

Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog

**General Information and
Announcement of Courses**

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University 100 is a one-unit course on the history and mission of higher education, the career planning process, and the use of university libraries. The course is offered at various times during the semester. Please consult the *Schedule of Classes* under "University 100" for information on class scheduling.

General Education

General Education is an important aspect of the baccalaureate degree and of your personal development. It is that part of your university program which encourages you to develop or improve such basic life skills as creativity, critical thinking, self-motivation, independence, an understanding of values, and a general philosophy by which to make decisions throughout life. Possession of these skills makes possible your continued personal growth and the further development of your creative and adaptive capabilities — qualities necessary for you to adjust to and influence a rapidly changing world. It is the basis for lifelong learning, and it can increase your ability to be self-directing. It is, in effect, a "survival kit" for the rest of your life!

At California State University, Long Beach, courses approved for General Education credit provide —

- Information: the raw material for thinking, analysis, reflection, and discourse
- Methods of Inquiry: direction and practice in methodologies of the several disciplines
- Basic Skills: the ability to analyze ideas and data, to relate these to other materials, to develop arguments both logical and cogent, to reach conclusions, and to present the results of these processes with clarity and style
- Qualities of Mind: a respect for data and unpleasant facts; an appreciation of the arts; tolerance, commitment, a taste for learning; creativity, perpetual curiosity, and a sensitivity to ethical considerations.

The academic major which each student selects provides training in depth within a single discipline. The provision within most majors for a number of free electives allows students to follow personal interests. Beyond these important aspects of every student's academic career lies *education for breadth* — the opportunity to explore other societies, their cultural variety, and the products of human thought and mechanical ingenuity; the chance to learn new analytical approaches and to evaluate other perspectives and problem-solving techniques; and the promise of an introduction to new areas of knowledge and new career options.

To aid you in the process of developing a meaningful and integrative program in General Education, the University offers these forms of assistance:

Academic advisement, including assistance with General Education throughout the year in the Academic Advising Center and in departmental and school offices;

A special listing, in the *Schedule of Classes*, of those courses which the faculty have specified as being appropriate for the General Education Requirement in each category;

An "Advising Section" in the *Schedule of Classes* with information and suggestions about how to maximize your educational opportunities through General Education and the wise use of electives.

The present policy of the Board of Trustees of The California State University is that students graduating from a CSU campus must fulfill certain breadth requirements (Section 40405, Title 5, *California Administrative Code*). Of these, a minimum of 9 semester units must be upper-division courses taken at the campus conferring the degree. Partial credit may be transferred from another institution; a participating, regionally-accredited institution may certify completion of 39 semester units.

Each campus in the CSU system may define which of its courses satisfy its General Education Requirements and determine which courses are transferable from other institutions (except where a maximum of 39 units are certified). The campus may add requirements and enact other regulations.

California State University, Long Beach, General Education (GE) Requirements

Each California State University, Long Beach, baccalaureate graduate must have completed at least 51 semester units of General Education courses. Only courses specifically approved for General Education and so listed in the *Schedule of Classes* may be used to fulfill General Education requirements.

At least nine of the 51 General Education units must be upper-division units taken after the student achieves upper-division standing (completion of 60 semester units). The nine units must be completed at CSULB.

Of the nine upper-division units, at least six units must be selected from among approved Interdisciplinary courses (IC) in any of the categories specified below, but not more than three units may be counted in any one category. Interdisciplinary Courses may be approved for exemption from the 3-unit-per-category limit (to a maximum of six units) when two or more schools are involved. These exemptions are specifically noted in the list below.

The 51 units of General Education course work include three units of work in U.S. History and three units in U.S. Constitution and American Ideals, required by Section 40404, Title 5, *California Administrative Code*. (See Category D. below.) The student has the option of receiving credit by examination for these requirements; departments will make such examinations available. A student who fails any such examination has the option of repeating the examination without penalty, or taking the course(s) which satisfy the requirement. A student who has met any of these requirements prior to enrollment at CSULB is exempt. Unit credit (to be included in the 51-unit General Education requirement total and in the total number of units required for graduation, but not in the student's grade point average) shall be granted for satisfactory completion of examination(s) in these subjects. Credit by examination, however, is subject to conditions specified in this *Bulletin* under General Regulations.

No course in the student's major department may be used to satisfy G.E. requirements. Exceptions have been made for all courses in category A, for life science students in category B.1., for mathematics majors in category B.2., for history majors in category D.1.a., for political science majors in category D.1.b., and for all interdisciplinary courses for all majors.

General Education units must be distributed as follows:

Category A: Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking

9 units to include:

1. One approved course in written English.
2. One approved course in oral communication or a combination of oral and written communication, to include an understanding of the process of communication and experience in communication.
3. One approved course in critical thinking, designed to develop the ability to reason clearly and logically and to analyze the thinking of others.

Category B: Physical Universe

12 units to include:

1. At least six units of inquiry into the physical universe and its life forms to include one approved course in the life sciences and one approved course in the physical sciences; both must involve laboratory experience.
2. At least three units of study in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning; approved courses foster an understanding of mathematical concepts rather than merely providing instruction in basic computational skills.
3. Another three units as necessary, selected from approved courses, to achieve a minimum of 12 units.

Category C: Humanities and the Arts

12 units to include:

1. At least three units from approved fine arts courses.

2. At least six units from approved courses to include courses in at least two of the following areas:
 - a) literature,
 - b) philosophy, and
 - c) foreign languages.
3. Another three units as necessary, selected from approved courses to achieve a minimum of 12 units.

Category D: Social and Behavioral Sciences and Their Historical Backgrounds

1. Citizenship
 - a. Three (3) units selected from courses in U.S. History.
 - b. Three (3) units selected from courses in U.S. Constitution and Ideals (formerly Category F.)
2. Social and Behavioral Science: At least nine (9) units from approved courses in at least two disciplines.
 - a. At least three (3) units selected from approved courses which concern world societies and cultures in an international context.
 - b. The remaining units must be selected from the general list of approved social and behavioral science courses.

Category E: Self-Integration

3 units:

At least three units selected from approved courses which facilitate understanding of the human being as an integrated physiological, social, and psychological organism.

Approved General Education Courses

A list of courses approved for General Education is published in both the Fall and Spring *Schedule of Classes*. From time to time additions and deletions may be made. Courses approved for any semester in which the student is in continuous attendance, as defined under Election of Regulations, may be used to satisfy the requirements.