Undergraduate General Education Requirements

To graduate from UH Manoa, a student must satisfy General Education requirements, requirements of the student’s college or school, and requirements of the student’s specific academic major. (Consulting his or her college/school advising office can help a student select courses that simultaneously satisfy more than one requirement.) This section of the Catalog describes the UH Manoa General Education requirements:

1. Foundations
2. Diversification
3. Focus
4. Hawaiian or second-language competence

Foundations and Diversification together are UH Manoa Core requirements. Focus and Hawaiian or Second Language together are UH Manoa Special Graduation requirements. Students who transfer to UH Manoa with an AA from another UH system school are considered to have fulfilled UH Manoa Core (Foundations and Diversification) requirements.

A grade of D (not D-) or higher is required for a course to fulfill General Education requirements. The Credit/No Credit option is not allowed for any course taken to fulfill a General Education requirement, with the exception of those courses offered only for CR/NC. (See “Grades” for additional information.)

1. General Education Core and Graduation requirements
2. College or School requirements (e.g., Colleges of Arts and Sciences, School of Nursing)
3. Major requirements (e.g., family resources, accounting)

This section describes the General Education Core and Graduation requirements. Before registering, students should check the specific requirements for the college/school and major of their choice. With careful planning, the student may be able to select courses that simultaneously satisfy more than one requirement.
GENERAL EDUCATION

Overview

General Education Core and Graduation requirements foster a deeper appreciation of the complexities and potentialities of the human experience from the perspectives of the arts, humanities, and the natural and social sciences while encouraging an understanding of imagination and creativity through the application of abstract and intuitive thinking. Upon graduation, students will be able to:

- appreciate the values and ideas of cultures as they have evolved and as they find expression in literature, history, philosophy, religion, art, and music;
- reason and analyze effectively;
- communicate clearly and effectively in Standard English;
- know the aims and methods of science;
- recognize the ways in which humans organize and how social institutions shape human behavior.

There are two components to the General Education requirements: Core requirements and Graduation requirements. Core requirements include Foundations and Diversification requirements. Graduation requirements include Focus requirements and Hawaiian or a Second Language.

Minimum Grade Requirements

A grade of D (not D-) or higher is required for a course to fulfill General Education Core and Graduation requirements. The Credit/No Credit option is not allowed for any course taken to fulfill a General Education Core and Graduation requirement, with the exception of those courses offered for mandatory CR/NC (see “Grades” for further information).
UH Manoa Core Requirements

1. Foundations Requirement: 12 credits

The Foundations requirements are intended to give students skills and perspectives that are fundamental to undertaking higher education. Students complete the Foundations requirements during their first year at UH Manoa. Courses taken to fulfill the Foundations requirements may not be used to fulfill Diversification or Focus requirements.

- Written Communication (FW): 3 credits

Written Communication courses introduce students to the rhetorical, conceptual, and stylistic demands of writing at the college level; courses give instruction in composing processes, search strategies, and composing from sources. Courses also provide students with experiences in the library and on the internet and enhance their skills in accessing and using various types of primary and secondary materials.

FW Courses

- ENG 100 Composition I
- ENG 100A Composition I
- ENG 190 Composition I for Transfer Students
- ELI 100 Expository Writing: A Guided Approach

To enroll in a course that meets the Written Communication requirement, students must first determine their writing placement by visiting www.mwp.hawaii.edu. Non-native speakers of English should visit www.hawaii.edu/eli or contact the English Language Institute (808) 956-8610, uhmeli@hawaii.edu. Students can satisfy the FW requirement by earning specified Advanced Placement examination scores. (See www.hawaii.edu/admrec/apexam.html for details.) Students may also be able to satisfy this requirement through submission of a collection of writing. For eligibility criteria and other information, visit www.mwp.hawaii.edu/pe/pe_collection.htm or contact the Manoa Writing Program at (808) 956-6660, mwp@hawaii.edu.

- Symbolic Reasoning (FS): 3 credits

Symbolic Reasoning courses expose students to the beauty and power of formal systems, as well as to their clarity and precision; courses do not focus solely on computational skills. Students learn the concept of proof as a chain of inferences. They learn to apply formal rules or algorithms; engage in hypothetical reasoning; and traverse a bridge between theory and practice. In addition, students develop the ability to use appropriate symbolic techniques in the context of problem solving and to present and critically evaluate evidence.

