



Hiram College

General Education Requirements: Core Curriculum

“The College’s graduation requirements constitute the general education component of a student’s liberal arts education at Hiram, known as the Core Curriculum. All first-time traditional college students entering Hiram College must complete the new Core Curriculum graduation requirements. Each student explores the breadth and diversity of the liberal arts through engaging in a series of discipline-based cores embedded in courses distributed throughout the college. If a course is approved for two cores, it may be used to fulfill both requirements for a single student. They will learn about the interrelatedness of knowledge through their interdisciplinary requirement. Students will enroll in two interdisciplinary experiences, which focus on both contemporary and timeless questions of intellectual relevance to humankind.

The Core Curriculum comprises approximately one-third of a student’s course work at Hiram. Each Hiram student, upon completion of the graduation requirements, will have an education in the depth, breadth, and interrelatedness of knowledge that is the liberal arts tradition.

Through the process of completing the Core Curriculum, students acquire a foundation of experience to guide their decision about a major. Students will usually declare a major after exploring the opportunities available and discussions with their advisor, other faculty, and the Career Center. The student’s decision about a major is most often influenced by a genuine enjoyment of the department’s faculty and course work. Hiram’s small classes foster a mentoring relationship between professor and student which is strengthened by the depth of study in a student’s major.

Note: Having been counted as fulfilling an interdisciplinary requirement does not preclude a course from being counted as fulfilling core requirements. Departmental breadth is ensured by requiring students to take 3-4 credit hour courses in at least 6 different academic disciplines, to be represented across all courses taken (i.e. major(s), minor(s), cores and general electives) with the exception of interdisciplinary (INTD), first year writing (FRCL/FSEM/FDLA/WRLA), physical education (PHED), honors (HONR) and student development (STDV) courses.” Hiram College Catalog 2017-18

Hiram College’s Graduation Requirements

Hiram College students are candidates for the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees. The degrees require completion of 120 or more semester hours of work in which the student must have attained a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.00. In addition, students must attain a grade-point average of 2.00 in their major field of study (and minor, if applicable). Please see the College Catalog and contact your major department for specific major/minor requirements. A Capstone is required in each major.

General Education Requirements are comprised of:

- **First-Year Colloquium:** The colloquium is a four semester hour introduction to college writing and discourse, taught by faculty across disciplines.
- **First-Year Seminar:** A four semester hour course which refines writing and speaking skills while also providing an introductory educational experience through the examination of the ideas of important contributors to our understanding on a particular topic. This is to be completed in the first year.
- **8 Core Curriculum Categories**
- **Interdisciplinary Requirement** (one of the following):
 - -Two Interdisciplinary Courses, one of which must be team taught; OR
 - -A Collegium; OR
 - -An Interdisciplinary Minor or Interdisciplinary Major. A list of majors and minors that fulfill this requirement is available from the Registrar and/or the Associate Dean of the College.
- **Foreign Language Requirement (Effective Fall 2012 for all new traditional Hiram College students)** Hiram College requires students in the traditional college to successfully complete a foreign language class at the 102 level. Please refer to the current catalog for FL exemptions.

HIRAM COLLEGE

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: CORE CURRICULUM

Foreign Language requirement is effective for all entering students fall 2012

I. FIRST YEAR PROGRAM

- A. Colloquium
- B. First Year Seminar or Equivalent

II. CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: Some courses may be approved as satisfying two categories; beginning with graduation audits in fall 2017, both cores may be counted for each student.

Category 1: Creative Methods (CM) _____

Category 2: Interpretive Methods (IM) _____

Category 3: Modeling Methods (MM) _____

Category 4: Experimental Scientific Methods (SM) _____

Category 5: Social and Cultural Analysis (CA) _____

Category 6: Experiencing the World (EW) _____

Category 7: Understanding Diversity in the United States (UD) _____

Category 8: Meaning, Ethics and Social Responsibility (ES) _____

III. BREADTH REQUIREMENT

Among the courses that are included in each student's transcript, at least six different disciplinary areas must be represented

IV. INTERDISCIPLINARY REQUIREMENT

A. Collegium _____
OR

B. Interdisciplinary Major or Minor (BIMD major/minor; EVST major/minor; ISS major; IMCE major)

OR

C. Two INTD (one must be team taught) _____ / _____

V. FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

_____ / _____

Hiram College requires all students in the traditional college to successfully complete a foreign language class at the 102 level. (Effective Fall 2012 entering class) Exemptions include 3/2 engineering, Nursing, Education licensure programs, and PGS programs.

General Education 8 Core Curriculum Categories

A. Ways of Knowing: Hiram College is committed to a rigorous, creative, and demanding intellectual environment that focuses on methods for acquiring knowledge and understanding about human beings and the world. One course or experience that satisfies each of the relevant sets of goals is required.

