

## MEMO

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FROM: Reimagining General Education Leadership Team (Contact: Katie Hartman)  
SUBJECT: **2021-22 Undergraduate Catalog Language**  
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The purpose of this document is to provide an outline of BRICKS Language for the Undergraduate Catalog.

### General Education Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees

Ohio University believes that, as an educated person, you need certain intellectual skills in order to participate effectively in society. These include the ability to:

- *Build* connections between yourself and others through teamwork and intercultural knowledge.
- *Reason* quantitatively, critically, and ethically.
- *Integrate* learning between knowledge and experience.
- *Communicate* effectively in writing and speech.
- *Know* the materials and methods of inquiry in arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.
- *Synthesize* skills and knowledge across the curriculum.

To help you meet these objectives, Ohio University has instituted a five-category General Education requirement known as BRICKS. Courses offer learning opportunities to achieve breadth of knowledge and common goals learning outcomes. All baccalaureate degree students (except those in Honors Tutorial College) must complete Ohio University's BRICKS requirements.

### Foundations Requirements

Foundations ground general education. Foundation courses provide you with opportunities to learn to communicate effectively through writing, to reason quantitatively, and to build global and domestic intercultural knowledge and competence.

**Written Communication.** Three credit hours of Written Communication coursework is required. Either ENG 1510 or 1610 (for non-native English speakers only) will satisfy the written communication requirement.

**Advanced Writing.** Three credit hours of Advanced Writing coursework is required. This catalog contains a complete list of Advanced Writing course marked with the designation (FAW) as the general education code. To identify capstone courses, simply place AW in the keyword or phrase search. It may be possible to fulfill this requirement by taking at least three credit hours in your major; you should see your major advisor for information as to whether your discipline offers such a course or courses.

**Quantitative Reasoning.** You must demonstrate or acquire an acceptable level of quantitative reasoning to satisfy graduation requirements. The University uses your ACT or SAT (see chart below) math score to determine your skill level for placement or exemption unless the Tier I quantitative reasoning requirement has been satisfied by transfer or advanced placement credit. Students in some majors are required to have a math placement regardless of transfer or advanced placement credit in order to meet requisite requirements. The choice of the course in which you should enroll, if any, depends on your major, catalog of entry, and math placement, and it should be discussed with your academic advisor.

Athens Campus and eCampus students without ACT scores, SAT scores, advanced placement, or a transferable math course must take a math placement test which is available through the ALEKS placement system. Athens Campus and eCampus students who would benefit academically from beginning in a higher math class than their

original placement indicates are also welcome to use the ALEKS placement system. Athens Campus and eCampus students should direct questions to the [Mathematics Department](#) at 740.593.1254. Regional and eCampus students should contact their student services offices for math placement information.

Math Placement Level	Minimum ACT Math Score Needed	Minimum SAT Math Score Needed <small>(Test taken before March 2016)</small>	Minimum SAT Math Score Needed <small>(Test taken March 2016 or later)</small>
DV	0	0	0
PL1	20	480	510
PL2	24	560	570
PL3	30	680	690

To enroll in any mathematics (MATH) or other Quantitative Reasoning course, you must either place at the specific level required for that course or satisfy the appropriate requisites. Quantitative Reasoning courses are marked in this catalog with the designation (FQR) as the general education code.

Placement levels are:

