

## University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

### Sampling of General Education Courses Appropriate for First Year Students - Fall 2009

General Education Courses are the foundation of a liberal education, an education with a philosophy that empowers students with broad knowledge and transferable skills, and a strong sense of values, ethics and civic engagement. Through these courses, students are exposed to multiple disciplines and ways of knowing.

UW Oshkosh has adopted a set of essential learning outcomes that are rooted in the general education requirements:

- **knowledge** of human cultures and the physical and natural world;
- **skills**, both intellectual and practical;
- **responsibility**, as individuals and communities; and
- **learning** that is integrated, synthesized, and advanced.

**Composition/Writing-Based Inquiry Seminar (EN):**  
**An English composition course designed to build skills in critical reading and college level writing.**

\*Other composition courses may be appropriate, depending on placement test results. Some students may require the remedial (non-degree credit) course English 100; others may test to Honors Composition: English 110.

**Writing-Based Inquiry Seminar** WBIS188 (3 cr.)

A writing-based inquiry seminar (WBIS) designed primarily to develop the understanding and skills needed to read and write intelligently at the college level. Students cannot earn credit for English 101, English 110 and WBIS 188.

**Mathematics/Problem Based Inquiry Seminar (MA):**  
**A mathematics course designed to build problem solving, critical thinking, and quantitative skills.**

\*Other math courses may be appropriate, depending on placement test results, major and degree requirements. Some students may require remedial (non-degree credit) courses such as Math 100 and Math 103. Consult with your Advisor before enrolling in any math class.

**Problem Based Inquiry Seminar** PBIS 187 (3 cr.)

This course will help students develop their problem solving, critical thinking, communications and quantitative skills by exploring a mathematical topic in a problem solving setting. Prereq: Math 103 with grade of C or better or placement.

**Problem Based Inquiry Seminar--Modern Mathematics & Its Applications** PBIS 188 (3 cr.)

This course will help students see that the connection between the mathematics presented and down-to-earth, concrete real-life problems is direct and immediate. Prereq: Math 103 with grade of C or better or placement.

**Problem Based Inquiry Seminar-Statistics** PBIS 189 (3 cr.)

Descriptive statistics/elementary probability/basic problems of statistical inference: estimation, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, regression and correlation. Prereq: Math 103 with grade of C or better or placement.

**College Algebra** MATH 104 (3 cr.)

Equations and inequalities; graphs, functions and models; polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions. Prereq: Math 103 with grade of C or better or placement. Math 104, by itself, does not fulfill the general education math requirement.

**Kinesiology (PE):** *The scientific study of human movement focusing on the impacts of lifestyle, health, wellness, and exercise, or lack of, on the body.*

**The Active Lifestyle** KINES 105 (2 cr.)

A contemporary examination of the effects of lifestyle, wellness, and health promotion on the individual.

**Communication (GE):** *An introduction to theory and practice of oral communication in interpersonal and public speaking settings.*

**Fundamentals of Speech** COMM 111 (3 cr.)

Introduction to theory and practice of communicating in interpersonal and public speaking settings.

**Non-Western Culture (NW):** *An exploration of various aspects of the non-white, eastern world (i.e., the Middle East, Asia, Africa) in order to build global civic knowledge and intercultural competence.*

Anthropology

**World Ethnography** ANTHRO 122 (3 cr.)

An analytical and descriptive survey of selected societies and cultures representative of the major culture areas of the world. (Also SS)

**Cultural Anthropology** ANTHRO 232 (3 cr.)

Focusing on the concept of 'culture', the course discusses the aims, methods, and achievements of anthropological research and presents a general model for comprehending human society. (Also SS)

Geography

**World Regional Geography** GEOG 102 (3 cr.)

A study of the various interrelationships of cultural and physical phenomena as exemplified by major world regions. Intended for those who seek to enhance their knowledge of important world regions. (Also SS)

Religious Studies

**World Religions** RELST 102 (3 cr.)

A historical survey of the basic experiential, mythical, doctrinal, ethical, ritual, and social dimensions in the world's major traditions: tribal religion, Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese and Japanese religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

**Hebrew Bible** RELST 203 (3 cr.)  
A literary and historical introduction to the collection of texts sacred to both Jews and Christians (known to Christians as the "Old Testament") with emphasis on the period up to the Exile in Babylon.

