

The College of Arts and Sciences

GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The General Education Program, which is required for the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Bachelor of Science degrees, is a carefully designed plan of study which provides the Converse graduate with a broad foundation in the liberal arts. Students who complete this program should be able to

1. solve problems using skills of quantitative and qualitative analysis
2. take a variety of ideas and put these together to develop a logical, coherent thesis
3. demonstrate effective oral communication
4. demonstrate effective written communication
5. demonstrate improvement in physical coordination
6. demonstrate knowledge of the development of ideas and culture in human development
7. exhibit an understanding of their place in the global community
8. experience and understand the role of technology in society
9. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a variety of modes of reasoning, methodologies, ideas, and values in various disciplines

Internships and courses designed primarily to prepare students for certification or professional examination are not included in the GEP.

Courses that are available for general education credit and which may also be taken for credit in the major, minor, or a career preparation area may be used to satisfy both requirements, **but a course may not be used to satisfy more than one requirement within the General Education Program.**

GEP requirements in place at the time a student is admitted will be valid for a period of eight years from the date of the last time of enrollment.

Category I: Competencies (to develop competencies in analysis, synthesis, communication, and physical coordination) Each student must meet the competency requirements listed below by completing the specified course or by exemption as described.

English—English 101: Composition

Exemption and Placement: Students will be exempted

from English 101 by demonstrated proficiency.

Introduction to Foreign Language and Culture—The equivalent of two years at the college level of foreign language. Converse College does not accept American Sign Language courses in fulfillment of the Foreign Language and Culture requirement. This may be satisfied in the following manner:

1. Students must possess upon entrance or achieve at Converse, a competence equal to that achieved by completing the first year of the college level of a foreign language.
2. Students must attain a second-year level of proficiency in the language. This second requirement will be met by the successful completion of the 202 course in the language.

Exemption and Placement: The following students will be exempted from the requirement:

1. Students who have satisfactorily completed a four-year high school proficiency level in one language validated by a test and oral interview
2. Students who have scored a 4 or better on the Advanced Placement Test in Foreign Language
3. Students who complete English 98 and 99: English as a Second Language

Students who have satisfactorily completed three years of high school foreign language or two years as either juniors or seniors may be placed in the intermediate level courses. Placement in intermediate level courses will be contingent upon successful completion of a placement preview examination. A student may opt to move to a level lower than (below) the one she has been initially placed in, but no credit will be granted for work performed at the lower level and the student will be considered as auditing the course. Students scoring a 3 on the Advanced Placement Test will be placed at the 201 level. If a student speaks a language other than English as her native language, she may use it as her foreign language if she can produce documentation of having received instruction in that language. Acceptable documentation is defined as a letter from a school official and/or a transcript.

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Mathematics—MTH 105 or higher

Exemption and Placement: Students may be exempted from the mathematics requirement by demonstrated proficiency.

Computer Literacy—CSC 101

Exemption and Placement: Students may be exempted from Computer Science 101 by demonstrated proficiency. Students majoring in music may satisfy this requirement by taking MMD 101: Music Technology and Research. **Students who have successfully passed any 200 level computer science course are exempted from Computer Science 101 and must have the approval of the Chair of the Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science to take Computer Science 101.**

Physical Education—

Two courses chosen from different areas (team sports, individual sports, and dance). Beyond the two required activity courses, additional courses may be taken every term. However, only two of these additional courses will count toward the total of 120 hours required for graduation.

Exemption Policy: Students 24 years of age or older at the time of admission to Converse are excused from the physical education requirement.

Exemption Policy: 24 year old women

Students may also exempt one physical education class based upon fulfilling one of the conditions listed below:

1. verification of participation in a school-sponsored competitive sport for four years with a letter from the coach of the team. Evidence for exemption must be presented no later than the end of the freshman year.
2. Verification of participation in an intercollegiate sport, Dance Ensemble, or Tarpon Sharks for one year with a letter from the coach/director in the area.

Public Speaking—THR 120

Exemption: Students will be exempted from Public Speaking by demonstrated proficiency.

Exemption will be based upon fulfilling one of the conditions listed below:

1. the completion of a public speaking course with a grade of B or better in high school
2. verification of participation in a debate team

with a letter by the coach of the team

3. passing a proficiency test during orientation

Category II: Ideas and Culture 150, 151

IDC 150 and IDC 151 are a year-long course required of all Converse students in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Ideas and Culture 150

A chronological investigation of events and concepts that have shaped humanity until the 1500's. While incorporating history, art, architecture and music, the course focuses mainly upon primary texts of religion, philosophy and literature. *This course is required of all students to meet the Category II GEP requirement. Offered during fall term; must be completed by the end of the sophomore year.*

Ideas and Culture 151

A chronological investigation of event and concepts that have shaped humanity from the 1500's until the present. While incorporating history, art, architecture and music, the course focuses mainly upon primary texts of religion, philosophy, science, and literature. *This course is required of all students to meet the Category II GEP requirement. Offered during spring term; must be completed by the end of the sophomore year. The successful completion of IDC 150 is a prerequisite for enrolling in IDC 151.*

Category III: Studies in the Disciplines

(to introduce students to a variety of disciplines, modes of reasoning, methodologies, ideas, and values)

Students are required to take the specified number of three- or four-hour general education courses from each of the five academic areas listed below. At least two courses from different academic areas must be at the 200 level or above. Courses that count for GEP credit are marked with an asterisk (*). Applied courses are not available for GEP credit. Any course cross-listed with a course that meets a GEP requirement in Category III may be taken for GEP credit under its cross-listed title. **Within each academic area, each course must be in a different discipline.** The academic areas from which the 200 level GEP courses may be taken are listed as follows:

Fine Arts—Two courses from Art Appreciation

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or History, Music Appreciation, American Popular Music, Film Music, or Music History, Introduction to Theatre, the Living Theatre, or **Theatre History, History of Dance, Studies in Film, or Mythic Images in World Art.**

Students seeking certification to teach must take Art Appreciation or Art History.

