About General Education

All students seeking a bachelor’s degree from SU are required to complete a series of courses that span several disciplines; this program is called General Education. General Education promotes intellectual development and provides students with a common ground of understanding and competence for meeting the challenges of today’s world as educated individuals.

General Education Requirements

While every SU student must complete requirements in each of the Group I-IV categories, how the requirements are fulfilled varies from major to major. The following provides you an overview of what courses are required for General Education.

Group I – English Composition and Literature
(2 courses)
A. ENGL 103 – Composition and Research
B. 1 literature course
   For example, but not limited to, Understanding Poetry, Studies in English Literature, African-American Literature

Group II – History
(2 courses)
A. HIST 101 World Civilization I
   OR HIST 102 World Civilization II
   OR HIST 103 First Year Seminar in World History
B. Any of the above courses not already taken or any history course above HIST 103
Elementary and Early Childhood Education Majors Please Note: Group IIA must be HIST 101 or HIST 102; Group IIB must be any history course above HIST 103.

Group III – Humanities & Social Sciences
(3 courses)
A. Select one course from one of the following areas:
   ART
   CMAT – Communication Arts
   DANC or THEA – Dance or Theater (not both)
   MDFL – Modern Foreign Languages
   For example, but not limited to, Chinese, French, Spanish, Russian, sign language
   MUSC – Music
   PHIL – Philosophy
B. Select one course from one of the following areas:
   ANTH – Anthropology
   CADR – Conflict Analysis Dispute Resolution
   ECON or FINA – Economics or Finance
   GEOG – Human Geography
   POSC – Political Science
   PSYC – Psychology
   SOCI – Sociology
C. Select one course from either Group III A or III B
   (course must be from a different area then previously selected).
   For example, Elementary Spanish I (SPAN 101) will satisfy Group IIIA (humanities) and General Psychology (PSYC 101) will satisfy Group IIIB (social science);
   to satisfy Group IIIIC, select one more course from EITHER IIIA or IIIB, except SPAN or PSYC courses.

Group IV – Natural Science, Math and Computer Science
(4 courses)
A. Select courses with laboratories from at least two of the following four areas:
   BIOL – Biology
   CHEM – Chemistry
   GEOL OR Physical GEOG – Geology or Physical Geography
   PHYS – Physics
   For example, a biology course with a lab and a physics course with a lab will satisfy this requirement. However, two chemistry courses with labs will not satisfy Group IVA because they represent the same discipline.
B. Select one additional course (need not be a lab) from:
   Group IVA
   COSC – Computer Science
   MATH – Mathematics
   Any lab science disciplines listed in Group IVA or a non-lab science, computer science or mathematics course may be used to satisfy this requirement.
C. Select one MATH course

Group V – Health Fitness
(1 course)
All students must complete FTWL 106 – Lifelong Fitness and Wellness

Check the Checklist

Frequently, some General Education requirements are met by your major requirements; they will be indicated as “Fulfilled by Major” in the General Education section of your intended major’s checklist. To view a checklist of requirements for your intended major and to see how General Education fits into your program of study, visit: www.salisbury.edu/checklists

If in Doubt, Go to the Catalog

If you aren’t sure if a course meets General Education requirements, refer to the University catalog where the course descriptions indicate if the course meets General Education requirements and if so, which group. The catalog is available online at: www.salisbury.edu/catalog

To chart your progress in fulfilling General Education, be sure to check your Academic Requirements Report in GullNet. Learn more about academic advising at SU: www.salisbury.edu/advising