Indiana University Bloomington General Education
BL-ACA-H9

About This Policy

Effective Date:
09-16-2008

Last Updated:
09-16-2008

Administering Office:
Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

Scope

Who is affected by this policy or needs to read it. This is a required section.

Policy Statement

The Indiana University Bloomington General Education Program consists of two parts, each of which is viewed by the campus faculty as equally important in the overall undergraduate educational experience: Common Ground and Shared Goals. This two-part structure recognizes that some experiences—critical learning outcomes—are better best fulfilled completed universally by all undergraduates through completion of specific courses, whereas and other important educational components are better defined and experienced within the context of each degree program. Thus, each student has responsibility for fulfilling the course requirements of the Common Ground, whereas the faculty is responsible for developing integrated approaches that incorporate the Shared Goals into each degree program. The faculty in each degree program is responsible for developing the most appropriate ways of incorporating these two components into each degree program. The Common Ground must be incorporated into every degree program. The Shared Goals are recommended for inclusion in every degree program.

I. The Common Ground (Required; up to 31 credits)
All undergraduates must fulfill these requirements by completing coursework that is approved by the General Education Committee (GEC) as supporting defined learning goals within three specific areas: Foundations, Breadth of Inquiry, and World Languages and Cultures.

   a. Foundations
      i. Writing: English Composition:—3 credits
      ii. Mathematical Modeling:—3-4 credits

   b. Breadth of Inquiry
      i. Arts and Humanities:—6 credits
      ii. Social and Historical studies:—6 credits
      iii. Natural and Mathematical Sciences:—5-6 credit hours; either two courses OR-or a single 5-credit course that includes a substantial lab component with at least one course from the Natural Sciences

   c. World Languages and Cultures: 6 credits; either second-year, second semester level of a world language (6 credits) or OR World Culture courses (6 credits) or OR International experience in an approved study abroad (6 credits)

II. Shared Goals

Recommended; to be structured by faculty in each degree program; may be completed by embedding these goals in current curricula, through coursework for credit, or non-credit bearing activities. These components are to be structured by faculty within each degree program and may be embedded within curricula and/or as co-curricular activities. One of the components within the Shared Goals—Diversity in the United States (DUS)—is required, whereas the other three—Intensive Writing, Information Literacy, and Enriching Educational Experiences—are recommended. All Schools and the College should report to the GEC how each of their undergraduate degree programs supports the DUS learning goals within their curricula or as co-curricular activities, and also whether and how they address each of the three recommended Shared Goals.
a. **Diversity in the United States** *(Required component)*

a-b. **Intensive Writing** *(Recommended component)*

b-c. **Information Fluency/Literacy** *(Recommended component)*

c-a. **Diversity in the United States**

d. **Enriching Educational Experiences** *(Recommended component)*; this category includes service learning, internship, capstone project, student teaching, independent research/creative activity program, an approved study abroad experience, honors thesis, show, recital, performance, community service and advocacy, etc.

**History**

Approved: BFC 09/16/08