Humanities—Two courses from history, philosophy, religion, Introduction to Women’s Studies, or Cultural Convergence.

Literature—One literature course to be selected from English or foreign language (in translation or upper level literature course in the language). Literature in translation courses used to satisfy the foreign language and culture requirement **MAY NOT** be used to satisfy the literature requirement.

Natural Sciences and Computer Science—Two laboratory courses from two of the following disciplines: astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, geology, or physics.

Social Sciences—Two courses from economics, politics, psychology, or sociology.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

The Advanced Placement Tests of the College Entrance Examination Board: Converse grants credit to students who submit acceptable scores (3 or above) from Advanced Placement Tests. The specific conditions for each subject will be explained by the Director of Advising.

International Baccalaureate:

Converse grants credit to students who submit acceptable scores on the International Baccalaureate examination. The specific conditions will be explained by the Director of Advising.

General Limitations and Conditions on Credit by Examination:

Converse will grant no more than 30 semester hours of credit by examination to any student.

THE DOUBLE MAJOR

A double major consists of course requirements for the major in each of two academic subjects. Four or fewer courses that are cross-listed or that are required for both majors

may count toward the satisfaction of the major requirements in the two majors.

INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR (IM)

Students with interdisciplinary academic interests linking at least three departments may design degree programs that reflect those interests. Individualized Majors must be designed in conjunction with the student’s academic advisor and with the approval of the department chair in each participating department. After departmental approval, students must submit their proposal for approval by the Curriculum Committee. Students must complete the design and approval process prior to the end of the sophomore year.

This program is designed for highly motivated students. Each IM proposal must show a clear theme that justifies granting an exception to single or dual major programs and must provide a list of proposed courses linked by that theme. The Curriculum Committee must approve any subsequent changes in the approved list of courses. All students choosing the IM option must complete

1. All GEP requirements
2. At least sixteen major courses (at least five courses in each of three disciplines), including a seminar-level course in at least two different disciplines
3. A capstone project linking all disciplinary areas of the IM, designed by the student with the advice of faculty members in each area. A presentation of the project will be scheduled during the spring term of the senior year, with all members of the college community invited to attend. A committee composed of the student’s academic advisor and the department chair in each participating department will evaluate the capstone project. The project will be graded as high pass, pass, or fail, with a “pass” or better required for graduation. The capstone project will be given three credit hours as Directed Independent Study.

IM students will be encouraged to incorporate collaborative undergraduate research and Honors work in their course of study.

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Due to the number of requirements involved, students completing degrees in professional programs (B.M., B.F.A.) will not be able to complete an IM. However, students may combine areas of music or art in IM programs aiming at completion of a B.A. degree, with the approval of the Dean of the Petrie School of Music (for Music) or the Chairperson of the Department of Art and Design (for Art).

TWO DEGREES

Converse College offers the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts (visual arts, only), Bachelor of Music, and Bachelor of Science. Students may complete two degrees; however, this is usually a complicated and demanding process. Students planning to earn two degrees should talk with their advisers as soon as they know they want to seek two degrees.

It is the responsibility of each student to know and meet the requirements for the completion of her degree.

MINORS

Departments may offer one or more minor programs that students may elect in addition to the required major and the general education program. Minors consist of a minimum of 18 semester hours in a planned program of study within a given department. Refer to the portion of the catalog devoted to the departments for specific information about minor programs offered. The College permits interdisciplinary minors, which require a minimum of 21 semester hours in planned programs between two (or more) departments. To fulfill requirements in the majors or minors, any course taken at another institution must be approved by the department chair responsible for the particular major or minor.

ELECTIVES

Elective courses are those which are taken, not to satisfy the requirements of the general education program, the major, or the minor, but to make up the 120 hours necessary for the bachelor's degree. Students choose these courses according to their own preferences from the general curriculum. Students who plan to seek admission to graduate professional schools, such as law or medicine,

should consult the section titled "Career and Pre-Professional Programs," on page 116.

ALTERNATE YEAR COURSES

Some courses are offered only in alternate years. As they plan ahead to take any particular course, students should confer with the department chair to confirm the date when the course will next be offered.

TRANSPORTATION

Converse College does not provide transportation to off-campus classes and events.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION KEY TO THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

- 100-199. Introductory courses
 - 200-299. Intermediate courses
 - 300-499. Advanced courses
 - 500-699. Graduate courses
 - 101:102. Indicates a course for which credit is not given unless the work of two terms has been completed.
 - 101-102. Indicates a course for which credit for one term may be given but which may not be entered after the first term.
 - 101, 102. Indicates a course which may be entered in any term.
- *The asterisk indicates a course that is offered for credit toward satisfaction of General Education requirements.*
- 400/500. Indicates a course offered for both undergraduate and graduate credit.

A student may enter a course at a level higher than that normally permitted her class with the permission of her major professor or academic adviser and the instructor of the course.

The College reserves the right not to offer courses for which the enrollment is fewer than five.

Any student applying for academic accommodation under Section 504 must apply to the Director of the Academic Support Center thirty days prior to the first day of class.