**The Hindu Tradition** RELST 221 (3 cr.)  
Historical and religious study of Hinduism in its unity and diversity as world view, world faith, and world influence. The course aims at a systematic understanding of Hindu origins, values, and practices as revealed in texts in translation, artistic expression, and modern transformative movements in and beyond India.

**Islam** RELST 240 (3 cr.)  
The religion of Mohammed and his followers from the Arabian beginnings through the rise and development of Islam as a great international faith and cultural system. Includes Islamic responses to modernization and the West

***Humanities and Fine Arts (HU): The study and appreciation of the many aspects of culture, which consist not only of sights and sounds, but also of ideas.***

African American Studies

**Intro to African Amer. Studies** AF/AMSTD 100 (3 cr.)  
An interdisciplinary survey introduction to some of the major individuals, texts, and issues that suggest the complex history and culture that have evolved over time among African Americans in the United States. (Also ES)

Art

**Understanding the Arts** ART 105 (3 cr.)  
A course to help students understand and appreciate the visual arts. (Not appropriate for Art majors)

**Art History Survey I** ART 109 (3 cr.)  
An historical and critical review of the Western art tradition. (Required for Art majors)

Communication

**Underst'd Radio, TV & Movies** COMM 101 (3 cr.)  
This course will help you make informed decisions about the media you consume.

Music

**Music Theory for Gen'l Students** MUSIC 102 (3 cr.)  
A course designed to acquaint the non-major or non-minor in music with the basic materials that make up the art of musical sound.

**Evolution of Jazz** MUSIC 216 (3 cr.)  
Understanding the history of jazz music through listening and study of inherent styles.

**Survey of American Music** MUSIC 218 (3 cr.)  
An introduction to musical styles in American music as influenced by its social and cultural history. (Also ES.)

**Music & Culture** MUSIC 219 (3 cr.)  
A study of the music of various historical and/or contemporary cultures. Content varies.

**Foreign Languages\* (HU)**

**\*Other foreign language courses may be appropriate depending on placement test results.**

Introduction to the land and the people through language study in a cultural context. The four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking are treated with equal attention. Weekly attendance in the language lab is required as an integral part of the course.

**Introduction to Arabic 1** ARABIC 110 (4 cr.)  
Distance education class from UW Whitewater.

**Introduction to Chinese 1** CHINESE 110 (4 cr.)  
Distance education class from UW LaCrosse.

**Introduction to French 1** FRENCH 110 (4 cr.)

**Introduction to German 1** GERMAN 110 (4 cr.)

**Introduction to Japanese 1** JAPANESE 110 (4 cr.)

**Introduction to Russian 1** RUSSIAN 110 (4 cr.)

**Introduction to Spanish 1** SPANISH 110 (4 cr.)

Philosophy

**Elementary Logic** PHIL 101 (3 cr.)  
Analysis of reasoning, deductive and inductive, designed to aid the development of critical thinking.

**Ethics** PHIL 105 (3 cr.)  
Analysis of the principal theories of ethics and their practical application to problems concerning the individual and society.

**Introduction to Philosophy** PHIL 109 (3 cr.)  
A survey of some of the perennial problems of the human enterprise; the nature of reality, of truth, of beauty, of ideal political and social relationships, and of the good life.

Religious Studies

**Religions of America** RELST 104 (3 cr.)  
This course will introduce students to the power and pervasiveness of religious expression in America. (Also ES)

**Bible and Current Events** RELST 106 (3 cr.)  
This course introduces the Bible and biblical interpretation by focusing on the role of the Bible in shaping culture and public discourse.

**Religion and Nature** RELST 162 (3 cr.)  
Examines competing environmental ethics, and the ensuing social conflicts.

**The New Testament** RELST 204 (3 cr.)  
A literary and historical introduction to the New Testament in its religious, social and cultural context.

Theatre

**Appreciation of Drama** THEATRE 161 (3 cr.)  
A survey of drama as an integral element in human society in its cultural aspects, intended to stimulate and

develop an appreciation for drama as literature and theatre.

