

MSU-Northern General Education Core

The general education core allows you (the student) to reaffirm your common experiences, to redefine your common goals, and to provide a foundation for confronting your common problems. The courses selected for inclusion in the general education core emphasize communication and techniques of creative inquiry that are used in all disciplines.

Montana State University-Northern defines seven (7) categories within the general education core. The categories and the outcomes for each category are defined below.

Category I – Communication

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

Writing: (3 credits)

1. Write clear, accurate sentences and paragraphs in Standard American English.
2. Write extended papers which effectively develop and support theses, tell stories, describe events, and/or express feelings, insights and personal values.
3. Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively through the forms of writing most common in the student's chosen career area.
4. Identify and incorporate research materials into informative and analytical writing.
5. Demonstrate understanding and recognition of plagiarism.

Human Interaction: (3 credits)

1. Recognize the importance of communication in human interactions.
2. Recognize and articulate the components of human communication.
3. Identify verbal and nonverbal aspects of message creation.
4. Demonstrate how listening skills and other variables affect how we interpret both the verbal and non-verbal messages sent by others.
5. Describe the environmental factors that influence the outcomes of communication.

Category II - Mathematics

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

1. Solve problems through mathematical reasoning.
2. Describe or demonstrate how mathematical models or statistical designs are used to obtain knowledge in several disciplines.
3. Perform mathematical applications beyond intermediate algebra.

Category III - Natural Sciences

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

1. Demonstrate basic competence in the principles and theories used in the natural sciences.
2. Define, describe, and apply the scientific method.
3. Convey ideas using language and presentation skills specific to the natural sciences.
4. Use critical thinking to synthesize information, evaluate assumptions and claims, and draw evidence based conclusions.

Category IV - Social Sciences/History

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

1. Describe processes of continuity and change which have shaped events up to the present.
2. Identify and describe the characteristics of major era in world history or international relations, or a distinct social movement, thereby providing a framework for comprehending aspects of human experience.
3. Explain how human experiences give rise to movements, institutions, traditions, and ideas which have a subsequent influence.
4. Analyze factors leading to the dominance, suppression, or acceptance of selected racial, gender, ethnic, class and religious groups.
5. Analyze of the extent to which individuals, institutions, and/or traditions are able to influence events, making reference to illuminating examples.

6. Use factual and interpretive information to analyze and draw conclusions on historical or political hypotheses in selected areas of the social sciences.

Category V - Cultural Diversity

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast cultural worldviews.
2. Analyze social issues, social structures and/or behavior of cultures and subcultures.
3. Examine how generalizations, stereotyping and prejudice develop, and how they impact culture.
4. Identify dimensions of culture.
5. Recognize and/or demonstrate an appreciation of different cultures through language and communication.

Category VI- Humanities Appreciation/Creative Arts

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

Humanities Appreciation sub-category

1. Discuss great works of literature, drama or visual art.
2. Compare the beliefs of different cultures reflected by literature or music or art or philosophy.
3. Make informed judgments concerning the aesthetic, entertainment, and intellectual value of a work in a area of fine art.
4. Recognize the expression of cultural values in works of literature, music, theatre, and visual art, and the ways the arts shape culture.

Creative Arts sub-category

1. Demonstrate skills in practice of a fine are, such as visual art, performing art, or literary art.
2. Describe the basic elements and practices of a fine art.
3. Demonstrate an appreciation for the creative process as it is express in master work of a fine art.

Category VII - Technology

You (the student), upon successful completion of course(s) within this category, should be able to:

1. Explain the impact of technology on society and conversely, how society impacts technology in a historical, present and future sense.
2. List technology's role in problem solving and communication.
3. Describe the ethical, legal and social concerns stemming from advances in technology.
4. Demonstrate an ability to use technology within a discipline.
5. Demonstrate an introductory level of technology literacy.

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Students planning to transfer to another institution before completing Northern's General Education Core would be well advised to take courses from the MUS Transferable Core found on page 15 of this catalog.

