Overview

General Education

Developed by both faculty and students, the University's General Education Program is an introduction to the breadth and depth of the dynamics of human experience. It provides students with a foundation in the liberal arts and sciences and prepares them for specialized study in a particular discipline or program.

The overall objective of General Education is to create a context wherein basic skills are developed and strengthened, scholarship and disciplined thinking emerge, awareness and reflection occur, and ultimately - the integration of knowledge begins.

In the 2021-2022 academic year, Area F - Ethnic Studies was added to the General Education Breadth program per EO1100. Along with this update, American Government has been changed to a University requirement and is no longer a part of the General Education program. Effective fall 2021, the new General Education program will be in place. Students who fall under earlier catalog years follow the General Education requirements as their catalog year specifies.

In the 2018-2019 academic year, the university conducted a major revision of the General Education program per EO1100revised. All students enrolling in the university as first-time freshmen beginning fall 2018 and after, and all transfer students entering fall 2018 or after who elect to adopt the 2018-2019 catalog, will be required to complete this new General Education Program. Students who fall under earlier catalog years follow the 1999-2000 General Education requirements.

All freshmen and transfer students admitted to Fresno State for the first time in Fall 2018 and later are required to submit assignments and reflections to the G.E. Program ePortfolio as part of their G.E. requirements. Additional information about the specific requirements for freshmen and transfer students (which are different) can be found in a Canvas course and within the G.E. Program ePortfolio in which students are automatically enrolled. Students admitted prior to Fall 2018, even if they are readmitted after Fall 2018, are not required to complete a G.E. Program ePortfolio.

Foundation, Breadth, and Integration

The General Education Program is an integrated curriculum of courses organized into four groups:

Lower-Division

FOUNDATION, the basic foundation of one's university education, consists of courses in fundamental skills and knowledge. *Purpose: An educated person must be able to read critically, communicate effectively, and think clearly.*

BREADTH exposes students to a variety of disciplines within a structured framework that develops knowledge in four basic areas of human endeavor.

Area B (Physical Science) – *Purpose: To understand and actively explore fundamental principles in the Physical Sciences and the methods of developing and testing hypotheses used in the analysis of the physical universe.*

Area B (Life Science) – *Purpose: To understand basic concepts of living things, the nature of scientific knowledge, and the relevance of biological knowledge to human affairs.*

Area C (Arts) – *Purpose: To develop an appreciation and understanding of and to stimulate imagination and creativity through study and participation in art, dance, music, and theatre.*

Area C (Humanities) – *Purpose: Through the study of the humanities, to understand, appreciate, and analyze the meaning of our civilization, its cultural background, and the nature and role of language. To study the humanities from a variety of historical perspectives and cultures by analyzing individual works.*

Area D (Social, Political, and Economic Institutions and Behavior, Historical Background) – *Purpose: To understand and analyze the basic principles underlying human social behavior.*

Area E (Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development) – *Purpose: To equip human beings for lifelong understanding and development of themselves as integrated physiological and psychological entities*. **Area F** (Ethnic Studies) - *Purpose: Ethnic Studies is the interdisciplinary and comparative study of race and ethnicity with special focus on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina and Latino Americans.*

Upper-Division

INTEGRATION ties together the Program by providing an integrative experience at the upper-division level in three areas of breadth. All courses are upper-division.

Purpose: The Integration component of General Education is included to provide instruction at the upper division level that integrates material from each of the BREADTH areas B and C.

Requirements

The General Education Program requires students to complete a minimum of 49 semester units. All requirements must be met with courses of at least three semester units. The requirements include: four courses in FOUNDATION, nine courses in BREADTH, and three upper-division INTEGRATION courses. These three upper-division courses should be taken no sooner than the term in which 60 units of college coursework are completed. A minimum of 9 units of coursework for General Education must be taken in residence (see Residence Requirements) at California State University, Fresno.

Because the goal of General Education is to provide a solid foundation with a broad scope and the goal of the major is to provide depth in a specific discipline or program, the following stipulations apply:

- 1. Foundation courses must be completed with a grade of C or better to satisfy the General Education requirement.
- 2. A maximum of two General Education courses from one department or program may be applied to satisfy **Breadth** requirements.

