UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television
General Education Requirements

For Students Who Entered Fall Quarter 2004 and Thereafter

Updated July 2015

Refer to the GE search in the Schedule of Classes for the most current GE listings. See the UCLA General Education Course List at http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/ge/.

In addition to general education requirements, students must complete the following school requirements: Writing I and II, foreign language, and literature. Questions regarding school requirements should be directed to the Student Services Office, 103 East Melnitz Building, (310) 206-8441, info@tft.ucla.edu.

Foundations of Knowledge

General education courses are grouped into three foundational areas: Foundations of the Arts and Humanities, Foundations of Society and Culture, and Foundations of Scientific Inquiry.

Ten courses (48 units minimum) are required. A course taken to meet the Writing II requirement may not also be applied toward a GE requirement.

Foundations of the Arts and Humanities

Five 5-unit courses, with no more than two from any one subgroup:

  - Literary and Cultural Analysis
  - Philosophical and Linguistic Analysis
  - Visual and Performance Arts Analysis and Practice

The aim of courses in this area is to provide perspectives and intellectual skills necessary to comprehend and think critically about our situation in the world as human beings. In particular, the courses provide the basic means to appreciate and evaluate the ongoing efforts of humans to explain, translate, and transform their diverse experiences of the world through such media as language, literature, philosophical systems, images, sounds, and performances. The courses introduce students to the historical development and fundamental intellectual and ethical issues associated with the arts and humanities and may also investigate the complex relations between artistic and humanistic expression and other facets of society and culture.

All Foundations of the Arts and Humanities courses carry a minimum of 5 units.

Foundations of Society and Culture

Three 5-unit courses, one from each subgroup and a third course from either subgroup:

  - Historical Analysis
  - Social Analysis

The aim of courses in this area is to introduce students to the ways in which humans organize, structure, rationalize, and govern their diverse societies and cultures over time. The courses focus on a particular historical question, societal problem, or topic of political and economic concern in an effort to demonstrate how issues are objectified for study, how data is collected and analyzed, and how new understandings of social phenomena are achieved and evaluated.

All Foundations of Society and Culture courses carry a minimum of 5 units.

Foundations of Scientific Inquiry

Two courses (8 units minimum), one from each subgroup:

  - Life Sciences
  - Physical Sciences

The aim of courses in this area is to ensure that students gain a fundamental understanding of how scientists formulate and answer questions about the operation of both the physical and biological world. The courses also deal with some of the most important issues, developments, and methodologies in contemporary science, addressing such topics as the origin of the universe, environmental degradation, and the decoding of the human genome. Through lectures, laboratory experiences, writing, and intensive discussions, students consider the important roles played by the laws of physics and chemistry in society, biology, Earth and environmental sciences, and astrophysics and cosmology.