

APPENDIX: COMMON CURRICULUM

Note: The Common Curriculum will replace the General Education Curriculum (<https://catalog.uconn.edu/undergraduate/gen-ed-requirements/>) beginning with the 2025-26 academic year. Continuing students who entered the university prior to 2025-26 will be expected to complete the existing General Education Curriculum unless they elect to complete the Common Curriculum instead.

The Common Curriculum provides academic breadth with a set of intellectually rigorous and challenging courses that foster skills and attributes associated with leadership and global citizenship.

Every undergraduate student in a baccalaureate degree program in the University, on all campuses, must complete the Common Curriculum. The Common Curriculum requires students to complete six Topics of Inquiry and three Competencies.

The purpose of the Common Curriculum is to ensure that all University of Connecticut undergraduate students are experienced with different ways of knowing and many kinds of knowledge beyond career preparation, and that they enter society and their professions with a strong sense of moral, ethical, and social responsibility. It is vital to the accomplishment of the University's mission that a balance between professional and general education be established and maintained in which each is complementary to and compatible with the other. A leader and global citizen needs to be able to communicate with and cultivate compassion with those outside their own majors, disciplines, professions, communities, and cultures and to make connections between their own knowledge and perspectives and those of others.

Topics of Inquiry

Students must pass at least three credits of coursework in each of six Topics of Inquiry (TOI)

- TOI-1: Creativity: Design, Expression, Innovation (p. 1)
- TOI-2: Cultural Dimensions of Human Experiences (p. 1)
- TOI-3: Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice (p. 2)
- TOI-4: Environmental Literacy (p. 3)
- TOI-5: Individual Values and Social Institutions (p. 3)
- TOI-6: Science and Empirical Inquiry (p. 4)

Requirements

1. At least three credits must be passed in each Topic of Inquiry (most courses fulfill two).
2. Students must also satisfy a Focus requirement by successfully completing either three courses in a single Topic of Inquiry or three courses within a Theme.
3. Topic of Inquiry courses may be counted toward the major.
4. Including the Focus requirement, students must pass at least 21 credits of TOI courses.
5. The 21 credits of TOI courses must be from at least six different subject areas as designated by subject code (e.g., ANTH). For cross-listed courses, students may count any subject code under which the course is offered toward this requirement regardless of the subject code under which they register for the course.

6. Students must complete at least one laboratory course in TOI-6 (see TOI-6 for definition of laboratory class). This does not restrict courses outside TOI-6 from having laboratories, nor does it limit TOI-6 courses to be only laboratory courses.

7. No more than six credits with the INTD prefix may be elected by any student to meet the Common Curriculum Requirements.

Topic of Inquiry Courses

All current General Education courses are being considered for transition to the Common Curriculum. At present, the following courses have been approved for these specific areas. Review is ongoing.

TOI-1: Creativity: Design, Expression, Innovation

Code	Title	Credits
AAAS 3375	Indian Art and Popular Culture: Independence to the Present	3
AFRA 3131	African-American Theatre	3
AFRA 3132	African-American Women Playwrights, 1900 to the present	3
AMST 2400	City and Community in Film	3
ARE 2525	Sustainability Policy and Management	3
ART 1000	Art Appreciation	3
ART 3375	Indian Art and Popular Culture: Independence to the Present	3
ARTH 2230	Curating Contemporary Art: Issues, Themes, Theories, and Practices	3
CLCS 1101	Classics of World Literature I	3
DMD 2020	Design Thinking	3
DRAM 1811	Dance Appreciation	3
DRAM 3131	African-American Theatre	3
DRAM 3132	African-American Women Playwrights, 1900 to the present	3
ENGL 1401	Horror	3
ENGL 2055WE	Writing, Rhetoric, and Environment	3
ENGL 2405	Drama	3
ENGL 2409	The Modern Novel	3
ENGL 2413	The Graphic Novel	3
ENGL 2413W	The Graphic Novel	3
EPSY 1450W	Mind, Body, Health	3
EPSY 1830	Critical and Creative Thinking in the Movies	3
EPSY 2810	Creativity: Debunking Myths and Enhancing Innovation	3
HEJS 2201	Diversity and Inclusion in Israeli Society: A Cinematic View	3
INDS 3375	Indian Art and Popular Culture: Independence to the Present	3
URBN 2400	City and Community in Film	3
WGSS 2204	Feminisms and the Arts	3
WGSS 2217	Women, Gender and Film	3