FS Courses

- BUS 250* Applied Math in Business
- ICS 141 Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science I
- ICS 241* Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science II
- MATH 100 Survey of Mathematics
- MATH 100A Survey of Mathematics
- MATH 112* Math for Elementary Teachers II
- MATH 140** Precalculus
- MATH 203** Calculus for Business and Social Sciences
- MATH 215** Applied Calculus I
- MATH 241** Calculus I
- MATH 251A** Accelerated Calculus I
- NREM 203 Applied Calculus for Management, Life Sciences, and Human Resources
- PHIL 110 Introduction to Deductive Logic
- PHIL 110A Introduction to Deductive Logic
- PHIL 111 Introduction to Inductive Logic

* Course has a prerequisite.
** Requires placement by Math Department’s Precalculus Assessment; visit www.math.hawaii.edu.

- Global and Multicultural Perspectives (FG): 2 courses, 6 credits

Global and Multicultural Perspectives courses provide thematic treatments of global processes and cross-cultural interactions from a variety of perspectives. Students will gain a sense of human development from prehistory to modern times through consideration of narratives and artifacts from diverse cultures. At least one component of each of these courses will involve the indigenous cultures of Hawai‘i, the Pacific, or Asia.

FG Courses

To satisfy this requirement, students must take a total of six credits; the six credits must come from two different groups.

Group A (courses marked FGA in this Catalog and online)

- ANTH 151 Emerging Humanity
- ART 175 Survey of Global Art I
- HIST 151 World History to 1500
- HIST 161A World Cultures in Perspective
Group B (FGB)
- AMST 150 America and the World
- ANTH 152 Culture and Humanity
- ART 176 Survey of Global Art II
- GEOG 102 World Regional Geography
- HIST 152 World History since 1500
- HIST 155 Issues in World History
- HIST 162A World Cultures in Perspective
- WS 176 History of Gender, Sex and Sexuality in Global Perspective, 1500 CE to the Present

Group C (FGC)
- BOT 105 Ethnobotany
- GEOG 151 Geography and Contemporary Society
- LLL 150 Literature and Social Change
- MUS 107 Music in World Cultures
- REL 150 Introduction to the World’s Major Religions

For non-UH-system transfer students only

Students who transfer from a non-UH System school with one or more western civilization courses will be required to take only three credits of Global and Multicultural Perspectives. If the course or courses that they have taken are time-period specific, the credits that they take at UH Manoa must cover a different time period.
2. Diversification Requirement: 19 credits

The Diversification requirements are intended to assure that every student has exposure to different domains of academic knowledge, while at the same time allowing flexibility in choice of courses for students with different goals and interests.

Students can complete the Diversification requirements over the full four years of their academic program. Students may satisfy the Diversification requirements by taking approved courses for which they meet course prerequisites. Some courses that satisfy Diversification requirements may also simultaneously satisfy Focus or major requirements. (See the “Can a single course satisfy more than one requirement?” table)

Can a single course satisfy more than one requirement?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Hawaiian/Second Language</th>
<th>Foundations</th>
<th>Diversification</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Minor/Certificate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawaiian/Second</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversification</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor/Certificate</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Arts, Humanities, and Literatures (DA, DH, DL): 6 credits**

To satisfy this requirement, students must take six credits; the six credits must include two of the three different areas: Arts "DA," Humanities "DH," and Literatures "DL."

- **Natural Sciences (DB, DP, DY): 7 credits**

To satisfy this requirement, students must take three credits in Biological Science "DB," three credits in Physical Science "DP," and one credit of Science Laboratory "DY."

- **Social Sciences (DS): 6 credits**

To satisfy this requirement, students must take a total of six credits from two different departments.

