In the liberal arts tradition, General Education: The Human Community aspires to create informed global citizens of the 21st century. We challenge our community of students and faculty to engage in personal and collective reflection, development, and action.

All undergraduate students, regardless of their major or pre-professional program, must complete 41 credit hours of general education coursework.

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Cluster One: Skills for the 21st Century
(9 Credit Hours and Information Literacy Requirement)

Cluster One is the cornerstone of The Human Community at JMU in that students develop skills that facilitate inquiring, learning, thinking and communicating in their personal, academic and civic lives. All first year students must complete Cluster One, which includes three courses and the Information Literacy Requirement, during their first year at JMU.

INFORMATION LITERACY REQUIREMENT

These two tests are Cluster One and Graduation requirements. All first year and transfer students must complete them as per the designated deadlines. For more information go to [http://www.jmu.edu/gened/infor_lit_general.html](http://www.jmu.edu/gened/infor_lit_general.html)

- Technology Competency Test (Tech Level I)
  - deadline for completion 11/20/2009
- Information Seeking Skills Test (ISST)
  - deadline for completion 04/23/2010

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Complete one course in each of three areas *(courses may be taken in any order):*

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**Critical Thinking** - Choose one of the following:

- GBUS 160  Business Decision Making in a Modern Society
- GHIST 150  Critical Issues in Recent Global History
- GISAT 160  Problem Solving Approaches in Science and Technology
- GMAD 150  Mediated Communication: Issues and Skills
- GPHIL 120  Critical Thinking

**Human Communication** - Choose one of the following:

- GCOM 121  Human Communication: Presentations
- GCOM 122  Human Communication: Individual Presentations
- GCOM 123  Human Communication: Group Presentations

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**Writing**

- GWRTC 103  Critical Reading and Writing *(formerly GWRIT 103)*
Cluster Two: Arts and Humanities
(9 Credit Hours)

Cluster Two shows students what it means to live lives enriched by reflection, imagination, and creativity. It does so by offering each individual a multidisciplinary experience within the arts and humanities, those areas of endeavor that humans have long valued for their intrinsic worth and that invite a deeper appreciation of the human experience.

Complete one course in each of three areas (courses may be taken in any order):

___ Human Questions and Contexts - Choose one of the following:

☐ GAMST 200 Introduction to American Studies
☐ GANTH 205 Buried Cities and Lost Tribes
☐ GHIST 101 World History to 1500
☐ GHIST 102 World History Since 1500
☐ GHUM 102 God, Meaning, and Morality
☐ GHUM 250 Foundations of Western Culture (options include: Greek, Renaissance)
☐ GHUM 251 Modern Perspectives (options include: Enlightenment, Romanticism, Human Rights)
☐ GHUM 252 Cross-Cultural Perspectives (options include: East Asian, West African, Latin American, Islamic)
☐ GPHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy
☐ GREL 101 Religions of the World

___ Visual and Performing Arts - Choose one of the following:

☐ GART 200 Art in General Culture
☐ GARTH 205 Survey of World Art I: Prehistoric to Renaissance
☐ GARTH 206 Survey of World Art II: Renaissance to Modern
☐ GMUS 200 Music in General Culture
☐ GMUS 203 Music in America
☐ GMUS 206 Introduction to Global Music
☐ GTHEA 210 Introduction to Theatre

___ Literature - Choose one of the following:

☐ GENG 235 Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century
☐ GENG 236 Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern
☐ GENG 239 Studies in World Literature
☐ GENG 247 Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War
☐ GENG 248 Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period
☐ GENG 260 Survey of African-American Literature
☐ GHUM 200 Great Works (topics vary by course section)

Study Abroad for General Education

Many courses offered in JMU’s Study Abroad Programs fulfill General Education requirements. For details, consult the Study Abroad link at http://www.jmu.edu/gened.html. Dr. Margaret M. Mulrooney (mulroomm@jmu.edu), Associate Dean, University Studies, can provide additional information about these and other study abroad opportunities.
Cluster Three: The Natural World
(10 Credit Hours)

Cluster Three provides students with the opportunity to develop problem-solving skills in science and mathematics at the college level. Students will be introduced to a substantial body of scientific facts, concepts, models, and theories and will also gain experience in using basic mathematics to obtain knowledge about the natural world.

Select Track I or Track II

Track I:
Complete one course in each of three groups and the Lab Requirement. Courses may be taken in any order, except courses denoted by an asterisk (*) which require a Group 1 (mathematics) and/or Group 2 (science) prerequisite or corequisite. (See 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog course descriptions for specific requirements.)