Writing in General Education Courses

The university's General Education Program requires that almost all courses in the program have substantial iterative writing assignments.

All Foundation courses except those in Quantitative Methods (B4) and all Breadth courses will require iterative writing assignments totaling at least 1,000 words.

All upper-division courses (IB, IC, and ID) will require iterative writing assignments totaling at least 2,000 words.

Prerequisites

- A2 is prerequisite to C2, D1, and D2*
- B4 is prerequisite to B1
- A1, A2, A3 and B4 are prerequisite to IB, IC, and ID

**Note*: A2 is a prerequisite only for students who are in college-readiness English placement category III or IV. See advisor for details.

FULL LIST

General Education in A-F Format

While the revised General Education Program is presented here in terms of FOUNDATION, BREADTH, and INTEGRATION, it relates simply to the A-F format widely used throughout the state as indicated by the course prefixes in the table. The following list shows GE courses by areas.

FOUNDATION

Foundation - Oral Communication

- COMM 3 Fundamentals of Public Communication (Area A1)
- COMM 6H Rhetoric for Autonomy and Collaboration in the Marketplace of Ideas (Area A1)
- COMM 7 Persuasion (Area A1)
- COMM 8 Group Discussion (Area A1)
- HONOR 20 Public Communication and Civic Engagement (Area A1)

Foundation - Written Communication

• ENGL 5B - Academic Literacy II (Area A2)

- ENGL 10 Accelerated Academic Literacy (Area A2)
- ENGL 10H Honors Accelerated Academic Literacy (Area A2)

Foundation - Critical Thinking

- AFRS 20 Critical Thinking About Race (Area A3)
- ANTH 30 Critical Thinking in Anthropology (Area A3)
- CLAS 30 Critical Thinking in Chicano and Latin American Studies (Area A3)
- COMM 5 Argumentation (Area A3)
- CSCI 1 Critical Thinking and Computer Science (Area A3)
- CSM 10 The Scientific Method (Area A3)
- GEOG 25 Critical Thinking in Geography (Area A3)
- INTD 50 Critical Thinking on Global Issues (Area A3)
- NSCI 4 Science and Nonsense: Facts, Fads, and Critical Thinking (Area A3)
- NSCI 4H Science and Nonsense; Critical thinking and the philosophy of science (Area A3)

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- PHIL 25 Methods of Reasoning (Area A3)
- PHIL 35H Logic for Autonomy and Collaboration in the Marketplace of Ideas (Area A3)
- PHIL 45 Introduction to Logic (Area A3)
- SOC 3 Critical Thinking About Society (Area A3)
- SOC 3S Critical Thinking About Society (Area A3)
- WS 12 Critical Thinking: Gender Issues (Area A3)

Foundation - Quantitative Reasoning

- CRIM 50 Statistical and Computer Applications in Criminal Justice (Area B4)
- DS 71 Quantitative Analysis (Area B4)
- DS 72 Foundations of Data Science (Area B4)
- MATH 6 Precalculus (Area B4)
- MATH 10A Structure and Concepts in Mathematics I (Area B4)
- MATH 10AL Structure and Concepts in Mathematics I w/Support (Area B4)
- MATH 11 Elementary Statistics (Area B4)
- MATH 11L Elementary Statistics w/Support (Area B4)
- MATH 45 What Is Mathematics? (Area B4)
- MATH 45L What Is Mathematics w/Support (Area B4)
- MATH 70 Calculus for Life Sciences (Area B4)
- MATH 75 Calculus I (Area B4)
- MATH 75A Calculus with Review IA (Area B4)

BREADTH

Breadth - Physical Sciences

- CHEM 1A General Chemistry 1A (Area B1)
- CHEM 1AL General Chemistry Laboratory 1A (Area B1)
- CHEM 3A Introductory General Chemistry (Area B1)
- CHEM 10 Chemistry and Society (Area B1)
- CHEM 10H Chemistry & Society (Area B1)
- EES 1 Natural Disasters and Earth Resources (Area B1)

- EES 1V Natural Disasters and Earth Resources Virtual Labs (Area B1)
- EES 4 Environmental Science (Area B1)
- EES 8H Natural Disasters and Earth Resources (Area B1)
- PHYS 2A General Physics (Area B1)
- PHYS 4A Mechanics and Wave Motion (Area B1)
- PHYS 4AL Laboratory in Mechanics and Wave Motion (Area B1)
- PHYS 10 Conceptual Physics (Area B1)
- PSCI 21 Elementary Astronomy (Area B1)