Diversification Courses

Diversification courses are identified in this Catalog with the following letters after the course description:

- **DA** = Arts
- **DB** = Biological Science
- **DH** = Humanities
- **DL** = Literatures
- **DP** = Physical Science
- **DS** = Social Science
- **DY** = Laboratory (science)
3. Focus Requirements

The Focus requirements identify important additional skills and knowledge necessary for living and working in diverse communities. Courses fulfilling Focus requirements are offered in departments across the curriculum and vary each semester. To meet a Focus requirement, a course must have official Focus designation during the semester in which it is taken.

- Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues (H): 1 course
  These courses focus on issues in Hawaiian and Asian or Pacific cultures and history; they promote cross-cultural understanding between nations and cultures.

- Contemporary Ethical Issues (E): 1 course
  These courses involve significant readings on and discussion of contemporary ethical issues; they give students tools for the development of responsible ethical judgments.

- Oral Communication (O): 1 course
  These courses provide students with training in oral delivery and give them the opportunity to do individual and/or group oral reports.

- Writing Intensive (W): 5 courses, including at least 2 numbered at the 300- or 400-level
  These courses collectively help students both to learn course content and to communicate through writing. Small writing-intensive classes, in which instructors work with students on writing related to course topics, are offered in nearly all departments.

Note: Students are strongly encouraged to satisfy the Foundations-Written Communication (FW) requirement before they enroll in writing-intensive courses.

Focus Courses

Focus courses are not shown in this Catalog, but appear in each semester’s Schedule of Classes (as H, E, O, and W) and on the UH Manoa Registration Homepage (as HAP, ETH, OC, and WI). Because the approved Focus courses may change each semester, students should consult UH Manoa Registration Homepage’s up-to-date online course listing each semester before they register. Courses at UH system campuses that fulfill UH Manoa’s Focus requirements are listed at www.hawaii.edu/gened/articulation.htm.

Focus Requirements for non-UH System Transfer Students

Students who transfer from a non-UH System institution may have adjusted (“pro-rated”) Focus requirements. The adjustment is based on the number of non-UH transfer credit hours accepted when a student is admitted to UH Manoa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of accepted credits hours:</th>
<th>Focus Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-36</td>
<td>5*</td>
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<tr>
<td>37-54</td>
<td>4*</td>
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<tr>
<td>55-88</td>
<td>3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89+</td>
<td>2*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*including at least two “W” courses numbered at the 300- or 400-level.

Focus Requirements for UH System Transfer Students

Students who entered the UH System in Spring 2005 or later must meet requirements given in the table below. (Students who entered UH prior to Spring 2005 should check with a UH Manoa college/school advisor to determine their Focus requirements.) Depending on the number of UH transfer credit hours accepted, E and O requirements for transfer students may be reduced. The W and H requirements are not affected, since students may transfer approved UH-system courses to help them satisfy the W and H Focus requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of accepted UH credits hours:</th>
<th>Focus Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-54</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-88</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*at least two "W" courses must be numbered at the 300- or 400-level.

**Exemption from a Focus Requirement**

Students who engaged in an extraordinary educational experience that took place outside of the ordinary university curriculum may request a one-course exemption from a Focus requirement that is directly related to that educational experience. To request an exemption, students must demonstrate to the General Education Committee that the experience was extraordinary and educational and fulfilled the goals of the Focus area. If approved, the exemption reduces the number of courses required for the appropriate Focus requirement; however, it does not reduce the total number of credit hours needed to graduate. Students are limited to one exemption. Restrictions apply. For information, students should consult a college/school academic advisor and visit www.hawaii.edu/gened/focus_exemption.htm.
UH Manoa Graduation Requirements

4. Hawaiian or Second Language Requirement

Knowledge of a second language encourages deeper awareness of the structure of language and its relation to thought. It develops sensitivity to other ways of ordering personal experience and social institutions, provides a direct way of comparing another culture to one's own, and provides insight into the workings of one's native language.

Before graduation, students must show competence at the 202 (or equivalent) level in Hawaiian or a second language by doing one of the following:

a. Completing a four-semester sequence (usually 101, 102, 201, and 202) in a single language.
   b. Demonstrating competence by taking a UH Mānoa language-competency exam if one is offered. Check with the language department in question.
   c. Receiving a language-requirement waiver. For example, waivers may be given to students who are native speakers of a language other than English. Contact the Associate Dean of the College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature for details.