__Group 1 - Choose one of the following:

- GISAT 151 Analytic Methods I: Topics in Applied Calculus for ISAT
- GISAT 251 Analytic Methods III: Topics in Statistics for ISAT
- MATH 103 The Nature of Mathematics
- MATH 205 Introductory Calculus I
- MATH 220 Elementary Statistics
- MATH 231 Calculus with Functions I
- MATH 235 Calculus I

__Group 2 - Choose one of the following:

- CHEM 120 Concepts of Chemistry
- CHEM 131 General Chemistry I (CHEM 131L required lab corequisite)
- GISAT 112 Environmental Issues in Science and Technology (includes lab)
- GSCI 101* Physics, Chemistry and the Human Experience
- GSCI 121 The Physical Nature of Light and Sound (includes lab)
- PHYS 140 College Physics I (PHYS 140L required lab corequisite)
- PHYS 215* Energy and the Environment
- PHYS 240 University Physics I (PHYS 140L required lab corequisite)

__Group 3 - Choose one of the following:

- ASTR 120 The Solar System (formerly PHYS 120)
- ASTR 121 Stars, Galaxies and Cosmology (formerly PHYS 121)
- BIO 114 Organisms (includes lab)
- BIO 270* Human Physiology (includes lab)
- GANTH 196 Biological Anthropology
- GBJO 103 Contemporary Biology
- GEOL 110 Physical Geology (includes lab)
- GEOL 200 Evolutionary Systems (includes lab)
- GEOL 210 Applied Physical Geology
- GEOL 211 Introduction to Oceanography
- GGEOL 102 Environment: Earth
- GGEOL 115 Earth Systems and Climate Change (formerly GSCI 115)
- GISAT 113 Issues in Science and Technology: Living Systems
- GPSYC 122 The Science of Vision and Audition

__Lab Requirement - Choose one of the following:

- Group 2 course that includes a lab
- Group 3 course that includes a lab
- GSCI 104* Scientific Perspectives (some sections have pre- or corequisites)

Track II: (This track primarily serves IdLS majors):
Complete all of the following:
MATH 107 must be taken prior to GSCI 163; GSCI 161 and 162 are corequisites; GSCI 163 and 164 are corequisites. Corequisite pairs may be taken in any order.

- MATH 107 Fundamentals of Mathematics I
- GSCI 161 Science Processes
- GSCI 162 The Science of the Planets
- GSCI 163 The Matter of Matter
- GSCI 164 Physical Science: Learning Through Teaching
- GSCI 165 The Way Life Works
Cluster Four: Social and Cultural Processes  
(7 Credit Hours)

Cluster Four helps students become critical thinkers about their own societies and the larger global community. These courses examine the key social and cultural processes and structures that shape the human experience.

Complete one course in each of two areas (courses may be taken in any order).

___The American Experience (4 credit hours) - Choose one of the following:
- GHIST 225  U.S. History
- GJUST 225  Justice and American Society
- GPOSC 225*  U.S. Government

___The Global Experience (3 credit hours) - Choose one of the following:
- GAFST 200  Introduction to Africana Studies
- GANTH 195  Cultural Anthropology
- GECON 200  Macroeconomics
- GGEOG 200  Geography: the Global Dimension
- GPOSC 200*  Global Politics
- GSOCI 110  Social Issues in a Global Context  (formerly GSOCI 210)

* Students who enroll in both GPOSC 225 and GPOSC 200 may only count one of these courses for General Education credit.

Cluster Five: Individuals in the Human Community  
(6 Credit Hours)

Cluster Five helps students learn about themselves as individuals and as members of different communities. Students explore how individuals develop and function in the social, psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual dimensions.

Complete one course in each of two areas (courses may be taken in any order).

___Wellness - Choose one of the following:
- GEIC 101  The Wellness Dimension: Individual Perspectives
- GHTH 100  Personal Wellness
- GKin 100  Lifetime Fitness and Wellness  
  (fitness options include swim conditioning, cardio/strength, yoga, boot camp or others)

___Sociocultural Dimension - Choose one of the following:
- GEIC 102  The Sociocultural Dimension: Community Perspective
- GPSYC 101  General Psychology
- GPSYC 160  Life Span Human Development
- GSOCI 140  Microsociology: The Individual in Society  (formerly GSOCI 240)

Questions?
Contact the General Education Program via email at gened@jmu.edu or call 540/568-2852.  
For additional information about the General Education Program, visit our website at  
http://www.jmu.edu/gened/