Breadth - Physical Sciences Liberal Studies Only

• NSCI 1A - Integrated Science: Physics and Chemistry (Area B1LS)

Breadth - Life Sciences

- BIOL 1A Introductory Biology (Area B2)
- BIOL 10 Life Science (Area B2)
- BIOL 10H Life Science (Area B2)
- BIOL 11 Plant Biology (Area B2)
- BIOL 12 Animal Biology (Area B2)
- HONOR 21 Science Communication (Area B2)

Breadth - Arts

- ARMS 20 The Arts of Armenia (Area C1)
- ART 1 Art Forms (Area C1)
- ART 20 Drawing (Area C1)
- ART 40 Painting (Area C1)
- ART 50 Beginning Sculpture (Area C1)
- ARTH 10 The Ancient Medieval Worlds (Area C1)
- ARTH 11 The Early Modern World (Area C1)
- ARTH 12 Asian Art (Area C1)
- CLAS 9 Chicano Artistic Expression (Area C1)
- DRAMA 22 Oral Interpretation of Literature (Area C1)
- DRAMA 62 Theatre Today (Area C1)
- DRAMA 75H Theatre in Contemporary American Culture (Area C1)
- ENGL 41 Poetry Writing (Area C1)
- ENGL 42H Creative Writing (Area C1)
- ENGL 43 Fiction Writing (Area C1)
- ENGL 44 Creative Nonfiction Writing (Area C1)
- HONOR 10 Beginning Workshop in the Writing of Poetry Global Culture, History and Values (Area C1)
- MCJ 9 Film Appreciation (Area C1)
- MUSIC 9 Introduction to Music (Area C1)
- MUSIC 9A Introduction to Music (Area C1)
- MUSIC 60H Music in Social Context (Area C1)
- MUSIC 74 Listener's Guide to Music (Area C1)
- MUSIC 75 History of Rock and Roll (Area C1)

Breadth - Humanities

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- ARAB 1A Elementary Arabic A (Area C2)
- ARAB 1B Elementary Arabic B (Area C2)
- ARM 1A Elementary Armenian (Area C2)
- ARM 1B Elementary Armenian (Area C2)
- ARM 2A Intermediate Armenian (Area C2)
- CHIN 1A Elementary Chinese 1A (Area C2)
- CHIN 1B Elementary Chinese (Area C2)
- CSDS 90 Deaf American Literature (Area C2)
- CSDS 92 American Sign Language II (Area C2)
- ENGL 20 Introduction to Literature (Area C2)
- ENGL 30 Readings in World Literature (Area C2)
- FREN 1B Elementary French (Area C2)
- FREN 2A French for Communication (Area C2)
- FREN 2B French for Communication (Area C2)
- GERM 1B Elementary German (Area C2)
- GERM 2A Intermediate German (Area C2)
- GERM 2B Intermediate German (Area C2)
- GRK 1A Elementary Greek (Area C2)
- GRK 1B Elementary Greek (Area C2)
- HEBR 1A Basic Hebrew (Area C2)
- HMONG 1A Basic Hmong (Area C2)
- HMONG 1B Basic Hmong (Area C2)
- HONOR 11 Introduction to the Humanities Global Culture, History and Values (Area C2)
- HUM 10 Humanities from Antiquity to the Renaissance (Area C2)
- HUM 10H Intro Humanities of the Western World (Area C2)
- HUM 11 Humanities from the Baroque to the Modern (Area C2)
- HUM 15 Classical Myth and World Humanities (Area C2)
- HUM 20 Introduction to Hispanic Literature (Area C2)
- ITAL 1A Elementary Italian (Area C2)
- ITAL 1B Elementary Italian (Area C2)
- ITAL 2A Intermediate Italian (Area C2)
- ITAL 2B Intermediate Italian (Area C2)
- JAPN 1A Elementary Japanese (Area C2)
- JAPN 1B Elementary Japanese (Area C2)
- LATIN 1A Elementary Latin (Area C2)
- LATIN 1AH Honors Elementary Latin (Area C2)
- LATIN 1B Elementary Latin (Area C2)
- LING 10 Introduction to Language (Area C2)
- PERS 1A Elementary Modern Persian (Area C2)
- PERS 1B Elementary Modern Persian B (Area C2)
- PHIL 1 Introduction to Philosophy (Area C2)
- PHIL 2 Exploring Religious Meaning (Area C2)
- PHIL 10 Self, Religion, and Society (Area C2)