TOI-2: Cultural Dimensions of Human Experiences

Code	Title	Credits
AAAS 2201	Introduction to Asian American Studies	3
AAAS 3830E	Environmental History in East Asia	3

AFRA 2222	Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Power of Looking	3	ENGL 3213	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century African American Literature	3
AFRA 3050W	African-American Art	3	ENGL 3217	Studies in African American Literature and Culture	3
AFRA 3131	African-American Theatre	3	FREN 3280	Fiction and Nonfiction by French and Francophone Women	3
AFRA 3132	African-American Women Playwrights, 1900 to the present	3	HIST 1503	Introduction to American Studies	3
AFRA 3213	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century African American Literature	3	HIST 2210E	History of the Ocean	3
AFRA 3217	Studies in African American Literature and Culture	3	HIST 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
AFRA 3642	African-American Politics	3	HIST 3540E	Environmental History of the Americas	3
AH 2330	Italy's Mediterranean Food and Our Health	3	HIST 3540WE	Environmental History of the Americas	3
AH 5330	Italy's Mediterranean Food and Our Health	3	HIST 3542E	New England Environmental History	3
AMST 1201	Introduction to American Studies	3	HIST 3830E	Environmental History in East Asia	3
AMST 1700	Honors Core: American Landscapes	3	LLAS 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
AMST 2201	Introduction to Asian American Studies	3	MAST 2210E	History of the Ocean	3
AMST 2276	American Utopias and Dystopias	3	MAST 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
AMST 2400	City and Community in Film	3	NUSC 1167	Food, Culture and Society	3
AMST 3542E	New England Environmental History	3	PHIL 1103	Philosophical Classics	3
ANTH 1000	Peoples and Cultures of the World	3	PHIL 1106	Non-western and Comparative Philosophy	3
ANTH 1000W	Peoples and Cultures of the World	3	PHIL 1109	Global Existentialism	3
ANTH 3150W	Migration	3	PHIL 2170W	Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective	3
ANTH 3902	North American Prehistory	3	POLS 1202	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
ARIS 1211	Introduction to Islam	3	POLS 3642	African-American Politics	3
ART 1000	Art Appreciation	3	SPSS 1150	Agricultural Technology and Society	3
ARTH 1141	From Sun Gods to Lowriders: Introduction to Latin American Art	3	URBN 2400	City and Community in Film	3
ARTH 2222	Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Power of Looking	3	WGSS 2217	Women, Gender and Film	3
ARTH 2230	Curating Contemporary Art: Issues, Themes, Theories, and Practices	3	TOI-3: Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice		
ARTH 3050W	African-American Art	3	Code	Title	Credits
CAMS 1101	Greek Civilization	3	AAAS 2201	Introduction to Asian American Studies	3
CAMS 1102	Roman Civilization	3	AFRA 2222	Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Power of Looking	3
CAMS 1103	Classical Mythology	3	AFRA 3050W	African-American Art	3
CHIN 1121	Traditional Chinese Culture	3	AFRA 3213	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century African American Literature	3
CHIN 3270	Chinese Film	3	AFRA 3217	Studies in African American Literature and Culture	3
CHIN 3280	Networking in China	3	AFRA 3642	African-American Politics	3
CLCS 1101	Classics of World Literature I	3	AMST 1201	Introduction to American Studies	3
COMM 1000	The Process of Communication	3	AMST 2201	Introduction to Asian American Studies	3
DRAM 1811	Dance Appreciation	3	ANTH 3150W	Migration	3
DRAM 3131	African-American Theatre	3	ARE 2525	Sustainability Policy and Management	3
DRAM 3132	African-American Women Playwrights, 1900 to the present	3	ARTH 1141	From Sun Gods to Lowriders: Introduction to Latin American Art	3
ENGL 1201	Introduction to American Studies	3	ARTH 2222	Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Power of Looking	3
ENGL 1401	Horror	3	ARTH 3050W	African-American Art	3
ENGL 2100	British Literature I	3	CHIN 3270	Chinese Film	3
ENGL 2101	British Literature II	3	EDCI 2100	Power, Privilege, and Public Education	3
ENGL 2276	American Utopias and Dystopias	3	EDLR 2001	Contemporary Social Issues in Sport	3
ENGL 2405	Drama	3			
ENGL 2409	The Modern Novel	3			
ENGL 2413	The Graphic Novel	3			
ENGL 2413W	The Graphic Novel	3			

