

# GENERAL EDUCATION GOAL AREAS, CATEGORIES, AND COURSES

---

## Goal Area 1: Communication

COMM160 • **Basic Communication Skills**

Examination of the fundamentals of the communication process with an interactive emphasis on interpersonal, groups/teams, and public speaking; integrating these three specific components and concentrating on how meaning is created, communicated, and transformed within the social/social diversity and human contexts. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 1 course.

ENGL130 • **Successful Writing**

Development of skills necessary for expressing oneself competently through writing. Emphasis is on the writing process, critical thinking, sensitivity to audience, core documentation skills and responsibilities, and revision (with peer and instructor feedback). This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 1 course unless student is placed into this course by assessment results.

**Category R • Academic Research Writing**

CHMN350R, ENGL225R, ORGL340R

Development of academic research writing skills: critical evaluation of logical and rhetorical persuasion, and documentation of research sources—attributions, in-text citations and a source list—according to a recognized academic format (APA, MLA, or the like). Also, a review of core writing skills such as planning, drafting, revising, and editing. The Category R course cannot be replaced by another Goal Area 1 course that is not a Category R course.

The CAPS general education requirement in academic research writing may be fulfilled by the completion of a course or sequence of courses typically comprising at least 3 credit hours of instruction in written English only if the course(s) display all of the following components:

- Academic focus: students compose, format, and edit text according to the idioms and expectations of the academic community.
- Research: students complete a library research project at the undergraduate level.

- Research writing: students compose a formal essay compiling accumulated research.
- Documentation: students document their information sources according to a standard academic format such as those maintained by the apa or mla.
- Completion of sequence: the course completes a lower division sequence of writing courses required of all graduates.

## Goal Area 2: Critical Thinking

SOCS110 • **Succeeding in College**

Introduction to core strategies and resources for effective studying, writing, and researching; the principles of a Christian liberal arts education at Bethel; relationships among college, family, and career; and the Moodle learning management system. Placement assessments will be used to identify core academic knowledge and skills in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. SOCS110 is required in residence at transfer level 3 and down. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 2 course at transfer level 4 and up.

ORGL120 • **Personal Mission and Leadership Development**

Development of an understanding of personal mission and a study of the application of that mission to leadership roles. Emphasis is on identifying personal talents and gifts and developing leadership skills for interdependent realities. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 2 course.

## Goal Area 3: Natural Sciences

**Category T • Technology in Our World**

BUSN285T

Courses in this category address the linkages of science and technology with other aspects of our lives in contemporary society. Each course covers the scientific and technological basis of a particular area and then focuses on the relationships between that area and other human values, choices, lifestyles, aesthetics, or worldviews. The Category T course may be replaced by another Goal Area 3 course.

**Category V • Studies in Our Surrounding World**

NASC275V

Courses in this category are designed to introduce the process of modern science and science as a way of knowing via an in-depth examination of a specific science content area, including biology, physics, chemistry, geology, general science, astronomy, or

## General Education Goal Areas, Categories, and Courses 2

closely related fields. The Category V course may be replaced by another Goal Area 3 course.

### **Category Y • Health and Wellness** HEPE260Y

Addresses a variety of physical aspects of the human person and how they relate to one's overall well-being and lifelong personal stewardship. Contemporary issues related to physical well-being, such as drugs, alcohol, nutrition, sleep, and exercise, are discussed, as well as the relationship between personal health-related lifestyle choices and responsibilities to others. Students are encouraged to develop and practice personal strategies for physical well-being through exercise and other means. The Category Y course may be replaced by another Goal Area 3 course.

## Goal Area 4: Mathematical/ Logical Reasoning

### **Category M • Mathematics** MATH180M, MATH301M, PSYC335M

Courses in this category explore mathematical ideas with which a liberally educated person should be familiar in order to function well in a technological society. In the nursing major, a statistics course is recommended. The Category M course may be replaced by another Goal Area 4 course.

## Goal Area 5: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

### **HIST250 • U.S. History in Dialogue with the Present**

Explores a narrative of United States history by following themes that connect past events to our experiences today. Investigates compelling and relevant historical questions and events by applying historical inquiry, using critical thinking, and considering multiple perspectives. Presents history as a dialogue between past and present, propelling action as stakeholders in society. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 5 course.

### **Category E • Global Cultures and the American Mosaic** BUSN310E, COMM340E, HUSE435E, NURS421E, NURS425E, SOCS255E, THEO341E

Courses in this category aim to develop an understanding of ethnic cultural diversity as manifested in areas such as religion, politics, the arts, language, literary forms, etc. This descriptive study illustrates the reality of cultural diversity and the ways in which cultures interact, and helps students come to a deeper understanding of what it means to live in a

culturally diverse world. The Category E course may be replaced by another Goal Area 5 course.

### **Category W • Work and Family Dynamics** HUSE300W, SOCS170W

Courses in this category will be led by an instructor with a background in history or one of the social or behavioral sciences (psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, gerontology, or the like) who will bring the power of his or her discipline to bear on an issue that is likely to be of primary concern to many of the students in the program (e.g., sociology of work, gerontology and aging family members, economics of the job market, etc.). The Category W course may be replaced by another Goal Area 5 course.

## Goal Area 6: The Humanities and Fine Arts

### **BIBL230 • The Bible in Real Life**

Exploration of connections between key portions of the Bible and challenges faced by students in their own lives. Students will trace the journey of God's people from Abraham and Sarah through the New Testament church, tracing God's self-disclosure through biblical cultures and their genres of writing. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 6 course.

### **CHMN140 • Spiritual Quest**

Exploration of a Christian model of spirituality. Hermeneutical and exegetical skills will guide students as they examine this concept in biblical and extra-biblical contexts. Though asked to explore spirituality from a Christian perspective, students will be free to decide how they wish to define it. This course may be replaced by another Goal Area 6 course.

### **Category A • Responding to the Arts** ARTC150A

Cultivation of critical reading and writing skills through an examination of artistic "texts" from literature, drama, cinema, music, or the visual arts. Students will develop their discernment of rich dimensions of the texts—technique, genre, social-historical context—and reflect on their spiritual signification. The Category A course may be replaced by another Goal Area 6 course.

### **Category H • Ethics** BUSN425H, CHMN495H, HUSE485H, NURS330H, ORGL465H

Application of ethical principles to real-life situations involving moral dilemmas with consideration of duty, virtue, responsibility, and Christian values. An "H" course is required of all baccalaureate students and is offered in the major core sequence in each major. The

Category H course cannot be replaced by another Goal Area 6 course that is not a Category H course.