General Education Transfer Policy

The Montana University System is committed to facilitating the ease of undergraduate student transfer to its campuses. Therefore, all campuses in the Montana University System will recognize the integrity of general education programs offered by units of the Montana University System and the three publicly supported community colleges in Montana, the seven tribal colleges and regionally accredited independent colleges in the State of Montana.

Block Transfer Policy

Undergraduate students who have completed an approved general education program of between 30 and 45 lower division credit hours at one of the institutions noted above and who transfer to another of those institutions will be deemed to have met the lower division general education requirements of the campus to which the students have transferred. The student may be required to take additional coursework at the upper division level that is part of an approved general education program at the new campus.

The Montana University System Core

Students that have completed less than 20 general education credits will be required to complete the approved general education program at the campus to which they transfer. All general education transfer credits that are part of the MUS Core will be reviewed for possible application in the approved general education program at the campus.

Students who have completed 20 or more MUS core credits, but do not satisfy the block transfer policy described in the preceding section may choose to complete either the MUS core or the approved general education program at the campus to which they transfer. The student should make that decision in consultation with a faculty advisor.

The Montana Transferable Core Curriculum represents an agreement among community, tribal, and publicly funded colleges and universities in the State of Montana. It assures the transfer of up to 30 semester credits for those students enrolled in courses prescribed within each of eight discipline areas at a participating host institution. The eight discipline areas are:

Communications	6 semester credits maximum
Cultural Diversity	3 semester credits maximum
Humanities Appreciation/Creative Arts	6 semester credits maximum
Mathematics	3 semester credits maximum
Natural Sciences (with labs)	6 semester credits maximum
Social Sciences/History	6 semester credits maximum
Total Semester Credits Maximum	30

Satisfactory completion of the courses listed in the *Transferable Core Curriculum* will permit the student to receive credit equivalent to the lower-division degree requirements of the receiving college or university. When transferred as a core of 30 semester credits, nearly half of the receiving institution's general education core requirements may be satisfied.

Please Note This Important Limitation

Depending upon the major program into which the student transfers, additional lower division requirements may still be necessary for the transfer student to complete as part of the published programmatic prerequisites. This limitation means that, even though a transfer student may satisfy the basic requirements of the Montana University System general education transfer policy, his/her specific program of study may require additional and specialized courses in one or some of the six (6) disciplines listed above. To earn the degree, transfer students will have to complete those specialized courses.

The following Montana State University-Northern courses will satisfy the Montana University System Statewide Core Curriculum. Consequently, in selecting general education coursework for transfer, a student may wish to use the following guide:

The Montana University System Core Course List from Montana State University-Northern

In order to satisfy the MUS core, students must successfully complete at least one course that includes significant content related to the cultural heritage of American Indians. These courses are designated with an asterisk (*) following the title. "OL" after the course number indicates that the course is offered On-Line. Courses which carry a college-level pre-requisite and/or require permission of the instructor have a (#) after the course title.

Natural Science - 6 Credits

(Students must successfully complete at least one lab course.)

Code	Title	Credits
BIOB 160	Principles of Living Systems	4
BIOB 161	Principles Living Systems Lab	1
BIOB 101	Discover Biology	4
BIOB 102	Discover Biology Laboratory	0
BIOB 272	Genetics & Evolution	4
BIOB 290	Undergraduate Research	3
BIOH 104	Basic Human Biology	4
BIOH 201	Human Anat Phys I	4
BIOH 202	Human Anat & Phys I Lab	0
BIOH 211	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIOH 212	Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	0
BIOM 250	Microbiology for Hlth Sciences	3
BIOM 251	Microbiology Hlth Sciences Lab	1
BIOO 220	General Botany	3
BIOO 221	Gen Botany Lab	2
CHMY 121	Intro to General Chemistry	3

