

LE Reform Framework adopted on April 21, 2011 and approved revisions as of November 11, 2011

A Flexible Framework for GE/LE

Proposal text:

Students will achieve the Liberal Education Learning Outcomes in the following ways:

Liberal Education Courses and Experiences

Completion of **42 credits** of Liberal Education (LE) course work that will include the natural sciences (at least 2 courses), the social sciences (at least 2 courses), and the humanities & creative arts (at least 2 courses). This course work is comprised of at least **18 credits of integrative learning** experiences and up to **24 credits of liberal education electives**.

Integrative Learning experiences may include thematic bundles, which center on fundamental questions and are defined, developed, and delivered by a team of educators, linked courses, interdisciplinary courses, liberal studies courses, or other courses noted by "INT" in the catalog. Integrated learning courses meet both the integrative learning outcomes and the liberal education learning outcomes.

Liberal Education courses are noted as "LE" in the catalog.

Students will complete:

A. Fundamental Skills and Competencies

1. Mathematics competency. See current catalog.
2. First-Year Writing Requirement: One semester of college-level composition or equivalent.
3. Communication-intensive requirement: one course or equivalent.
4. Ethical Reasoning (1 course, at least 1 credit). At least one course which includes a focus on all the following topics (from the AAC&U Ethical Reasoning VALUE rubric): ethical self-awareness, understanding different ethical perspectives/concepts, ethical issue recognition, application of ethical perspectives/concepts, and evaluation of different ethical perspectives/concepts. A minimum of one credit of the course must be dedicated to these topics. Courses meeting these requirements are by "ER" in the catalog.

B. Liberal Education Breadth Requirements

5. Arts and Humanities (2 courses outside the student's major, at least 6 credits)
6. Social Sciences (2 courses outside the student's major, at least 6 credits)
7. Natural Sciences (2 courses outside the student's major, at least 6 credits)
8. Two courses in race, class, and/or gender equity studies. At least one of which will focus on the following ethnic groups in the United States: African-American, Native American, Asian-American, and Latino/a-American consistent with the UW-System's "Cultural Diversity graduation requirement. Courses meeting this requirement are noted by "RCG" in the catalog.
9. One global learning course or a study abroad experience. Courses meeting this requirement are noted by "GL" in the catalog.

No more than two courses of the 42 credits of LE course work may be completed from any single departmental or program course prefix.

C. Additional Requirements

10. One immersion experience. Immersion experiences may be completed by either coursework or non-coursework activities. The following experiences may meet the immersion experience criteria: study abroad, domestic intercultural immersion (including relatively short, inexpensive options), faculty mentored scholarly / creative activity, national student exchange, internships, student teaching, and clinical / field experience. Courses meeting the immersion experience requirement are noted by "IM" in the catalog.
11. 30 hours of service learning

Together, the integrative learning experiences and the liberal education electives satisfy both the need for disciplinary breadth and the array of learning outcomes.