Important Note: The Hawaiian or Second Language requirement has been modified or waived for students in the following schools and colleges: Shidler College of Business; College of Education; College of Engineering; School of Medicine; School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology; School of Social Work; College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. (See www.hawaii.edu/gened/hsl.htm for additional information.) Students in these colleges/schools should consult a college/school advisor.

Students should be aware that changing their major may involve a change in their college/school and thus change their Hawaiian or Second Language requirement. A list of majors and their respective colleges/schools can be found in the "Degrees" section.

Credits for Previous Language Experience

All students under the current General Education requirements with experience in language other than English (including native speakers) may earn "back credits." These students may take any UH Manoa course, appropriate to their level of proficiency, in which there is significant use of that language. (Appropriate level is determined by a placement exam or an advisor; significant use is determined by the course content.) Upon completion of this course, students will receive between 3 and 16 back credits if they earn a letter grade of C (not C-) or better. (The course must be taken for a letter grade, not CR/NC.) Back credits may be earned for only one language. Other restrictions apply. Check with the appropriate language department for details and forms. Information is also available at www.hawaii.edu/gened/hsl.htm.

Languages in which a Four-semester Sequence is Offered

Arabic, Cambodian, Chamorro, Filipino, French, German, Greek, Hawaiian, Hindi/Urdu, Ilokano, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Mandarin, Maori, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Sanskrit, Spanish, Tahitian, Thai, Tongan, Vietnamese.

Some language courses are not offered regularly, and this is noted in the course description section of this Catalog.

American Sign Language also fulfills the language requirement. Courses in American Sign Language are not offered at UH Manoa, but the campus will consider students who complete American Sign Language to the second level of study as having met UH Manoa's Hawaiian or Second Language requirement.

Academic Planning: Tips for New Students

UH Manoa has a wide range of fields, majors, and courses from which to choose and build a dynamic and satisfying academic program. Here are some tips to help students get started:

- Contact an advisor. Assistance in planning an academic program is available. Resources include:
  – Manoa Advising Center (registration and scheduling assistance for first-year students; advising for undeclared and pre-major students), (808) 956-7273, www.manoa.hawaii.edu/mac;
  – New Student Orientation and Fall Extended Orientation workshops, (808) 956-3667, www.hawaii.edu/nso;
  – College/school and major advisors (See contact information at the end of this section).

- Explore different academic areas. Most freshmen are exploring possible majors during their first year. These students may select General Education Foundations and Diversification courses that allow them to sample different fields, which can help in deciding on a major. See a list of Foundations courses and the "Courses" section of this Catalog to find courses with a Diversification designation. The "Courses" section also lists course prerequisites if any.

- Plan ahead. Majors and colleges/schools may have requirements that should be met in the first year. Once students decide on a major, they should find out what particular courses are required for the major and also by the college/school in which the major is located. Students who have not yet decided on a major should become familiar with potential majors and with their college/school requirements in order to take recommended courses when possible.

- Enhance educational experience through special opportunities. Consider participating in one of the following:
  – First-year Programs, (808) 956-8626, www.manoa.hawaii.edu/freshman/;
  – Honors Program, (808) 956-8391, www.honors.hawaii.edu;
  – Student Life and Development (formerly Co-curricular Activities, Programs and Services), (808) 956-8178, www.hawaii.edu/caps;
Transfer Students

Transfer students should contact an advisor as soon as possible. An advisor can often help a transfer student make choices that will help the student make steady progress toward graduation. Students with a major should contact an advisor from the college or school in which the major is located; students who have not yet chosen a major should contact the Mānoa Advising Center. (See list of advising offices at the end of this section.)

Many requirements, including General Education Foundations, Diversification, and Hawaiian or Second Language requirements, may be met by transferring articulated courses from other campuses. Students can check the Admissions and Records Transfer Credit Search website, www.hawaii.edu/admrec/transfer for information about courses taken at other colleges and universities. Transfer information about courses taken at other UH campuses can be found at the General Education Office Transfer/Articulation website, www.hawaii.edu/gened/articulation.htm.

Important: Transfer students should consult the UH Mānoa college/school advising office for their major to find out about their major's requirements and about recommended General Education course choices.