are paired courses. To earn UK Core credit, both courses must be completed. CHE 111 may be taken concurrently with CHE 105 or after CHE 105 has been completed. Students must sign up for them separately.*

***CHE 109 and CHE 110 are equivalent to CHE 105. To earn UK Core credit, students must complete CHE 109, CHE 110 and CHE 111. Students must sign up for them separately.*

****PHY 231 and 241 are paired courses. To earn UK Core credit, both PHY 231 and PHY 241 must be completed. They may be taken in either order and students must sign up for them separately.*

V. Composition and Communication I

In this course, students are introduced to the process of writing, speaking, and visually representing their own ideas and the ideas of others; they also practice basic interpersonal communication skills and the ability to communicate with multiple audiences.

To fulfill the Composition and Communication I requirement, complete **one** of the following:

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| • CIS 110 Composition and Communication I | • WRD 110 Composition and Communication I |
| • CIS 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II (CIS) | • WRD 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II (WRD) |

Placement in CIS/WRD 112 – Students who have a score of **32 or above** on the English component of the ACT; a score of **720 or above** on SAT I Verbal; or a standard score of **4 or 5** on the AP English Language Exam receive placement in CIS/WRD 112. No credit for CIS/WRD 110/111 is awarded.

VI. Composition and Communication II

In this course, students research public controversies and work in teams to analyze and argue for a solution to these controversies in oral, written, and visual/digital forms for multiple audiences.

To fulfill the Composition and Communication II requirement, complete **one** of the following:

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| • CIS 111 Composition and Communication II | • WRD 111 Composition and Communication II |
| • CIS 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II (CIS) | • WRD 112 Accelerated Composition and Communication II (WRD) |
| • CIS 184 Communicating Arguments | |

Placement in CIS/WRD 112 – Students who have a score of **32 or above** on the English component of the ACT; a score of **720 or above** on SAT I Verbal; or a standard score of **4 or 5** on the AP English Language Exam receive placement in CIS/WRD 112. No credit for CIS/WRD 110/111 is awarded.

VII. Quantitative Foundations

These courses are concerned with the application of mathematical concepts and skills to solve real-world problems. In order to perform effectively as professionals and citizens, students must become competent in reading and using quantitative data, in understanding quantitative evidence and in applying basic quantitative skills to the solution of real-life problems.

NOTE: Students must have demonstrated basic proficiency in math skills as determined by a minimum Math ACT of 19 or the appropriate math placement test to take these courses.

To fulfill the Quantitative Foundations requirement, complete **one** of the following:

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| CS261 Social Networks: Methods and Tools | MA 113 Calculus I |
| EES 151 Earth Dynamics | MA 123 Elementary Calculus and Its Applications |
| EES 155 Earthquakes and Quantitative Reasoning | MA 137 Calculus I With Life Science Applications |
| EES 185 Quantifying the Bluegrass Water Supply | PHI 120 Introductory Logic |
| MA 111 Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics | |

VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning

These courses will encourage students to evaluate claims based on statistical principles by providing an understanding of the conceptual and practical applications of statistical reasoning and thinking. Students will receive an introduction to the science of statistics, and while students will be expected to reason with statistical ideas and make sense of statistical information, computations are not the focus.

To fulfill the Statistical Inferential Reasoning requirement, complete **one** of the following:

BAE202	Statistical Inferences for Biosystems Engineering	STA 210	Making Sense of Uncertainty: An Introduction to Statistical Reasoning
BST 330	Statistical Thinking for Population Health	STA 296	Statistical Methods and Motivations
PSY 215*	Experimental Psychology	STA 381	Engineering Statistics – A Conceptual Approach
PSY 216*	Applications of Statistics in Psychology		
SOC303	Quantitative Sociological Analysis		

**PSY215 and 216 are paired courses and are restricted to Psychology majors and minors. To earn UK Core credit, both PSY215 and PSY216 must be completed. They may be taken in either order and students must sign up for them separately.*

IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA

These courses promote a student's understanding of historical, societal, and cultural differences, such as those arising from race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, language, nationality, religion, political and ethical perspectives, and socioeconomic class; engage students in grappling with conflicts, compromises, and/or ethical dilemmas stemming from the complex and diverse cultural contexts of US communities; and foster effective and responsible participation in a diverse community or society in the United States.