ENGL 1201	Introduction to American Studies	3	GEOG 3350E	Global Change, Local Action: A Geography of Environmentalism	3
ENGL 3213	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century African American Literature	3	GEOG 3410E	Human Modifications of Natural Environments	3
ENGL 3217	Studies in African American Literature and Culture	3	HDFS 2142E	Exploring Conservation and Sustainability with Preschoolers	3
EPSY 1450W	Mind, Body, Health	3	HIST 2210E	History of the Ocean	3
FREN 3272	French Literary Theory	3	HIST 3540E	Environmental History of the Americas	3
FREN 3280	Fiction and Nonfiction by French and Francophone Women	3	HIST 3540WE	Environmental History of the Americas	3
HEJS 2201	Diversity and Inclusion in Israeli Society: A Cinematic View	3	HIST 3542E	New England Environmental History	3
HIST 1503	Introduction to American Studies	3	HIST 3830E	Environmental History in East Asia	3
NRE 1235E	Environmental Conservation	3	JOUR 3046E	Environmental Journalism	3
PHIL 1107	Philosophy and Gender	3	MARN 1001E	The Sea Around Us	3
PHIL 2170W	Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective	3	MARN 1002E	Introduction to Oceanography	3
POLS 1402	Introduction to International Relations	3	MARN 1003E	Introduction to Oceanography with Laboratory	4
POLS 1402W	Introduction to International Relations	3	MARN 2801WE	Marine Sciences and Society	3
POLS 1602	Introduction to American Politics	3	MARN 3000E	The Oceans and Global Climate	3
POLS 1602W	Introduction to American Politics	3	MAST 1001E	The Sea Around Us	3
POLS 3642	African-American Politics	3	MAST 2210E	History of the Ocean	3
WGSS 2204	Feminisms and the Arts	3	MAST 2300E	Marine Environmental Policy	3
			MAST 2460E	Maritime Politics	3
			NRE 1000E	Environmental Science	3
			NRE 1235E	Environmental Conservation	3
			NRE 2215E	Introduction to Water Resources	3
			NRE 2600E	Global Sustainable Natural Resources	3
			NRE 3245E	Environmental Law	3
			PATH 1100E	One Health: People, Animals, Plants, and the Environment	3
			PHIL 1108E	Environmental Philosophy	3
			PHIL 3212E	Philosophy and Global Climate Change	3
			PHIL 3216E	Environmental Ethics	3
			POLS 2460E	Maritime Politics	3
			POLS 3208W	Politics of Oil	3
			PSYC 3104E	Environmental Psychology	3
			SPSS 1060	The Great American Lawn: History, Culture, and Sustainability	3
			SPSS 2500E	Principles and Concepts of Agroecology	3