- PHIL 20 Moral Questions (Area C2)
- PORT 1A Elementary Portuguese (Area C2)
- PORT 1B Elementary Portuguese (Area C2)
- SPAN 1B Elementary Spanish (Area C2)
- SPAN 2A Spanish for Communication (Area C2)
- SPAN 2B Spanish for Communication (Area C2)
- SPAN 3 Reading and Writing (Area C2)
- SPAN 4A Spanish for the Bilingual Student (Area C2)
- SPAN 4B Spanish for the Bilingual Student (Area C2)

American History

- HIST 11 American History to 1877 (Area D1)
- HIST 12 American History from 1877 (Area D1)
- HIST 15H Trials of Century (Area D1)
- HONOR 12 U.S. in the Twentieth Century World Global Culture, History and Values (Area D1)

Social Science

- AFRS 10 Introduction to Africana Studies (Area D2)
- AFRS 15 Slavery and the American Experience (Area D2)
- AFRS 27 Africana Cultures and Images (Area D2)
- AGBS 1 Introductory Agricultural Economics (Area D2)
- AIS 50 Contemporary Life of the American Indian (Area D2)
- ANTH 2 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Area D2)
- ANTH 3 Introduction to Prehistory and Physical Anthropology (Area D2)
- ARMS 10 Introduction to Armenian Studies (Area D2)
- CFS 31 Introduction to Family Science (Area D2)
- CRIM 10 Crime, Criminology, and Justice (Area D2)
- CSDS 98 Introduction to Hard of Hearing and Deaf People (Area D2)
- ECON 25 Introduction to Economics (Area D2)
- ECON 40 Principles of Microeconomics (Area D2)
- ECON 50 Principles of Macroeconomics (Area D2)
- GEOG 2 Introduction to Cultural Geography (Area D2)
- GEOG 4 World Geography (Area D2)
- GEOG 81 Introduction to Community Planning (Area D2)
- HIST 20 World History I (Area D2)
- HIST 21 World History II (Area D2)
- HONOR 13 Human Fragility and Cultural Transcendence-Global Culture, History and Values (Area D2)
- IT 20 Technology and Society (Area D2)
- JS 10 Jewish Civilization (Area D2)
- MCJ 1 Mass Communication and Society (Area D2)
- MES 10 Introduction to Modern Middle East (Area D2)
- PLSI 1 Modern Politics (Area D2)
- PLSI 71H Introduction to Environmental Politics (Area D2)
- PSYCH 10 Introduction to Psychology (Area D2)
- PSYCH 62H Introduction to Social and Cultural Psychology (Area D2)

- SOC 1 Principles of Sociology (Area D2)
- SOC 1S Principles of Sociology (Area D2)
- WS 10 Introduction to Women's Studies (Area D2)
- WS 11 Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies (Area D2)

Lifelong Understanding & Self Development

- ART 13 Design (Area E)
- ASCI 67 Animals and Society (Area E)
- CFS 38 Life Span Development (Area E)
- CFS 38H Honors Lifespan Development (Area E)
- CFS 39 Introduction to Child Development (Area E)
- CSM 15 Evidence Based Decision Making (Area E)
- DANCE 16 Introduction to Dance (Area E)
- DANCE 70 Balance BodyMind (Area E)
- DRAMA 32 Introduction to Acting (Area E)
- FIN 30 Personal Financial Planning (Area E)
- GERON 10S Journey of Adulthood: Planning a Meaningful Life (Area E)
- GERON 18 Women and Aging (Area E)
- GERON 111 Heritage and Aging (Area E)
- KINES 32 Lifetime Fitness and Wellness (Area E)
- LING 30 Language through the Lifespan (Area E)
- NUTR 53 Nutrition and Health: Realities and Controversies (Area E)
- NUTR 53H Nutrition and Health (Area E)
- PAX 110 Peace Building (Area E)
- PH 90 Contemporary Health Issues (Area E)
- PH 91 Human Sexuality (Area E)
- PH 110 Drugs, Society, and Health (Area E)
- PHIL 32H Life, Death, and Afterlife (Area E)
- PSYCH 61 Personal Adjustment (Area E)
- RA 80 Lifelong Learning in the Natural Environment (Area E)
- UNIV 1 An Introduction to Learning and the University (Area E)
- WS 18 Women and Aging (Area E)

