

General Education Requirements

Part of earning a college degree is getting a well-rounded education.

Most colleges require all students to take a year or two of general education requirements that range across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines. A “core” curriculum encourages students to widen their intellectual horizons, and develop a broad base of knowledge. General education courses guide students into a deeper understanding of themselves, their responsibilities as citizens, and they provide the knowledge and skills on which to build a richer appreciation of the world. Additionally, the required courses provide the academic foundation and the skills to prepare students for the rigors of the more advanced and specialized work in a major.

The requirements for an academic program or “major” will include some general education courses. It is recommended that new students who have never attended college before begin with Gen Ed courses. These courses are more likely to satisfy degree requirements and transfer to other schools. Some courses are noted as “gateway” courses meaning that they are pre-requisites for other courses.

At MxCC, each degree program in the College requires that a minimum of 33 percent of the courses be in the liberal arts. The liberal Arts include the broad categories of humanities, fine arts, social, science, science and mathematics. Many students ask what courses constitute “Humanities.” Courses that fall under the Humanities category are Fine Arts, Communication, English, Languages and Philosophy.

In addition, MxCC recognizes the importance of information literacy: the ability to understand, navigate, and use information effectively. Accordingly, MxCC has established competencies in information literacy that students should attain upon graduation. Courses that require some form of library project or research paper, and includes a class session on information access by the library staff are called “L” courses.

Similarly, a diversity or “D” course is designed to foster understanding, open-mindedness, and the valuing of others through an appreciation of human differences. This may include race, ethnicity, culture, religion, national origin, as well as class, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical disability or other considerations.

MxCC students must have had two “L” courses and one “D” course by the time they have completed 60 credits.