***Natural Laboratory Sciences (NS): The study of objects, phenomena, or laws of nature and the physical world.***

Biology

**Ecosphere in Crisis** BIO 104 (4 cr.)

Interaction of humans as biological organisms that interact with the living and nonliving world. Emphasis is given to how humans affect, and are affected by, their environment. (Not appropriate for biology, physical education, or healthcare majors.)

**Biological Concepts-Unity** BIO 105 (4 cr.)

An introduction to the biological sciences. Addresses phenomena common to a diversity of life forms. Biological organization, cell biology, processing energy, genetics and evolution.

Chemistry

**General Chemistry I** CHEM 105 (5 cr.)

Topics include atomic theory, atomic and electronic structure, chemical bonding, mole concept, stoichiometry, state of matter, formulas and equations, solutions and colloids. Prereq: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Math 104. (Required for chemistry, biology and pre-professional majors)

Geography

**Physical Geog Weather & Climate** GEOG 121 (4 cr.)

An introductory study of the elements and controls of weather, climate and vegetation; their distribution and interaction with other elements of the global environment. Prereq: Math 103 or placement above.

Geology

**Physical Geology** GEOL 102 (4 cr.)

The nature and origin of rocks and the study of geological processes such as erosion, earthquakes, mountain building and plate tectonics.\*

**Environmental Geology** GEOL 150 (4 cr.)

The physical environment and human interaction with it. Emphasis on earth processes which affect humans, such as rivers, erosion, groundwater, landslides, and earthquakes.\*

\*Credit cannot be received for both GEOL 102 and 150

Physical Science

**Workshop Physical Science** PHYS SCI 101 (4 cr.)

A hands-on course covering basic concepts in physical science with emphasis on the nature and limits of science.

Physics/Astronomy

**Solar System** PHYS/AST 103 (4 cr.)

The astronomer's understanding of the earth, moon and planets. Explores the basic nature of science and the scientific method. Prereq: Math 103 or placement above.

**General Physics** PHYS/AST 107 (5 cr.)

A survey of mechanics and properties of matter.

Prereq: Math 108 or equiv. (Not appropriate for physics majors and some pre-professional programs, which may require Physics 109)

***Social Sciences (SS): The study of human society and of individual relationships in and to society including but not limited to knowledge of sustainability and of civic knowledge and engagement.***

Anthropology

**Introduction to Anthropology** ANTHRO 102 (3 cr.)

Basic concepts from the four fields of Anthropology: Social Anthropology, Archaeology, Linguistics and Physical Anthropology.

**World Ethnography** ANTHRO 122 (3 cr.)

An analytical and descriptive survey of selected societies and cultures representative of the major culture areas of the world. (Also NW)

**American Ethnography** ANTHRO 123 (3 cr.)

An analytical and descriptive survey of selected cultures representative of major American ethnic groups. (Also ES)

**Cultural Anthropology** ANTHRO 232 (3 cr.)

Focusing on the concept of 'culture', the course discusses the aims, methods, and achievements of anthropological research and presents a general model for comprehending human society. (Also NW)

Economics

**General Economics** ECON 106 (3 cr.)

Analysis of some of the major current issues in the American economy undertaken after a historical survey of the emergence of modern economic institutions. (Not appropriate for business or economics majors.)

Environmental Studies

**Seminar on Environmental Issues** ENVST 101 (3 cr.)

An interdisciplinary course exploring the complex relationships between humans and ecosystems.

Geography

**World Regional Geography** GEOG 102 (3 cr.)

A study of the various interrelationships of cultural and physical phenomena as exemplified by major world regions. (Also NW)

**Human Geography** GEOG 111 (3 cr.)

The distribution and significance of major elements of culture are examined, along with processes that shape cultural landscapes.

History

**Early Civilization** HIST 101 (3 cr.)

Survey of development of civilizations, including beginnings in Mesopotamia and Egypt, through Greece, Rome, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

**Modern Civilization** HIST 102 (3 cr.)

Survey of development of civilizations, including the high Renaissance through Reformation.