TOI-4: Environmental Literacy

Code	Title	Credits
AAAS 3830E	Environmental History in East Asia	3
AMST 1700	Honors Core: American Landscapes	3
AMST 3542E	New England Environmental History	3
ARE 1110E	Population, Food, and the Environment	3
ARE 2434E	Environmental and Resource Policy	3
ARE 3305E	Economic Development, Environment, and Policy	3
ARE 3437E	Marine Fisheries Economics and Policy	3
ARE 3438E	Climate Economics	3
ARE 4438E	Valuing the Environment	3
ARE 4462E	Environmental and Resource Economics	3
EEB 2100E	Global Change Ecology	3
EEB 2208E	Introduction to Conservation Biology	3
EEB 2222E	Plants in a Changing World	3
ENGL 2055WE	Writing, Rhetoric, and Environment	3
ENGL 2635E	Literature and the Environment	3
ENVE 1000E	Environmental Sustainability	3
ERTH 1000E	The Human Epoch: Living in the Anthropocene	3
ERTH 1070	Natural Disasters and Environmental Change	3
ERTH 2310E	Creating and Sustaining National Parks	3
ERTH 2800	Our Evolving Atmosphere	3
EVST 1000E	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3
GEOG 1070	Natural Disasters and Environmental Change	3
GEOG 1300E	Climate, Weather, and the Environment	3
GEOG 2300E	Introduction to Physical Geography	3
GEOG 2310E	Creating and Sustaining National Parks	3

TOI-5: Individual Values and Social Institutions

Code	Title	Credits
AMST 2276	American Utopias and Dystopias	3
ANTH 1000	Peoples and Cultures of the World	3
ANTH 1000W	Peoples and Cultures of the World	3
ANTH 3902	North American Prehistory	3
ARE 1110E	Population, Food, and the Environment	3
ARE 1150	Principles of Applied and Resource Economics	3
CHIN 1121	Traditional Chinese Culture	3
CHIN 3280	Networking in China	3
COMM 1000	The Process of Communication	3
DMD 2620	Human Development, Digital Media, and Technology	3
EDCI 1100	If You Love It, Teach It	3

EDCI 2100	Power, Privilege, and Public Education	3
ENGL 2276	American Utopias and Dystopias	3
ENGL 2635E	Literature and the Environment	3
ENVE 1000E	Environmental Sustainability	3
EVST 1000E	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3
FREN 3272	French Literary Theory	3
HDFS 1060	Close Relationships Across the Lifespan	3
HDFS 1070	Individual and Family Development	3
HDFS 2620	Human Development, Digital Media, and Technology	3
HDFS 3540	Child Welfare, Law and Social Policy	3
HIST 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
HRTS 3220W	Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights	3
LLAS 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
MAST 2300E	Marine Environmental Policy	3
MAST 2460E	Maritime Politics	3
MAST 2507	New England and the Caribbean Plantation Complex, 1650-1900	3
NRE 2600E	Global Sustainable Natural Resources	3
PHIL 1101	Problems of Philosophy	3
PHIL 1103	Philosophical Classics	3
PHIL 1106	Non-western and Comparative Philosophy	3
PHIL 1107	Philosophy and Gender	3
PHIL 1109	Global Existentialism	3
PHIL 1175	Ethical Issues in Health Care	3
PHIL 2410	Know Thyself	3
PHIL 3216E	Environmental Ethics	3
PHIL 3220W	Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights	3
POLS 1002	Introduction to Political Theory	3
POLS 1202	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POLS 1402	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLS 1402W	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLS 1602	Introduction to American Politics	3
POLS 1602W	Introduction to American Politics	3
POLS 2460E	Maritime Politics	3
POLS 3208W	Politics of Oil	3
SPSS 1150	Agricultural Technology and Society	3
ERTH 1000E	The Human Epoch: Living in the Anthropocene	3
ERTH 1055	Geoscience and the American Landscape	3
ERTH 1070	Natural Disasters and Environmental Change	3
ERTH 2800	Our Evolving Atmosphere	3
GEOG 1070	Natural Disasters and Environmental Change	3
GEOG 1300E	Climate, Weather, and the Environment	3
GEOG 2300E	Introduction to Physical Geography	3
GEOG 3410E	Human Modifications of Natural Environments	3
KINS 2227	Exercise Prescription	3
MARN 1001E	The Sea Around Us	3
MAST 1001E	The Sea Around Us	3
NRE 1000E	Environmental Science	3
NUSC 1030	Interdisciplinary Approach to Obesity Prevention	3
NUSC 1165	Fundamentals of Nutrition	3
NUSC 1645	The Science of Food	3
PATH 1100E	One Health: People, Animals, Plants, and the Environment	3
PSYC 1100	General Psychology I	3
SPSS 1060	The Great American Lawn: History, Culture, and Sustainability	3