- **DV** (Developmental): Placement at this level indicates the need for further preparation before enrolling in a Tier I quantitative skills course. You must complete [MATH D004](#) or [MATH D005](#) before enrolling in a quantitative reasoning course.
- **PL1** (Placement Level 1): Placement at this level indicates preparation for any of the following courses that will fulfill quantitative reasoning: [[List courses here](#)]
- **PL2** (Placement Level 2): Placement at this level indicates preparation for Level 1 courses as well as these additional quantitative reasoning courses: [[List courses here](#)]  
*Note: [MATH 1300](#) is the requisite course for [MATH 2301](#). [MATH 1300](#) is **not** recommended unless you plan on enrolling in [MATH 2301](#). Students cannot earn credit for both [MATH 1350](#) and [2301](#).*
- **PL3** (Placement Level 3): Placement at this level demonstrates quantitative skill competence sufficient to fulfill the quantitative reasoning requirement. If your major requires that you enroll in a quantitative reasoning course, placement at Level 3 indicates preparation for [MATH 2301](#) and any course in Level 1 or 2. A Level 3 placement does not guarantee a waiver of college or major requirements in mathematics. Contact your college student services office to see if a college waiver is in effect for your major.

**Intercultural Explorations.** Two credit hours of Intercultural Exploration coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Intercultural Explorations requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (FIE) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

## Pillars Requirements

Pillars support breadth of knowledge. Pillar courses provide you with opportunities to learn the acquire subject-matter knowledge and learn the methods of inquiry associated with the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. Through breadth of knowledge, Pillar courses will enable you to explore multiple viewpoints, ideas, and disciplines important for any career.

**Humanities: Texts and Contexts.** Three credit hours of Humanities: Texts and Contexts coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Humanities: Texts and Contexts requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (PHTC) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Humanities: Arts.** Three credit hours of Humanities: Arts coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Humanities: Arts requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (PHA) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Natural Sciences.** Three credit hours of Natural Science coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Natural Sciences requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (PNS) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Social or Behavioral Sciences.** Three credit hours of Social or Behavioral Science coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Social or Behavioral Sciences requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (PSBS) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

## Arches Requirements

Arches span disciplinary perspectives. Arch courses provide you with opportunities to explore a single topic through multiple liberal arts disciplines. Arch courses also offer opportunities for you to develop your critical thinking and teamwork skills. To complete the requirement, you are required to take at least three credit hours from Connected World, Constructed World, and Natural World courses listed below.

**Connected World.** Three credit hours of Connected World coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Connected requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (ACNW) as the general education code: [[List courses here](#)]

**Constructed World.** Three credit hours of Constructed World coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Constructed World requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (ACSW) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Natural World.** Three credit hours of Constructed World coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Constructed World requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (ANW) as the general education code: [[List courses here](#)]

## Arch Topics

You are encouraged (but not required) to take courses from a single Arch topic in order to build your critical thinking and teamwork skills through multiple liberal arts disciplines focused on the same broad topic. Descriptions of the Arch topics are provided below:

The **Global Connections Arch** explores diverse cultural, economic, social, political, biological, and ecological systems in historical and contemporary contexts, with an emphasis on interconnections that shape our local and global communities. Courses examine the form and movement of people, ideas, resources, technologies, and processes within and across borders. Learn how to communicate across cultures, work in diverse global contexts, and become a successful global citizen in a rapidly changing multicultural world.

The **Health and Wellness Arch** explores interconnections between minds, bodies, and society that affect our personal and community health and well-being. These interconnections include local, regional, national, and global systems of nourishment, caregiving, healing, support, recovery, and health care, both past and present. Courses in this Arch also examine contributors to illness, disease, injury, and death as well as ways in which social, economic, environmental, and political inequities adversely affect health and wellness. Learn how to optimize quality of life through healthy nutrition, exercise, and other lifestyle choices and how personal well-being is connected to the public policies, social norms, and general welfare of our communities.

The **Science, Technology, and Society Arch** explores the grand landscape of science, technology, and society, and the interplay among them. Learn how to synthesize the insights from different disciplines and critically evaluate the reciprocal influence of these three areas on one another.

The **Society and Justice Arch** examines the interdependency of social norms and law, and how this relationship in turn shapes conceptions of justice. In this Arch, students will learn how individuals and groups use socio-political, scientific, and legal tools to mobilize for justice and the kinds of barriers they encounter along the way. Learn how your voice and actions can play a role in positive social change.