CHMY 122	Intro to Gen Chem Lab	1
CHMY 123	Intro to Organic & Biochem	3
CHMY 124	Intro to Organic & Biochem Lab	1
CHMY 141	College Chemistry I	3
CHMY 142	College Chemistry Lab I	1
CHMY 143	College Chemistry II	3
CHMY 144	College Chemistry Lab II	1
ENSC 245	Soils	4
GEO 101	Intro to Physical Geology	4
GEO 102	Intro to Physical Geology Lab	0
GEO 206	Dinosaur Paleobiology	4
GEO 211	Earth History and Evolution	4
GEO 212	Earth History & Evolution Lab	0
GEO 314	Intro to Paleontology	3
GPHY 111	Intro to Physical Geography	4
PHSX 105	Fund of Physical Science	3
PHSX 106	Fund of Physical Science Lab	0
PHSX 205	College Physics I	3
PHSX 206	College Physics I Laboratory	1
PHSX 207	College Physics II	3
PHSX 208	College Physics II Laboratory	1
BIOE 110	Intro to Environmental Health	3
TSCI 304	Fuels and Lubricants	3

Humanities Appreciation/Creative Arts – 6 Credits

Creative Arts

Code	Title	Credits
ARTZ 231	Ceramics I	3
ARTZ 105	Visual Language - Drawing	3
ARTZ 106	Visual Language - 2-D Fndtns	3
ARTZ 284	Photo I-Techs and Processes	3
MUSI 132	History of Rock and Roll	3
THTR 101	Introduction to Theatre	3
THTR 105	Theatre Workshop I	3
THTR 120	Introduction to Acting I	3
THTR 208	Studies in Drama	3
CRWR 240	Intro to Creative Writing Wksp	3

Humanities Appreciation

Code	Title	Credits
ARTH 160	Global Visual Culture	3
ARTH 330	Art Hist of Western Civ I	3
ARTH 340	Art History of Western Civ II	3
LSH 201	Intro to Humanities The Art of	3
LIT 110	Intro to Lit	3
LIT 210	American Lit I	3
LIT 211	American Lit II	3
LIT 223	British Lit I	3
LIT 224	British Lit II	3
LIT 230	World Lit Survey	3
LIT 270	Film and Literature	3
LIT 285	World Mythologies	3

LIT 382	Lit for Children/Adolescents	3
LIT 309	Popular Genres	3
MUSI 201	Introduction to Music History	3
NRSG 305	Nursing/Health Care Ethics	3
PHIL 200	Introduction to Philosophy	3
PHIL 210	Ethics	3
FILM 160	Intro to World Cinema	3
GRMN 101	Introduction to German	4
MUSI 105	Orchestra Ensemble	1

Cultural Diversity - 3 credits

Code	Title	Credits
NASX 105	Intro Native Amer Studies *	3
NASX 304	Native American Beliefs/Philos *	3
NASX 310	Native Cultures of North Amer *	3
NASX 235	Oral/Written Trads Native Amer *	3
NASX 340	Native American Literature	3
NASX 376	Fed Indian Law & Policy *	3
NASX 120	Native American Language I *	3
NASX 232	MT Ind Cltrs/Hstry/Iss	3
SOCI 315	Race, Gndr, & Ethnic Relations	3
COMX 212	Intro to Intercultural Comm	3
SPNS 101	Elementary Spanish I	4
FILM 160	Intro to World Cinema	3
LIT 285	World Mythologies	3
GRMN 101	Introduction to German	4
BGEN 360	International Business	3
LIT 230	World Lit Survey	3
NRSG 361	Global Nursing/Healthcare	3