Ethnic Studies

- AFRS 68 Black Protest from Emmett Till to Breonna Taylor (Area F)
- AIS 5 American Indian History (Area F)
- AIS 103 California American Indians (Area F)
- ANTH 120 Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S. (Area F)
- ANTH 175 Asian American and Asian Cultural Studies (Area F)
- ASAM 10 Asian American Newspapers and Mass Media (Area F)
- ASAM 15 Introduction to Asian Americans (Area F)
- ASAM 20 Asian Americans in Media and Popular Culture (Area F)

- ASAM 50 Contemporary Asian American Issues (Area F)
- ASAM 120 Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S. (Area F)
- ASAM 175 Asian American and Asian Cultural Studies (Area F)
- ASAM 185 Asian American Politics, Education and Theory (Area F)
- CLAS 3 Introduction to Chicano/Latino Studies (Area F)
- CLAS 5 Chicanx Culture and History (Area F)
- CLAS 120 Latina/o Cultural Changes (Area F)
- CLAS 128 Latinix Politics (Area F)
- CLAS 163 Latinx in Education (Area F)
- MCJ 6 Asian American Newspapers and Mass Media (Area F)

INTEGRATION

Physical Universe & Its Life Forms

- ANTH 161 Bio/Behavioral Evolution of the Human Species (Area IB)
- CHEM 170 Chemistry in the Marketplace (Area IB)
- CSCI 100 Introduction to Computational Science (Area IB)
- EES 102 Sedimentology (Area IB)
- EES 112 Planet Earth through Time (Area IB)
- EES 167 Oceans and Atmosphere and Climate (Area IB)
- EES 168 California's Earth System (Area IB)
- GEOG 115 Violent Weather/Climatic Hazards (Area IB)
- GEOG 128 Environmental Pollution (Area IB)
- GEOG 129 Environmental Impact Assessment (Area IB)
- NSCI 115 Environmental Earth and Life Science (Area IB)
- NSCI 120 Biotechnology and Its Impact on Society (Area IB)
- NSCI 121 Blood: Science, Art, and Folklore (Area IB)
- NSCI 125 Revenge of the Killer Microbes (Area IB)
- PH 161 Environment and Human Health (Area IB)
- PHYS 100 Concepts of Quantum Physics (Area IB)
- PLANT 105 Food, Society, and Environment (Area IB)
- PSCI 131 Concepts of Classical Physics from Babylon to Maxwell (Area IB)
- PSCI 168 Energy and the Environment (Area IB)
- SOC 158 Environmental Sociology (Area IB)

Arts & Humanities

- AFRS 129 African American Literary Classics (Area IC)
- AH 105 Arts and Humanities Study Abroad Experience (Area IC)
- ARM 148 Masterpieces of Armenian Culture (Area IC)
- ART 102 Ideas of Visual Culture: Art, Media, and the Computer (Area IC)
- ARTH 140 Arts of Southeast Asia (Area IC)
- CLAS 130 Latinx Culture and Media Studies (Area IC)
- DANCE 171 Philosophical Bases and Trends in Dance (Area IC)
- DRAMA 163 Dramatic Literature (Area IC)
- DRAMA 188TZ British Theatre (Area IC)