To fulfill the Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA requirement, complete **one** of the following:

A-H360	Visual Culture of Politics	GEN 100*	Issues in Agriculture, Food and Environment
AAS 168	All That Speak of Jazz: An Intellectual Inquiry Into Jazz and Democracy	GEO220	U.S. Cities
AAS 235	Inequalities in Society	GEO221	Immigrant America: A Geographic Perspective
AAS 253	History of Pre-Colonial Africa	GEO320	Geography of the United States and Canada
AAS 261	African American History 1865-Present	GRN250	Aging in Today's World
AIS 430	Islam in America	GWS 301	Crossroads (Subtitle required)
ANT221	Native People of North America	GWS 309	Health, History, and Human Diversity
ANT 330	North American Cultures	HIS 108	History of the United States Through 1876
APP200	Introduction to Appalachian Studies	HIS 109	History of the United States Since 1877
CLD360	Environmental Sociology	HIS 112	The Making of Modern Kentucky
COM312	Learning Intercultural Communication Through Media and Film	HIS 253	History of Pre-Colonial Africa
COM315	Understanding Workplace Communication in a Diverse U.S. Society	HIS 261	African American History 1865-Present
CPH309	Health, History, and Human Diversity	LIN331	Language in U.S. Society
ENG 142	Global Shakespeare	PHI 130	Introduction to Philosophy: Morality and Society
ENG 168	All That Speak of Jazz: An Intellectual Inquiry Into Jazz and Democracy	PHI335	The Individual and Society
ENG 191	Literature and the Arts of Citizenship	PS 101	American Government
EPE301	Education in American Culture	PSY320	Introduction to Forensics: Psychology and Legal Issues
		SOC235	Inequalities in Society
		SOC360	Environmental Sociology
		SPA 208	U.S. Latino Culture and Politics
		TA 286	Social Action Theatre

**GEN 100 is for College of Agriculture students only.*

X. Global Dynamics

These courses equip students to participate in a diverse, multiethnic, multilingual world community. Toward this end, students consider issues of equality, ethical dilemmas, global trends, social change, and civic engagement in the context of local cultures outside the U.S.

To fulfill the Global Dynamics requirement, complete **one** of the following:

A-H 104	African Art and Its Global Impact	GWS 302	Gender Across the World (Subtitle required)
A-H 311	The Arts as Soft Power: The Japanese Tea Ceremony	HIS 105	A History of Europe From the Mid-Seventeenth Century to the Present
ANT 160	Cultural Diversity in the Modern World	HIS 121	War and Society, 1914-1945
ANT 222	Middle East Cultures	HIS 122	War and Society Since 1945
ANT 225	Culture, Environment and Global Issues	HIS 202	History of the British People to the Restoration
ANT 241	Origins of Old World Civilization	HIS 203	History of the British People Since the Restoration
ANT 242	Origins of New World Civilization	HIS 206	History of Colonial Latin America, 1492-1810
ANT 311	Anthropology of Globalization	HIS 208	History of the Atlantic World
ANT 321	Introduction to Japanese Culture, Meiji (1868) to Present	HIS 296	East Asia Since 1600
ANT 329	Cultures and Societies of Eurasia and Eastern Europe: Socialism and Post-Socialist Change	HIS 357	Japan at War, 1850 to the Present
ARC 315	History and Theory of Architecture IV: Urban Forms	JPN 320	Introduction to Japanese Culture, Pre-Modern to 1868
CHI 331	Introduction to Chinese Culture, 1840 to Present	JPN 321	Introduction to Japanese Culture, Meiji (1868) to Present
CLD 380	Globalization: A Cross-Cultural Perspective	JPN 351	The Japanese Experience of the Twentieth Century
COM 390	Communication Education Abroad (Subtitle required)	LAS 201	Introduction to Latin America
EGR 240	Global Energy Issues	MCL 324	The City in the Twentieth-Century: Tokyo, Shanghai, Paris
ENG 171	Global Literature in English	MCL 343	Global Horror
GEO 160	Lands and Peoples of the Non-Western World	MUS 330	Music in the World (Subtitle required)
GEO 161	Global Inequalities	MUS 335	Exploring World Music and Ethnomusicology
GEO 162	Introduction to Global Environmental Issues	PCE 410	Peace Studies Capstone Seminar
GEO 163	Global Conflicts	PHI 343	Asian Philosophy
GEO 164	iWorlds: Global Information Geographies	PLS 103	Plants, Soils, and People: A Global Perspective
GEO 222	Cities of the World	PS 210	Introduction to Comparative Politics
GEO 255	Geography of the Global Economy	RUS 125	Mapping Russia (Subtitle Required)
GEO 260	Geographies of Development in the Global South	RUS 370	Russian Folklore (in English)
GEO 261	Global Dynamics of Health and Disease	RUS 371	Russian Culture 900-1900
GEO 316	Environment and Development	RUS 372	Russian Culture 1900-Present
GER 342	War, Peace, and Terror in Germany and Europe	SAG 201	Cultural Perspectives on Sustainability
GER 361	German Cinema	SOC 180	Global Societies in Comparative Perspective
		SOC 380	Globalization: A Cross-Cultural Perspective

Foreign Language Requirement

Foreign language is no longer explicitly required as part of the new UK General Education, the UK Core. However, foreign language proficiency is still an expectation for students who enter UK, and is still considered to be an important part of the students' educational background.

Any first-time freshman or transfer student must demonstrate that they have completed two high school credits in a single foreign language, or two semesters at the postsecondary level. A student who has not completed the high school foreign language requirement will be required to take a two-semester sequence in one foreign language at the University of Kentucky prior to graduation.