

Important Curriculum Changes and Reminders

Updated May 2018

GENERAL EDUCATION NOTES

1. First Year Composition Requirement (all degrees)

The first-year composition sequence is: WRIT 100 or WRIT 101 in the fall semester, and WRIT 102 or LIBA 102 in the spring semester. WRIT 100 and WRIT 101 fulfill the same requirement for first semester writing and have the same learning outcome. The main difference between 100 and 101 is class size: WRIT 100 is limited to 15 students who have more one-on-one conferencing with their teacher. WRIT 102 has an emphasis on research and information literacy with themed readings. No other WRIT course and no ENG course will satisfy credit towards the composition requirement.

2. English Literature Requirement (all degrees)

a. All English courses have switched designator from ENGL to ENG and there was a reorganization of courses and numbers.

b. ENG 22x is used for transfer courses that are literature survey courses to fulfill this general education requirement. Acceptable courses are now: ENG 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, and 22x. Please be aware that ENG 2xx does NOT count for this requirement.

3. Modern or Ancient Language Requirement (B.A. or B.S. degrees)

a. Language courses from the Department of Modern Languages or the Department of Classics will fulfill the requirement of 6 hours at the 200-level or higher in one language. Speakers of languages other than English may present documentation to the Department of Modern Languages showing that they studied in high school in that language and will thus fulfill the language requirement. Online and independent study courses may be used to complete the language requirement.

b. Starting fall 2017, all new students to the Spanish sequence must enroll in intensive Spanish 111 and 211 (3 days per week for 2 hours each = 6 credits each). These new courses will allow students to finish their CLA language requirement in only two semesters while giving students more contact with the language each semester. Students that grew up in a Spanish-speaking environment (heritage speakers) should take Spanish 213 and 214 to complete the CLA language requirement. If there are concerns about students already in the 101-202 sequence, please contact Julia Bussade.

c. Another choice is American Sign Language from the UM Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (ASL 101, 102, 201, 202). The College no longer funds sections dedicated to our students, and only ASL courses offered in summer and intersession are open to non-CSD students.

4. Suggested Student Placement in Mathematics Courses

a. The Department of Mathematics suggests that students who have a mathematics ACT sub-score of 25 or higher (or the SAT equivalent – SAT 580 or SATR 600) should not be placed in MATH 121 (College Algebra), but rather take MATH 125 (Basic Math for Science & Engineering), 261 (Calculus I), or 267 (Business Calculus).

b. Students who do not plan to advance to calculus courses may be better served by taking Quantitative Reasoning or Elementary Statistics instead of College Algebra. After completing MATH 261 with a C or higher, students may not receive credit for MATH 121, 125, or 267.

5. Natural Science Lower Division Requirement

- a. Each science course that counts towards the general education requirement must be a minimum of 3 credit hours.
- b. PHYS 107 and 108 are now called Conceptual Physics instead of Physical Science. Physics courses and (formerly) physical science courses are not considered separate areas of science for the general education requirement. Now the catalog statement says: “astronomy or physics” as the separate areas of science to avoid mixing if a student takes two courses from the Department of Physics and Astronomy.
- c. LIBA 150 and 151 (Integrated Science I and II) are interdisciplinary science courses that are laboratory based and will satisfy the general education requirement for the College of Liberal Arts.
- d. There are several basic course sequences that must not overlap in several of the science departments.
 - Students will not receive credit for both ASTR 101 and ASTR 103; or ASTR 101 and ASTR 104; or ASTR 101 and ASTR 204; for ASTR 104 and 204; for ASTR 103 and 204 if taken simultaneously.
 - Students will not receive credit for both GEOL 101 and GEOL 104.
 - Students will not receive credit for both BISC 102 and BISC 160; or BISC 104 and 162.

- Students will not receive credit for both BISC 150 and BISC 160.
- d. CHEM 101 does not satisfy the gen ed requirement for natural science. It is a course that allows for remedial mathematics training, study skills, and some basic chemistry foundations before admission to CHEM 105. It is not a laboratory course – the 4th hour is a recitation hour. The only students who should enroll in the course are those who plan to take CHEM 105 and are not prepared/eligible yet. There is a new prerequisite: Successful completion of DS 099, if required.
- e. Biology and Physics have created similar “drop-down” courses for their basic majors/pre-med sequence.
- Biology created BISC 150.
 - Physics will use Phys 101.
- f. Phys 201. Physics Toolbox is a new course to allow students to take the first course in the calculus-based introductory physics sequence one semester earlier than in the standard curriculum structure. Students could take Phys 201, Phys 211 and Math 261 together in their first semester. Phys 201 includes a lot of problem solving, and focuses on helping students become familiar with how to apply concepts of calculus to physics problems.
- g. We have the following prerequisites for some of the basic science and mathematics courses.
- CHEM 105 – ACT mathematics subscore of 25 (SAT 580 or SATR 600), or B minimum in CHEM 101, or B minimum in MATH 121 and 123, or B minimum in MATH 125 or higher.
 - BISC 160 - ACT mathematics subscore of 25 (SAT 580 or SATR 600), or B minimum in CHEM 101, or B minimum in MATH 121 and 123, or B minimum in MATH 125 or higher.
 - MATH 261 – ACT mathematics subscore of 24 (SAT 560 or SATR 580), of B minimum in MATH 121 and 123; or B minimum in MATH 125.