The **Sustainability Arch** encompasses the three pillars of environmental health, social equity, and economic vitality, with the goal of creating thriving, healthy, diverse, and resilient communities for this generation and generations to come. The Sustainability Arch places emphasis on critical thinking and teamwork directed at sustainability issues, problems, and solutions. Achieving sustainability will require an understanding of human and environmental systems and the complex interactions between them, from local to global levels. The Arch invites you to envision a meaningful future, to explore your own personal values, and to think critically about economic, social, political, cultural, and scientific assumptions about humans' relationships to the environment.

## Bridges Requirements

Bridges connect common goals to disciplines. Bridge courses provide you with opportunities to develop specific abilities frequently sought by employers and important to an educated society.

**Speaking & Listening.** One credit hour of Speaking & Listening coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Speaking & Listening requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (BSL) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Ethics & Reasoning.** One credit hour of Ethics & Reasoning coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Ethics & Reasoning requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (BER) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Diversity & Practice.** One credit hour of Diversity & Practice coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Diversity & Practice requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (BDP) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

**Learning & Doing.** One credit hour of Learning & Doing coursework is required. The following courses fulfill the Learning & Doing requirement and are marked in this catalog with the designation (BLD) as the general education code. [[List courses here](#)]

## Capstones Requirement

Capstones complete general education. Capstone courses provide you with opportunities to integrate and apply what you have learned throughout your learning journey.

Two credit hours of Capstone coursework is required. This catalog contains a complete list of capstone courses marked with the designation (CAP) as the general education code. To identify capstone courses, place CAP in the keyword or phrase search. It may be possible to fulfill this requirement by taking at least two credit hours in your major; you should see your major advisor for information as to whether your discipline offers such a course or courses.

## General Education Requirements for Applied Associate Degrees

Students completing Ohio University's applied associate degrees are required to complete 15 credit hours of OTM-approved coursework including:

- **Written Communication** (3 hours). Either ENG 1510 or 1610 (for non-native English speakers only) will satisfy the written communication requirement.
- **Quantitative Reasoning** (3 hours). Courses that fulfill Quantitative Reasoning requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (FQR) as the general education code.
- **Pillars or Arches** (6 hours). Credit hours must be completed from at least two different requirement areas: Humanities: Texts and Contexts, Humanities: Arts, Natural Science, Social or Behavioral Science, Constructed World, Connected World, or Natural World. Pillars requirements are marked in this catalog with the designation (PHTC, PHA, PNS, PSBS) as the general education code. Arches requirements are marked in this catalog with the designation (ACSW, ANW, ACHW) as the general education code.

To complete the minimum 15 credit hours of OTM-approved coursework, students may also complete OHIO's OTM-approved Second Writing course (ENG 2820) and/or OHIO's OTM-approved Oral Communication course (COMS 1030).

## General Education Requirements for Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees

Students completing Ohio University's Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees are required to complete 36 hours of OTM-approved coursework with a minimum of 24 semester hours from the following:

- **Written Communication** (3 hours). Either ENG 1510 or 1610 (for non-native English speakers only) will satisfy the written communication requirement.
- **Quantitative Reasoning** (3 hours). Courses that fulfill Quantitative Reasoning requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (FQR) as the general education code.
- **Humanities: Arts** (3 hours). Courses that fulfill the Humanities: Arts requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (PHA) as the general education code.
- **Humanities: Texts and Contexts** (3 hours). Courses that fulfill the Humanities: Texts and Contexts requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (PHTC) as the general education code.
- **Social or Behavioral Science or Connected World** (6 hours). Courses that fulfill the Social or Behavioral Science requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (PSBS) as the general education code. Courses that fulfill the Connected World requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (ACNW) as the general education code.
- **Natural Science or Natural World** (6 hours). Courses that fulfill the Natural Science requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (PNS) as the general education code. Courses that fulfill the Natural World requirement are marked in this catalog with the designation (ANW) as the general education code.