The General Education Components

ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS:

English Composition (WRT 120 and 200-level writing course) 6
Mathematics 3
Public Speaking 3
Interdisciplinary Requirements 3
Diverse Communities Requirements 3

SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS 6

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS 6

HUMANITIES REQUIREMENTS 6

ARTS REQUIREMENTS 3

ELECTIVES 9
Total Credits 48

For more specific course information, see the General Education Requirements (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements).

Additional Baccalaureate Requirements

Writing Emphasis Requirements for all Baccalaureate Degrees 9
Language and Culture Requirements for Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music Degrees and Certain Bachelor of Science Degree Candidates 0-15

For more specific course information, see the General Education Requirements (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements).

General Education Goals Common to All Baccalaureate Curricula

A broad education emphasizes the enhancement of oral and written communication skills and mathematics, and encompasses experiences in the humanities; the social, behavioral, and natural sciences; and the arts. At the same time, this education must be versatile because of the many new courses and areas of study that are constantly becoming available. At West Chester University, the general education program is designed to provide students with the knowledge, perspectives, and competencies expected of them as citizens of the state and of the world. The University believes that a liberal education base will prepare students to think and communicate as professionals, to understand social and global contexts of their lives, to transfer knowledge and skills from one setting to another, to recognize ethical implications of professional practice, and to balance the various dimensions of their personal and professional lives. Therefore, West Chester University strives to give students the abilities to:

1. Communicate effectively
2. Employ quantitative concepts and mathematical methods
3. Think critically and analytically
4. Demonstrate the ability to think across and about disciplinary boundaries
5. Respond thoughtfully to diversity
6. Make informed decisions and ethical choices

Policy on General Education Requirements

Students, both those matriculating as freshman and transfer students, who have not completed the academic foundations requirements in mathematics and English by the time they have earned 60 credits toward graduation must have the permission of the dean of their school or college (or his or her designee) to schedule additional courses. A total of 48 credits of general education requirements must be completed for a baccalaureate degree. Those 48 credits are allocated among English composition, mathematics, diverse communities, communication, science, behavioral and social sciences, humanities, the arts, interdisciplinary studies, and student electives. Credit requirements for each area are provided in the following list. NOTE: Except for the nine student elective credits under Category IV, courses taken to satisfy general education requirements may not be taken pass/fail. This includes courses taken to satisfy interdisciplinary, diverse community, and writing emphasis general education requirements. Readmitted students are bound by the requirements in place for general education at the time of readmission.

Specific general education courses may be required by a major or minor program, but no course may have its numeric credits duplicated in any application. A student may use the course from one major to meet the requirements of the second major. In this case, the advisor will work with the student to determine which course(s) should be used to address any remaining credits. But in no case may a student graduate with fewer than 120 credits at the 100 level or above. Students should be aware that, although general education requirements have been met, major degree requirements may necessitate a specific minimum performance level in general education courses, e.g., a grade of C- or better.

The following is an example of a general education course that also fulfills program requirements: BIO 110 is a biology requirement and serves as a general education option.

Consult your major degree program for guidance.

Students in the Honors College should consult the Honors College page (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinary-graduate-studies/honors-college) concerning general education requirements.