6. Fine or Performing Arts Requirement (B.A. and B.S. degrees)

a. LIBA 130. Introduction to the Fine Arts is an interdisciplinary course for general education purposes that provides an introduction to the arts with an emphasis on the concepts that the arts share in common. It was a one-time pilot and the faculty must determine if they want to keep teaching it. Unknown at this point.

b. THEA 202 Introduction to Cinema is a general education course that introduces students to major methods of film analysis and important moments in cinema history, while offering a behind-the-scenes look at how films are made.

7. History (all degrees)

The designator changed for all history courses from HIS to HST. There was some reorganization of courses/numbers.

8. Interdisciplinary Transfer Courses.

The College approved a series of courses - Liba 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, and 205L; 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 315L – to use for transfer courses that are interdisciplinary and do not directly match any UM course. Those courses were approved to count for general education requirements as appropriate for all the College degrees.

MAJORS AND MINORS IN THE COLLEGE

1. College students may now complete the **Legal Studies** and **Entrepreneurship** minors.
2. A new interdisciplinary minor in **Disaster Science** was approved for fall 2018.
3. Students completing the B.A. or B.S. in the College may pursue the **Accelerated Law (3+3)** program whereby they begin the first year of law school after their junior year of undergraduate. They will need to be in touch with Student Services in the College (915-7177) as soon as they decide to pursue this program. They must complete the general education, major, minor/related subjects by the end of the junior year and be admitted to the UM School of Law. Students may use their first year law classes to fulfill the general electives for the B.A. or B.S. degree.
4. **African American Studies major** will change from 42 hour major that does not require a minor to a 30 hour major that does require a minor.

5. The Department of Economics created a new **Bachelor of Science in Economics**.

6. The Department of Theatre Arts created a new **film production** emphasis for the B.F.A. degree. Also, the musical theatre and acting emphasis were combined into a new emphasis called **acting for stage and screen**.

6. Majors and Minors in the Same Department

Except for International Studies, Liberal Studies, and Southern Studies, students who complete the B.A. degree in the College of Liberal Arts must complete a minor course of study (or a second major). In a department that offers multiple areas of study, a student may complete the minor course of study (or complete a second major) in the same department as the one in which the student takes his or her major. The one exception is the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

7. Minimum Grade of C Requirements for Majors/Minors

Some majors and/or minors in the College require a minimum grade of C in those department courses used to satisfy graduation requirements for the major or minor. This rule is made effective beginning in a particular semester (indicated below in parenthesis) for all majors and/or minors regardless of when the student first enrolled at the University. ***Please be aware that grades of C- will not fulfill this requirement.***

- African American Studies major (Spring 2005)
- Art major for the B.F.A. degree (Fall 1980)
- Biology major for the B.A. and B.S. degrees (Fall 2001)
- Classics major and minor for the B.A. degree (Fall 2013)
- East Asian Studies minor (Spring 2016)
- Gender Studies minor (Fall 2006)
- History major and minor (Fall 2003)
- International Studies major and minor (Fall 2006)
- Liberal Studies for the B.A. degree (Fall 2001)
- Mathematics major for the B.A. and B.S. degrees (Fall 1995)
- Modern Languages majors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Linguistics and Spanish; and minors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, TESL (most for Fall 2007)
- Music major for the B.A. and B.M. degrees (Fall 2000)
- Philosophy major and minor (Fall 2004)
- Political Science major and minor (Fall 2006)
- Psychology major and minor (Fall 2018)
- Religious Studies major and minor (Spring 2009)
- Society & Health minor (Fall 2016)
- Theatre Arts major for the B.A. and B.F.A. degrees and the minor (Spring 2001)

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

New change: A student who returns after an academic suspension or dismissal will automatically be on academic probation. ~~No work earned elsewhere during the suspension or dismissal will be used either in the calculation of the candidate's academic status, nor transferred as credit toward a degree.~~

Therefore, students may take courses at other institutions during the time they are on dismissal/suspension, and they may transfer back to UM.

1. Developmental Studies courses do not count towards degree requirements even as elective credit. No course under the number 100 counts towards a degree at UM. However, they will show on the transcript, and the credit hours are totaled into the overall hours and the grades are calculated in the GPA - - so beware!

