

## SWOSU GENERAL EDUCATION OBJECTIVES

The General Education Curriculum at SWOSU will prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of life beyond the university experience. Graduates should leave SWOSU with a broad knowledge of the social and natural world, a keen sense of self, an awareness of their membership in a global society, and an understanding of what it means to be thoughtful and responsible citizens.

SWOSU graduates will need to rely on their abilities to think critically, creatively, and independently. They will need to adapt, to recognize opportunities, and to engage with the world around them. Empowered citizens must challenge preconceptions, assess the validity of evidence, ask thoughtful questions, and propose defensible answers. The SWOSU General Education Curriculum is our commitment to nurturing these skills, capabilities, and habits.

### Goal One - Communication and Computer Literacy

*Rationale: Because effective communication is fundamental to academic and career success, students must develop exemplary oral, written, and electronic communication skills.*

- a) Communicate effectively in written and electronic formats for a variety of audiences, using appropriate grammar and clear and cohesive thought.
- b) Communicate through presentation for a variety of audiences, demonstrating clear and cohesive thought.
- c) Demonstrate ability to use computers and information technologies for information inquiry and complex problem solving.

### Goal Two - Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning

*Rationale: Responsible citizens need to evaluate information in order to make decisions and describe relationships using logical reasoning based on observed, intuitive, scientific, theoretical, and other forms of data.*

- a) Understand and describe the importance of logical and empirical methods to draw conclusions.
- b) Learn and apply basic laws, methods, and concepts of the sciences to solve issues encountered by society.
- c) Analyze scientific discoveries and the advancement of technology with respect to its impact on social change.
- d) Solve real-world problems by applying appropriate strategies and the use of logical reasoning.

### Goal Three – Aesthetic Experience, History, and Humanities

*Rationale: Students should be able to observe and reflect on cultural works, make connections between the present and the past, and sharpen their ability to make sense of the world around them.*

- a) Explain and evaluate the social impact of important landmark contributions and creative works.

- b) Analyze the relationship of important historical movements in the arts and humanities and compare the similarities in those movements across the various arts and humanities.
- c) Explore ways in which individuals, groups, institutions, governments and/or societies behave and influence one another.
- d) Understand how past events and actions have influenced or affected current events, scholarly knowledge, and societies.
- e) Analyze key historical events and their impact on social, cultural, and global change.

### Goal Four - Social Groups, Social Issues, Cultures, and Globalization

*Rationale: Educated citizens should be able to discern and reflect upon the broader impact of their individual actions.*

- a) Think critically about issues such as globalization, sustainability, multiculturalism, political and governmental context, privilege, difference/similarity, prejudice and discrimination within a global context.
- b) Apply social/cultural theories and perspectives to past and present societies and their impact on real-life circumstances.
- c) Display knowledge and understanding of international interaction and strategies to enhance global integration.
- d) Exhibit knowledge of a variety of cultures, including both majority and non-majority groups, and their interconnectedness within U.S. and global society.

### Goal Five - Intellectual and Professional Aptitudes

*Rationale: Students should master professional skills, the single most important aspect of employability and productivity.*

- a) Critical Thinking: Construct a systematic investigation of content, theories, and practices and evaluate the application and effects to real life settings.
- b) Creativity: Develop and design an authentic project or creative works related to academic content.
- c) Collaboration: Collectively engage in activities and contribute information and resources to accomplish group goals.
- d) Community Connection: Participate in community service, and through self-reflection and investigation identify solutions to problems experienced by the service site.
- e) Communication: Explain views in written or electronic formats or through presentations that clearly articulate the intended meaning.
- f) Relevance: Understand the importance of a liberal arts education in the modern world.

