

INFORMATION TO HELP YOU SELECT COURSES FOR YOUR FIRST SEMESTER

Your first semester schedule will be a combination of introductory courses from the General Education Curriculum and courses related to your major, if you have declared one. If you are entering WIU undeclared in our General Orientation Program, your schedule will include General Education courses and possibly an exploratory course in a major of interest to you.

What is the General Education Curriculum?

The General Education Curriculum consists of six categories:

- I. Communication Skills
- II. Natural Science and Math
- III. Social Sciences
- IV. Humanities and Fine Arts
- V. Multicultural
- VI. Human Well Being

Completing the General Education Curriculum is similar to what you had to do to graduate from high school. You were required to complete a certain number of years of English, math, science, history, etc. At WIU all students must complete the General Education Curriculum regardless of their chosen major.

Why do I need to take courses from the General Education?

The General Education is intended to help you become a well-educated person. The coursework builds the transferrable skills you will need in order to get and keep a great job or to pursue an advanced degree following graduation. Writing well, speaking effectively and thinking critically are all skills you will work on in General Education courses. Courses in the General Education Curriculum prepare you to succeed in upper division coursework in your major.

What do I need to do to prepare for registration?

- Select 2-3 courses that interest you from the following categories on the attached sheet titled, "Suggested General Education Courses for First Semester Freshmen"
 - ✓ Category II Natural Sciences & Math (***Math courses will be determined by your math placement. All students will be required to take at least one laboratory science before they graduate. Discuss science courses you are interested in with your advisor.***)
 - ✓ Category III Social Sciences (select 2-3 courses)
 - ✓ Category IV Humanities and Fine Arts (select at least one Humanities and one Fine Arts)
 - ✓ Category V Multicultural (2-3 courses)
 - ✓ Category VI Human Well Being (2-3 courses)

You will only register for 5 or 6 classes for your first semester, but it is important to have several choices in case some classes are closed.

- Read the course descriptions for the courses you have selected in the [General Education Handbook](#) you received at check-in to be sure they are the ones that interest you the most.
- Write the courses in the appropriate places UNDER "Course Interest Information" on the back of this page.

How will my advisor help me prepare for registration?

- Your advisor will tell you what introductory course or courses you need to take in your major, if you have declared one.
- Your advisor will help you select a First Year Experience course. You will learn more about these courses during the major/program meetings on the second day of the SOAR program.

COURSE INTEREST INFORMATION

List 2-3 courses you think you would like to take (listed in priority order) in the following General Education groups. You can refer to the attached sheet and your General Education Handbook for additional information.

- Your English composition course will be determined by your placement.
- Your advisor will help you select a laboratory science, if you decide to take one during your first semester.
- Your advisor will discuss math requirements and what your placement in math means.

Example:

	Department	Course #
1.	<u>Hist</u>	<u>106</u>

III. Social Sciences

Department Course #

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

IV. Humanities and Fine Arts

Department Course #

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

V. Multicultural

Department Course #

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

VI. Human Well-Being

Department Course #

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please list any courses you anticipate receiving credit for through Advanced Placement, The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a community college (or college):

Please list any other courses you are interested in taking (***science courses to discuss with your advisor can be listed here***):

BRING THIS TO YOUR MAJOR/PROGRAM MEETING IN THE MORNING.

We look forward to helping you prepare for your first semester at Western ... WIU ACADEMIC ADVISORS