Social Sciences/History - 6 credits

Code	Title	Credits
CMLD 101	Intro to Community Leadership	3
ECNS 201	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECNS 202	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECNS 372	Economic History of the US	3
HSTA 101	American History I	3
HSTA 102	American History II	3
HSTR 101	Western Civilization I	3
HSTR 102	Western Civilization II	3
HSTA 255	Montana History	3
PSCI 210	Intro to American Government	3
PSCI 250	Intro to Political Theory	3
PSCI 260	Intro to State and Local Govt	3
PSCI 471	American Constitutional Law	3
PSYX 100	Intro to Psychology	3
PSYX 150	Drugs and Society	3
PSYX 230	Developmental Psychology	3
SOCI 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOCI 241	Intro to Social Psychology	3
SOSC 201	Introduction to Social Science	3
SOCI 211	Introduction to Criminology	3

Mathematics - 3 credits

Code	Title	Credits
M 105	Contemporary Mathematics	3
M 112	Trigonometry & Complex Numbers	2
M 121	College Algebra	3
M 130	Math for Elementary Teachers I	3
M 131	Math for Elementary Teacher II	3
M 151	Precalculus	4
M 162	Applied Calculus	3
M 171	Calculus I	5
M 172	Calculus II	5
STAT 216	Introduction to Statistics	3

Communication - 6 credits

(Students must successfully complete coursework in written and oral communications.)

Code	Title	Credits
COMX 111	Intro to Public Speaking	3
COMX 115	Intro to Interpersonal Communc	3
WRIT 101	College Writing I	3
WRIT 122	Business Writing	3
WRIT 350	Technical Editing	3

Technology - 3 credits

Code	Title	Credits
AOT 301	Global Positioning Systems	3
CAPP 120	Introduction to Computers	3
CAPP 151	MS Office	3
IT 100	Introduction to Technology	3
EDU 270	Integrating Tech in Education	3
GDSN 231	Graphic Design Applications	3
NRSG 320	Nursing/Healthcare Informatics	3

Time-To-Degree Assurance Policy

The course requirements for each degree program offered by Montana State University-Northern are set out in this catalog.

The University makes reasonable efforts to accommodate the reasonable scheduling needs of its students. However, it is unlikely that the University will be able to schedule classes for the personal convenience of students, and it is under no obligation to do so. Students who wish to graduate within the two- and four-year time frames contemplated by this assurance are expected to devise a written plan of study with their advisor. This written plan of study must be on file in the advisor's and the Registrar's Office.

Both the student and the University must meet certain obligations in order to assure completion of degree programs within the specified time frame. The student must meet the prerequisites for all required courses and register for these courses within the prescribed time frame. If the student is unable to register for a prescribed course within the prescribed time frame due to failure of the University to schedule the course at the specified time, or due to a scheduling conflict between required courses at the specified time, it is the student's responsibility to bring this problem to the attention of the Registrar or Dean of the academic college which administers the student's major. It is the University's responsibility in these cases to create an accommodation that enables the student to meet the specified requirement at the specified time.

Any deviation of the student from the course requirements or sequences specified for his/her initially declared course of study will nullify the University's responsibility to ensure the student's graduation within the two- or four-year time frame. Failure of the student to notify the University of a course-scheduling problem prior to the beginning of the course deprives the University of the opportunity to accommodate the student, and nullifies the University's responsibility under this assurance.

Montana State University-Northern extends this time-to-degree assurance to transfer students within the Montana University System as follows: Students who are admitted to another unit of the system with the ultimate objective of transferring to Montana State University-Northern and receiving a degree from this unit may be jointly admitted to Northern when starting at the other unit.

In addition, certain two-year associate degree programs within the Montana University System are fully articulated with corresponding four-year baccalaureate degree programs at Northern. Jointly admitted students who are in such programs at two-year degree-granting institutions will receive information and faculty advising from Northern concurrent with their enrollment at the originating institutions. Jointly admitted students who follow the program specified by the articulation agreement for their Northern program will receive a full two years of credit toward their graduation program at Northern. When they begin their study at Northern, they can take advantage of the time-to-degree assurances set out above for students who begin their study at Northern, and they have the same responsibilities. Further information about joint admissions agreements is available from the Office of Admissions.