## 2019-2020 GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

### Communication ..... 9

- ENGL 1113 English Composition I  
 ENGL 1213 English Composition II  
 COMM 1313 Introduction to Public Speaking **OR**  
 TECH 3143 Technical Presentations (*if permitted by degree program*)

### Quantitative Reasoning ..... 3

*Select one course.*

- MATH 1143 Mathematical Concepts  
 MATH 1153 Mathematical Applications  
 MATH 1193 Elementary Statistics  
 MATH 1313 Functions and Modeling  
 MATH 1513 College Algebra  
*or a higher numbered math course*

### U. S. History ..... 3

*Select one course.*

- HIST 1043 U.S. History to 1877  
 HIST 1053 U.S. History since 1877

### American Government..... 3

- POLSC 1103 American Government & Politics

### Science ..... 7-8

*Select one course from Life Science and one course from Physical Science. One Science course must be a lab science.*

#### Life Science ..... 3-4

- BIOL 1004 Biological Concepts w/Lab  
 BIOL 1013 Current Issues in Biology  
 BIOL 1054 Principles of Biology I w/Lab

#### Physical Science..... 3-4

- ASTRO 1904 Astronomy  
 CHEM 1004 General Chemistry w/Lab  
 GEOL 1934 Physical Geology w/Lab  
 PHY 1044 Basic Physics I w/Lab  
 PHY 1063 General Physics (*or a higher numbered chemistry or physics course*)  
 SCI 1501 Concepts of Physical Science Lab  
 SCI 1513 Conc of Phy Science (*can be taken w/wo lab*)

### Humanities and Social Science.....12

*Select one course from each sub-category and one additional course from any subcategory below.*

#### Humanities ..... 3

- GEOG 1103 World Cultural Geography  
 HIST 1033 World History  
 HUM 1103 Introduction to Humanities

#### Fine Arts ..... 3

- ART 1223 Art Survey  
 COMM 1263 Introduction to Theatre  
 LIT 2333 Introduction to Film  
 LIT 2413 Introduction to Literature  
 MUSIC 1013 Introduction to Music I  
 MUSIC 1103 Music and Culture (*Music majors only*)  
 MUSIC 1123 History of Rock-n-Roll  
 PHILO 1453 Introduction to Philosophy

#### Social and Human Sciences ..... 3

- ASL 2163 American Sign Language I  
 ECONO 2263 Intro to Macroeconomics  
 ECONO 2363 Intro to Microeconomics  
 ENTRP 1123 Intro to Business  
 FINAN 2113 Personal Financial Planning  
 ITAL 1004 Elementary Italian I  
 KINES 1133 Wellness Conc & Exercise Applications  
 LATIN 1054 Elementary Latin I (*or higher number*)  
 PSYCH 1003 General Psychology  
 SOCIO 1003 Introduction to Sociology  
 SPAN 1054 Elementary Spanish I (*or higher number*)  
 TECH 1223 Technology and Society

### Computer Proficiency..... 0-3

COMSC 1023 Computers and Info Access, or a department-assigned course which satisfies the Computer Proficiency in the major, or the SWOSU Proficiency Exam, or HS course clearly defined to meet our goals.

### GE Elective ..... 0-3

Students who meet the computer proficiency by exam or HS course must choose an additional GE course from any category.

### TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION HOURS ..... Min. 40

#### General Education Guidelines

- All students must complete an approved General Education program in order to graduate from a college or university in the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. At Southwestern Oklahoma State University, because of differing curriculum and/or accreditation requirements, some degree programs follow slightly different course sequences than the General Education requirements listed on this page. **The specific General Education requirements approved for each degree program are listed with the academic requirements.**
- Students entering Southwestern must meet General Education requirements listed in the current catalog for graduation. (For certification and license requirements, refer to specific programs.)
- Courses satisfying General Education course requirements cannot be used to satisfy requirements in the major, major/minor, and/or minor.
- Some General Education course requirements may be met via CLEP, AP, International Baccalaureate, and other advanced standing tests.
- A maximum of 10 credit hours of General Education credit may be substituted through alternative courses. Any substitution of alternative courses must address all General Education outcomes indicated for the General Education course for which the substitution is requested. All alternative courses must be approved by the appropriate academic departments for course content equivalency and the General Education Committee.
- Mid-level assessment is accomplished within the General Education courses. Faculty use curriculum-embedded methods such as exams, papers, projects, etc. for improvement of instruction.