**United States History to 1877** HIST 201 (3 cr.)  
Survey of United States history from voyages of discovery and early European settlement in North America through Civil War and Reconstruction.

Introduction to social scientific analysis of the cultural construction of gender and how it affects women's experiences past and present.

**United States History Since 1877** HIST 202 (3 cr.)  
Survey of United States history from 1877; emergence of a modern industrial state, expansion abroad, First and second World Wars and role as a great power.

#### Political Science

**Comparative Politics** POLI SCI 101 (3 cr.)  
Class covers the role of government, political parties, democratization, development, political culture, nationalism and ethnic conflict.

#### **American Government and Politics**

POLI SCI 105 (3 cr.)  
Organization, principles and actual working of the American National Government in all its branches.

**International Politics** POLI SCI 115 (3 cr.)  
Development of the nation-state system; role of the great powers; the struggle for power; settlement of disputes; diplomacy; the quest for law; nationalism; contemporary problems.

#### Psychology

**Introduction to Psychology** PSYC 101 (3 cr.)  
A beginning course in psychology designed to provide an understanding of the modern approach to human behavior and to lay the foundation for additional work in psychology.

#### Public Administration

**Contemporary Public Issues** PUB ADM 102 (3 cr.)  
Examines major issues facing American Society today. Discusses popular debates over social problems and analyzes the strains on public institutions. Broad coverage of public affairs and the external forces that shape modern government.

#### Sociology

**Introduction to Sociology** SOC 101 (3 cr.)  
Orientation to the sociological perspective. Basic sociological concepts, research procedures, processes of human interaction and social institutions.

**Modern Social Problems** SOC 151 (3 cr.)  
A study of major social problems confronting our society: personal and social disorganization, crime, juvenile delinquency, race and other selected problems.

#### Urban Planning

**Contemporary Urban Issues** URB PLNG 131 (3 cr.)  
An introductory course which examines some of the major contemporary issues confronting American cities including crime, poverty, education, housing, transportation, and the environment. The course will draw on guest lecturers from government agencies.

#### Women's Studies

**Introduction to Women's Studies** WOMST 201 (3 cr.)

***Ethnic Studies (ES): An exploration of various aspects of the non-white individuals in the United States in order to build civic knowledge and intercultural competence.***

African American Studies

**Intro to African Amer Studies** AF/AMSTD 100 (3 cr.)

An interdisciplinary survey introduction the complex history and culture that have evolved over time among African Americans in the United States. (Also HU)

Anthropology

**American Ethnography** ANTHRO 123 (3 cr.)

An analytical and descriptive survey of selected societies and cultures representative of the major culture areas of the world. (Also SS)

Music

**Survey of American Music** MUSIC 218 (3 cr.)

An introduction to musical styles in American music as influenced by its social and cultural history. (Also HU)

Religious Studies

**Religions of America** RELST 104 (3 cr.)

This course will introduce students to the power and pervasiveness of religious expression in America. (Also HU)

***Courses of Benefit to All Students***

Counseling- Professional

**Introduction to Higher Education for First Year**

**Students** PRF CNSL 101 (2 cr.)

Introduces students to the culture of the university and the expectations the university has for its students. Through very small classes, and close interactions with the instructors, students make connections to the university and to fellow students to create a community of learners and will enhance their university experience.

**Academic & Career Exploration** PRF CNSL 201 (1 cr.)

Recommended for students who are undecided about an academic program and/or career choice. Through self-exploration, students will learn how to match personal needs and expectations with academic and career options. Students will assess themselves, research academic and career alternatives, and make decisions based on timely and factual information.

Interdisciplinary Studies

**Comprehensive Study Skills** INTRDSCP 125 (1 cr.)

Attention is given to the skills necessary for academic success. The student learns techniques to increase effectiveness in the areas of textbook study, lecture notes, time management, memory, test taking, and vocabulary. (7-week course)

**College Reading Strategies** INTRDSCP 169 (1 cr.)

For students who have mastered basic reading skills and desire growth in the higher-level reading demanded for the mastery of college textbooks. Focus will be on comprehending nonfiction, strengthening study reading techniques, improving vocabulary and increasing reading rate in difficult material. (7-week course)