

SBHE Policies

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SUBJECT: 400s: Academic Affairs

EFFECTIVE: November 19, 2009

Section: 403.7 Common General Education Requirement and Transfer of General Education Credits

1. The following common general education requirement applies to all Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Bachelor's degrees, except the BAS degree at University System institutions:

General Education Area	Minimum Required Lower Division Semester Hours
Communications	9
Arts & Humanities	6
Social Sciences	6
Mathematics, Science & Technology	9
Institutional Specific (must be chosen from one of the following four categories: communication, social sciences, arts and humanities, and/or mathematics/science & technology)	6
Total	<hr/> 36

2. Within the stipulated general education areas, each institution shall indicate in its catalog and other student advisement materials the institution's courses approved for general education. University System institutions may establish program and institution specific general education requirements in addition to the requirement stated in subsection 1.
3. General education courses accepted by any University System institution count upon transfer toward the general education requirement at all institutions in one of the following ways:
 - A. A student is deemed to have completed the lower division general education requirement of the institution to which the courses are transferred if the general education course work meets the general education requirement of the institution from which the student transfers and satisfies the common general education requirement stated in subsection 1. Students completing Associate in Science and Associate in Arts degrees at system campuses meet the lower division general education requirements identified in subsection 1.
 - B. Receiving institutions may also choose to grant general education requirement completion by combining the transferred general education courses from multiple institutions, based on the requirements listed above in subsection 1.

- C. In all other cases, general education courses from the areas in subsection 1 apply to the appropriate general education requirement of the institution to which the courses are transferred and the number of credits required to complete the general education requirement in each area is determined by the policies of the institution to which the courses are transferred; or
 - D. Pursuant to guidelines established by the Chancellor for the acceptance of Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) scores for academic credit.
4. Articulation agreements between the North Dakota University System and other institutions may enable the transfer of general education credits as a completed unit pursuant to guidelines established by the Chancellor.
5. Upon review and recommendation for approval by the North Dakota General Education Council and the Academic Affairs Council and with the approval of the NDUS Chancellor, an NDUS institution may offer an alternative general education program, providing it includes all of the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes approved by the North Dakota General Education Council and it totals at least 36 semester credits.
- A. Any credits earned for general education at a University System institution or any participating GERTA institution under an approved alternative general education program will be accepted for general education credit by all University System institutions or all participating GERTA institutions.
 - B. A student is deemed to have completed the lower division general education requirement of the institution to which the courses are transferred if the general education course work satisfies an alternative general education program approved under subsection 5. Students completing Associate in Science and Associate in Arts degrees at system campuses meet the lower division alternative general education program approved under subsection 5.
 - C. Alternative general education programs approved under section 5 may also choose to grant general education requirement completion by combining the transferred general education courses from multiple institutions.
 - D. General education courses from an alternative general education program, approved under subsection 5, apply to the appropriate general education requirement of the institution to which the courses are transferred. Credit required for completing any alternative education program should be consistent with each General Education Area specified in subsection 1 or each of the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes approved by the North Dakota General Education Council, either by including credits from courses in each area of subsection 1 or by aligning outcomes achieved to each General Education Area
 - E. Alternate general education programs are permitted to accept scores for academic credit as outlined in the Chancellor's guidelines for acceptance of Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) scores for academic credit.

Reference: NDUS Procedure - [403.7.2](#) [403.7.3](#)

History:

New policy. SBHE Minutes, June 19, 1998, page 6903.
Amendment SBHE Minutes, May 30, 2001.
Amendment SBHE Minutes, February 21-22, 2002.
Amendment SBHE Minutes, September 18, 2008.
Amendment SBHE Minutes, December 18, 2008.
Amendment SBHE Minutes, November 19, 2009.