

GENERAL EDUCATION

The Human Community

Catalog Year 2026-2027

Madison Foundations

NOTE: This area must be completed before the end of your first year at JMU.

CRITICAL THINKING: C1CT (choose one)

- **BUS 160** Applied Critical Thinking in Business
- **EDUC 102** Critical Questions in Education
- **HIST 150** Critical Issues in Recent Global History
- **ISAT 160** Problem Solving Approaches in Science and Technology
- **PHIL 120** Critical Thinking
- **PHIL 150** Ethical Reasoning
- **SMAD 150** Mediated Communication: Issues and Skills
- **UNST 300 & Other Integrative Options** Juniors/seniors who still need C1CT should enroll in an Integrative course. *More information here.*

HUMAN COMMUNICATION: C1HC (choose one)

- **SCOM 121** Fundamental Human Communication: Presentations
- **SCOM 122** Fundamental Human Communication: Individual Presentations
- **SCOM 123** Fundamental Human Communication: Group Presentations

WRITING: C1W (choose one)

- **WRTC 103** Rhetorical Reading and Writing

Sociocultural and Wellness Area

WELLNESS DOMAIN: C5WD (choose one)

- **HTH 100** Personal Wellness
- **KIN 100** Lifetime Fitness and Wellness

SOCIOCULTURAL DOMAIN: C5SD (choose one)

- **PSYC 101** General Psychology
- **PSYC 160** Life Span Human Development
- **SOCI 140** Microsociology: The Individual in Society
- **WGSS 200** Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- **EDUC 175** Learning, Behavior and Engagement in Context

Arts and Humanities

HUMAN QUESTIONS AND CONTEXTS: C2HQC (choose one)

- **AMST 200** Introduction to American Studies
- **ANTH 205** Buried Cities and Lost Tribes HIST 101 World History to 1500
- **HIST 101** World History to 1500
- **HIST 102** World History since 1500
- **HUM 250** Foundations of Western Culture
- **HUM 251** Modern Perspectives
- **HUM 252** Global Cultures
- **LAXC 252** Introduction to Latin American, Latinx and Caribbean Studies
- **PHIL 101** Introduction to Philosophy
- **REL 101** Religions of the World
- **REL 102** Religion, Spirituality, and the Meaning of Life

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS: C2VPA (choose one)

- **ART 200** Art Today: Themes in Contemporary Art
- **ARTH 204** Art, Power and Society
- **ARTH 205** Survey of World Art I: Prehistoric to Renaissance
- **ARTH 206** Survey of World Art II: Renaissance to Modern
- **DANC 215** The Dance Experience
- **MUS 200** Music and Culture
- **MUS 203** Music in America
- **MUS 206** Introduction to Global Music
- **THEA 210** Introduction to Theatre

LITERATURE: C2L (choose one)

- **ENG 221** Literature and Ideas
- **ENG 222** Literature and Genres
- **ENG 235** Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century
- **ENG 236** Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern
- **ENG 239** Studies in World Literature
- **ENG 247** Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War
- **ENG 248** Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period
- **ENG 260** Survey of African-American Literature
- **HUM 200** Great Works of Literature

NOTES & RESOURCES

- Total number of credits needed in Gen Ed: 41
- View course descriptions [here](#).

American and Global Perspectives

NOTE: POSC 200 and POSC 225 cannot both be used to satisfy this area.

THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: C4AE (choose one)

- **HIST 225** U.S. History
- **JUST 225** Justice and American Society
- **POSC 225** U.S. Government

The Global Experience: C4GE (choose one)

- **AAAD 200** Introduction to African, African American and Diaspora Studies
- **ANTH 195** Cultural Anthropology
- **ECON 200** Introduction to Macroeconomics
- **GEOG 200** Geography: The Global Dimension
- **POSC 200** Global Politics
- **SOCI 110** Social Issues in a Global Context

The Natural World

NOTE: Some Physical Principles & Natural Systems courses have labs embedded (which fulfill the Lab Experience requirement as well), and some have separate lab prerequisites; see notes in parentheses for specific course requirements.

QUANTITATIVE REASONING: C3QR (choose one)

- **ISAT 151** Topics in Applied Calculus in ISAT
- **ISAT 251** Topics in Statistics in ISAT
- **MATH 103** The Nature of Mathematics
- **MATH 105** Quantitative Literacy and Reasoning
- **MATH 110** Math for Elementary & Middle School Teachers I
- **MATH 205** Applied Calculus
- **MATH 220** Elementary Statistics
- **MATH 229** Introduction to Applied Statistics Using R
- **MATH 231** Calculus with Functions I
- **MATH 235** Calculus I

PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES: C3PP (choose one)

- **ASTR 120** The Solar System
- **ASTR 121** Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology
- **CHEM 120** Concepts of Chemistry
- **CHEM 131** General Chemistry (*take with CHEM 131L*)
- **ENVT 101** Perspectives in Envt. Science
- **ISAT 100** Environmental and Energy Sustainability
- **ISAT 112** Environmental Issues in Science and Technology (*includes lab*)
- **ISCI 101** Physics, Chemistry and the Human Experience
- **ISCI 172** Physical Science for Teachers (*IdLS, some COE majors only*)
- **PHYS 121** The Physical Nature of Light and Sound (*includes lab*)
- **PHYS 125** Physics with Biological Applications
- **PHYS 140** College Physics I (*take with PHYS 140L*)
- **PHYS 215** Energy and the Environment
- **PHYS 240** University Physics I (*take with PHYS 240L*)

NATURAL SYSTEMS: C3NS (choose one)

- **ANTH 196** Biological Anthropology (*can take with ANTH 196L, but not required*)
- **BIO 103** Contemporary Biology
- **BIO 140** Foundations of Biology I (*take with BIO 140L*)
- **BIO 270** Human Physiology (*take with BIO 270L*)
- **GEOL 102** Environment: Earth
- **GEOL 110** Physical Geology (*take with GEOL 110L*)
- **GEOL 115** Earth Systems and Climate Change (*take with GEOL 115L*)
- **GEOL 210** Applied Physical Geology
- **GEOL 211** Introduction to Oceanography
- **ISAT 113** Biotechnical Issues in Science & Technology (*take with ISAT 113L*)
- **ISCI 171** Earth & Planetary Sciences for Teachers (*IdLS, some COE majors only*)

LAB EXPERIENCE: C3L (if not included in C3NS/C3PP choice)

- **ANTH 196L** Biological Anthropology Lab (*take with ANTH 196*)
- **BIO 140L** Foundations of Biology I Lab (*take with BIO 140*)
- **BIO 270L** Human Physiology Lab (*take with BIO 270*)
- **CHEM 131L** General Chemistry Lab (*take with CHEM 131*)
- **GEOL 110L** Physical Geology Lab (*take with GEOL 110*)
- **GEOL 115L** Earth Systems and Climate Change Lab (*take with GEOL 115*)
- **ISAT 113L** Biotechnical Issues in Science & Technology Lab (*take with ISAT 113*)
- **ISCI 104** Scientific Perspectives
- **ISCI 173** Life & Environmental Science for Teachers (*IdLS, some COE majors only*)
- **PHYS 125L** Physics with Biological Applications Lab (*take with PHYS 125*)
- **PHYS 140L** General Physics Lab I (*take with PHYS 140*)
- **PHYS 240L** University Physics Lab I (*take with PHYS 240*)

- How to: [search for class by requirement in MyMadison](#)
- Questions? Contact gened@jmu.edu
- Last revised 4/4/2025

WHEN SHOULD I COMPLETE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS?