- ENGL 101 Masterpieces of World Literature (Area IC)
- ENGL 102 Masterpieces of English Literature (Area IC)
- ENGL 102WZ Masterpieces of English Literature (Area IC)
- ENGL 103 Masterpieces of American Literature (Area IC)
- ENGL 112 World Literature: Ancient (Area IC)
- ENGL 113 World Literature: Medieval and Renaissance (Area IC)
- ENGL 114 World Literature: Modern (Area IC)
- ENGL 174 Popular Fiction (Area IC)
- ENGL 174Z Popular Fiction London in Literature (Area IC)
- FREN 109 French Literature, Culture, and Society from the Middle Ages to Today (Area IC)
- FREN 124 The French Esthetic (Area IC)
- FREN 125 French and Francophone Film (Area IC)
- FREN 149 Voices of Africa (Area IC)
- HUM 104 Humanities in the Middle Ages and Renaissance (Area IC)
- HUM 108 Humanities in Classical Athens (Area IC)
- HUM 110 Humanities in Republican and Imperial Rome (Area IC)
- HUM 118 Folklore in Contemporary Life (Area IC)
- HUM 120 Genocide, Memory and Media (Area IC)
- HUM 129 Mexican Culture (Area IC)
- IAS 108 Interdisciplinary Arts Studies (Area IC)
- LING 115 Language, Culture, and Society (Area IC)
- LING 130 Language and Gender (Area IC)
- LING 138 History of the English Language (Area IC)
- MUSIC 170A Music of the Americas: Latin America (Area IC)
- MUSIC 171 Introduction to the World's Music (Area IC)
- MUSIC 171Z Introduction to the World's Music (Area IC)
- MUSIC 187 Pop Music: Jazz and Rock (Area IC)
- MUSIC 187Z Pop Music: Jazz and Rock (Area IC)
- PHIL 120 Contemporary Conflicts of Morals (Area IC)
- PHIL 150 Foundations of Knowledge (Area IC)
- PHIL 151 Cognitive Science: Mind (Area IC)
- PORT 101 Portuguese and Brazilian Literatures (Area IC)
- PORT 102 Cultures of the Azorean Isles (Area IC)
- PORT 103 European and Latin American Film: Portugal and Brazil (Area IC)
- SPAN 125 Hispanic Cultural Productions (taught in Spanish) (Area IC)
- SPAN 129 Mexican Culture (taught in Spanish) (Area IC)
- WS 110 Representations of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (Area IC)
- WS 111 LGBTQ+ Representation in Film & Video (Area IC)

Social, Political & Economic Institutions

- AFRS 144 Race Relations (Area ID)
- AGBS 155 Environmental and Natural Resource Policy (Area ID)
- ANTH 116W Anthropology of Religion (Area ID)
- ANTH 145 Cultural Resources Management (Area ID)

- ARTH 143 Kingdoms of Monsoon Asia (Area ID)
- CLAS 114 Mexico and the Southwest 1810-1910 (Area ID)
- CLAS 115 Mexico-U.S. Relations Since 1910 (Area ID)
- CM 124 Construction Labor Relations (Area ID)
- CRIM 101 Crime and Violence in America (Area ID)
- CRIM 120 Juvenile Delinquency (Area ID)
- CRIM 120S Juvenile Delinquency (Area ID)
- ECE 118 Microprocessor Architecture and Programming (Area ID)
- ECON 146 Economics of Crime (Area ID)
- ECON 167 Contemporary Socioeconomic Challenges (Area ID)
- ECON 176 Economics Themes in Film (Area ID)
- ECON 183 Political Economy of the Middle East (Area ID)
- FBS 153 Psychology of Criminality (Area ID)
- GEOG 133 Environmental Policy Management (Area ID)
- GEOG 173 The American West (Area ID)
- GEOG 184 Environmental Planning (Area ID)
- GERON 100 Images of Aging in Contemporary Society (Area ID)
- HIST 101 Women in History (Area ID)
- HIST 154 Jewish American Popular Culture (Area ID)
- HONOR 102 Revolutions in Natural and Social Sciences (Area ID)
- JS 154 Jewish American Popular Culture (Area ID)
- KINES 111 The Olympic Games (Area ID)
- MCJ 175 Stereotypes and Representation in Media (Area ID)
- MCJ 178 New Media Technologies (Area ID)
- MCJ 180 Water and Strategic Media (Area ID)
- PAX 100 Peace and Conflict Studies (Area ID)
- SOC 131 Sociology of Sex and Gender (Area ID)
- SOC 143 Deviance and Control (Area ID)
- SOC 163 Urban Sociology (Area ID)
- SSCI 110 California Studies (Area ID)
- WS 101 Women in History (Area ID)
- WS 124 Gender and Sexuality in Education (Area ID)
- WS 149 Gender Law & Social Policy (Area ID)