1. **Creative Methods: (CM)** The expression of human creativity involves the development of practical and evaluative skills. Courses and experiences satisfy this requirement by helping students understand the creative process and teaching them the intellectual skills necessary for reflection and evaluation of artistic products.
Goals:
 - Acquire the vocabulary necessary to talk intelligently about one's own creative art as well as the creative art of others, and to clearly articulate the aesthetic experience.
 - Develop hands-on skills necessary for aesthetic expression and reflection and practical knowledge essential to the implementation of creative techniques and concepts.

2. **Interpretive Methods: (IM)** The human experience of meaning involves the application of interpretation to a broad variety of human endeavors, including art, music, literature, and philosophical and religious texts. Courses and experiences satisfy the goals for this requirement by teaching the skills necessary to interpret one or more forms of human expression.
Goals:
 - Interpret the human experience of meaning as expressed in artistic and intellectual products.
 - Apply the knowledge and perspective gained from interpretive analysis to a broader understanding of the world or to one's own life.

3. **Modeling Methods: (MM)** Modeling involves the construction of abstractions that capture and simplify physical, social, biological and other complex phenomena. The models are then analyzed using deduction and logic, statistics, and/or mathematics in order to better understand and interpret the original. Courses and experiences satisfy the goals for this requirement by teaching modeling and methods for analyzing models.
Goals:
 - Understand the role of models in explaining the world and universe, including techniques for testing the accuracy and limitations of models;
 - Use this understanding to solve problems: learn to apply mathematical models to understand a variety of real world situations.

4. **Experimental Scientific Methods: (SM)** The application of reason to the natural world requires the use of the hypothetical-experimental method. Courses and experiences satisfy the goals for this requirement by teaching, in a hands-on laboratory environment, the empirical method in practical data-gathering learning experiences, and reflection on the nature and limits of this methodology.
Goals:
 - Develop hands-on skill acquiring reproducible data and interpreting them within a theoretical framework;
 - Understand the application and limitation of experimental data and theoretical frameworks to the natural world;

5. **Social and Cultural Analysis Methods: (CA)** Human behavior is organized by complex systems which differ widely across societies and over time. Human knowledge cannot be understood without considering historical, social, and cultural contexts. Courses and experiences satisfy this goal by teaching students the conceptual and analytic tools necessary to make sense of these essential dimensions of our existence.
Goals:
 - Examine social life by analyzing the roles of history, culture, power structures, norms, or customs in its organization.
 - Acquire the analytical skills and critical sensibilities to understand human society and culture.

B. Ways of Developing Responsible Citizenship: Hiram College is committed to the goal of developing socially responsible ethical citizens. One course or experience that satisfies each of the relevant sets of goals is required for each student.

6. **Experiencing the World: (EW)** Hiram students must prepare to live as citizens of the world. Courses and experiences help students to do this by helping them develop capacities for understanding international issues, other peoples and other cultures, and the nature of responsible, engaged global citizenship.

Goals:

- Demonstrate an informed understanding of the values and attitudes of people in another culture, and the ways in which these influence the contemporary world.
- Evaluate, critically and on the basis of explicit criteria, one's own culture and other cultures.

7. **Understanding Diversity at Home: (UD)** The United States is richly diverse. Encountering and learning the necessary skills for interaction with this diversity is essential to a liberal arts education at Hiram College. Courses and experiences satisfy these goals by introducing students to the diversity of our own country and equipping them with the intellectual skills necessary for conversing in this complex environment.

Goals:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of U.S. society and the ways in which different groups have experienced and confronted issues of diversity.
- Demonstrate as well an informed awareness and understanding of U.S. commonality – those principles and values that are most central to the experience of the United States.
- Address matters of diversity in a variety of contexts, including ethical, social and personal.

8. **Meaning, Ethics and Social Responsibility: (ES)** The ability to formulate and evaluate claims about meaning and value is essential to the tasks of forming identity and being responsible citizens. Courses and experiences satisfy this goal by teaching both conceptual tools and practical skills that permit students to reflectively evaluate their own lives and interact responsibly in the lives of others.

Goals:

- Understand the ways in which claims about values are discovered, articulated and justified.
- Apply this understanding, in conjunction with practical skills, to reflective evaluation about one's own beliefs and those of others and/or engagement with contemporary social, political, and ethical problems.

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NOTES:

- (A) Among the courses on the student transcript (including acceptable transfer work), at least six different disciplinary areas must be represented.
- (B) Some courses may be approved as satisfying more than one core category; these cores may now count as fulfilling both categories (beginning with fall 2017 graduates).
- (C) General education: Core curriculum became effective for all entering students fall 2006.
- (D) Foreign Language requirement became effective for all entering students fall 2012.