2. Dual Credit. UM students may take courses at other institutions. In order to guarantee that the credit will transfer and apply to the students' degree program, the student must obtain written approval from his or her academic dean before

enrolling in the course at another institution. Prior approval protects students by determining if and how credits earned elsewhere may satisfy degree requirements. Students who do not receive prior approval risk not being awarded transfer credit if the courses do not equate to UM courses, do not satisfy degree requirements, are not accredited with SACS-COC or professional accrediting bodies, or other UM rule conflicts.

3. Multiple Majors and Bachelor Degrees....and (not) Double Counting Courses.

Beginning with the Fall 2013 semester, the University has a new policy on multiple majors and degrees. Students who wish to receive a second bachelor's degree can only do so if the second degree is of a different degree type, such as a B.A. in History and a B.B.A. in Marketing or a B.A. in Classics and a B.S. in Biology. Students who wish to complete the majors in English and History, for example, may only receive one degree – the B.A. Both majors will show up on the transcript but the student will only receive one diploma. Note that students will no longer be allowed to earn both the B.A. and B.S. in the same discipline, such as the B.A. and B.S. in Biological Science or the B.A. and B.S. in Chemistry.

The College of Liberal Arts clarified its rule that the same course may not count towards two majors, or for the majors for two degrees, or for a major and a minor. No double counting a course under those circumstances. However, a course may double count between a general education requirement and either the major or the minor.

4. Repeating a Course

With the exception of courses that are specifically indicated to be repeatable for credit, students may repeat courses taken at the university according to the following requirements:

- the first or prior courses must have been completed with a grade of B-, C+, C, C-, D, F, Z or P;
- a course with an Incomplete grade cannot be repeated;
- a lower division course may be repeated twice (e.g., three attempts) and an upper division or graduate course may be repeated once; exceptions to these numbers of attempts must be approved by the chair controlling the course;
- letter grades for all attempts will appear on the student's permanent academic record and will be calculated into the student's cumulative GPA (unless the Forgiveness Policy is invoked for the course);
- credit toward a degree will be granted only once;
- if a student passes a course at the university and then fails the course on a repeated attempt, the passing attempt will apply to degree requirements;
- individual schools may establish more restrictive requirements for their majors.

5. Forgiveness Policy (revision effective Fall 2018)

An undergraduate student may improve his or her overall GPA by invoking forgiveness or exclusion on a maximum of four courses (not to exceed 14 credit hours) in which the student received a grade of C-, D or F and requesting that the original grade be excluded from the GPA calculation. If the course has been repeated, the repeat must be in the same course and must be taken at The University of Mississippi in fall 1992 or later. Under the forgiveness policy, a maximum of two courses (not to exceed 7 hours) in which the student received a grade of C-, D or F may be excluded from the student's GPA calculation without repeating the course. See the catalog for the full policy.

6. Declaring a Major

When entering the university, a student may choose a degree program (major) or be in Freshman Studies. Students who have completed at least 12 hours at the university and who wish to declare a major or switch majors must have at least a 2.0 overall GPA (resident GPA) on these hours and must have at least a 2.0 GPA on all work attempted at other institutions. Individual degree programs and schools may impose a higher entering resident GPA requirement or selection criteria and academic deans may approve exceptions to the above GPA requirement. Students must also declare a major upon completion of 45 credit hours.

If a student is within two semesters of graduation and is below the required 2.0 GPA to declare the desired major in the College of Liberal Arts, he or she can appeal this rule by submitting a degree application for graduation to the Student Services office in the College of Liberal Arts along with a note of explanation.

7. Withdrawal Policy.

Liberal Arts Student Services has many requests for a late withdrawal after the deadline each semester. A request to drop a partial course load is rarely approved by the Dean's Office and must include an "extreme and unavoidable emergency" as stated in the academic catalog. An example of when a request is approved would be if a student with a broken foot

needed to drop a dance course. Many students come to the Dean's office with prior approval to withdraw given by the instructor. Only the Dean's Office can give permission to withdraw so this can result in conflicting information to a student. If a student stops attending because an instructor accidentally gives wrong information regarding the withdrawal policy, they will receive an F in the class. Once the regular semester is over, the approval must come from the Office of the Provost.

Catalog Language - Late Withdrawal from a Course

After the course withdrawal deadline, a student may drop a course only in cases of extreme and unavoidable emergency as determined by the student's academic dean. Unacceptable reasons for late withdrawal include dissatisfaction over an expected grade or a change in a student's degree program or major. In no case may a class be dropped after the last regular class day in any semester, session, or term. Courses dropped after the course withdrawal deadline will still appear on the student's official transcript. The W mark will be recorded if the student is passing the course at the time of withdrawal; the F grade will be recorded if the student is failing.

8. Credit by Exam. (Revision effective Fall 2018)

A student may be granted college level credit for the following types of learning, examinations, or experiences. The total number of hours one may earn through credit-by-examination (Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate, Advanced Standing Exams, and military credit) is no more than half of the total hours required for the degree program. The grade of Z is granted for these courses, which count as transfer credit. The credits will be posted to a student's academic record upon enrollment.