Laboratory Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 2600	Microscopy in Applied Archaeobotany Research	4
BIOL 1102	Foundations of Biology	4
BIOL 1108	Principles of Biology II	4
BIOL 1110	Introduction to Botany	4
CHEM 1124Q	Fundamentals of General Chemistry I	4
CHEM 1125Q	Fundamentals of General Chemistry II	3
CHEM 1126Q	Fundamentals of General Chemistry III	3
CHEM 1128Q	General Chemistry II	4
MARN 1002E	Introduction to Oceanography	3
MARN 1003E	Introduction to Oceanography with Laboratory	4
PHYS 1201Q	General Physics I	4
PHYS 1402Q	General Physics with Calculus II	4
PHYS 1501Q	Physics for Engineers I	4
PHYS 1502Q	Physics for Engineers II	4
PHYS 1602Q	Fundamentals of Physics II	4

TOI-6: Science and Empirical Inquiry

Code	Title	Credits
AH 1030	Interdisciplinary Approach to Obesity Prevention	3
ANSC 1645	The Science of Food	3
COGS 2201	Foundations of Cognitive Science	3
EEB 2100E	Global Change Ecology	3
EEB 2202	Evolution and Human Diversity	3
EEB 2208E	Introduction to Conservation Biology	3
EEB 2222E	Plants in a Changing World	3
EEB 2250	Introduction to Plant Physiology	3

Competencies

The Common Curriculum requires students to complete competencies in quantitative skills, second language proficiency, and writing.

Quantitative (Q) Competency

All students must pass two Q courses, which may also satisfy Topic of Inquiry requirements. One Q course must be from Mathematics or Statistics. Students should discuss with their advisor how best to satisfy these requirements based on their background, prior course

preparation and career aspirations. Students whose high school algebra needs strengthening should be encouraged to complete MATH 1011Q Introductory College Algebra and Mathematical Modeling, as preparation for other Q courses. To receive credit for MATH 1011Q Introductory College Algebra and Mathematical Modeling, it must be taken before successful completion of another Q course. In some cases, advisors may recommend postponing registration in a Q course until after the student has completed a semester of course work at the University.

Second Language Competency

Second Language competency is established by either:

1. passing the third-year high school level course in a language other than English, or
2. attaining a Seal of Biliteracy, or
3. the second semester course in the first year sequence of college level study in a language other than English.

When the years of study have been split between high school and earlier grades, the requirement is met if the student has successfully completed the third year high school level course. With anything less than that, the student must pass the second semester course in the first year sequence of college level study in a single language.

Writing (W) Competency

All students must take either ENGL 1007 Seminar and Studio in Writing and Multimodal Composition or ENGL 1010 Seminar in Academic Writing or ENGL 1011 Seminar in Writing through Literature. Additionally, all students must take two writing-intensive (W) courses, which may also satisfy Topic of Inquiry requirements. One of these must be at the 2000-level and associated with the student's major. Approved courses for each major are listed in their sections of this catalog. (Note: ENGL 1007 Seminar and Studio in Writing and Multimodal Composition or ENGL 1010 Seminar in Academic Writing or ENGL 1011 Seminar in Writing through Literature is a prerequisite to all writing-intensive courses).

Note on Additional Competencies

Two additional competencies – Information, Digital, and Media Literacy (IDML) and Dialogue - will be embedded in the curriculum.