

CSU GE Pattern

Fall 2025 and Beyond

Housekeeping

- Please use the raise hand tool if you have a question
- Please use chat if you prefer to type your question
- We also have time at the end for Q&A

Agenda

- Why?
- General Education (GE) Objectives
- Baccalaureate Learning Goals
- GE Pattern Updates
 - Lower Division
 - Upper Division
- Resources

What's up with these new changes?

- Spring 2024, the CSU Board of Trustees approved updates to the GE pattern
- Align the CSU GE with Cal-GETC structure/layout beginning Fall 2025 and beyond
 - While the structure and unit requirements are in alignment, our minimum grade requirements do not align
 - Cal-GETC is the lower division transfer pattern for California Community College students transferring to the CSU or the UC
- Lower division GE requirement has reduced from 39-40 units to 34 units
- Upper division GE requirement unit count remains the same
- Some areas have been moved/rearranged in the pattern
- Major change: GE pattern areas have been renamed

General Education

- University focuses on the students' development as whole or “educated” people
 - Creation of people who firmly grasp the worth of clear thinking and know how to do it
 - Who understand and appreciate the differences between peoples and cultures as well as their similarities
 - Who have a sense of history and social forces
 - Who can express thought clearly and have quantitative ability
 - Who know something about the arts as well as how to enjoy them
 - Who can talk and think intelligently about the physical and life sciences, the humanities, and literature
 - Above all, who have the desire and capability for learning

GE Objectives

- Read, write, and understand relatively complex and sophisticated English prose;
- Construct a non-fallacious verbal argument, recognize fallacious arguments, and follow the verbal arguments of others;
- Find and use common information resources, engage in specialized library research, use computers, and seek out appropriate expert opinion and advice;
- Use mathematical ideas to accomplish a variety of tasks;

GE Objectives continued...

- Gain a general understanding of current theory, concepts, knowledge, and scientific methods pertaining to the nature of the physical universe, ecosystems, and life on this planet;
- Develop an acquaintance and understanding of cultures and major dynamic social institutions which affect one's life; and
- Possess a significant and useful understanding of peoples from a diversity of cultures and backgrounds, including women and ethnic and other minority groups who have been the objects of prejudice and adverse discrimination within our society.

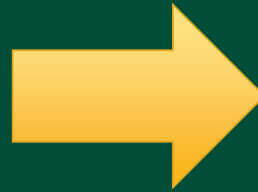
Baccalaureate Learning Goals

- *Competence in the Disciplines*
- *Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World*
- *Intellectual and Practical Skills*
- *Personal and Social Responsibility*
- *Integrative Learning*

Lower Division GE Pattern Updates

2021 Catalogue

— 39-40 units



2025 Catalogue

— 34 units

**1 unit can be waived Area A-E

**1 unit can be waived (pending)

GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern
 - Area A: Basic Subjects (9 units)
 - Area A1: Oral Communication (3 units)
 - Area A2: Written Communication (3 units)
 - Area A3: Critical Thinking (3 units)
- GE Pattern Update
 - Subject Area 1: English Communication (9 units)
 - 1A: English Composition (3 units)
 - 1B: Critical Thinking (3 units)
 - 1C: Oral Communication (3 units)

GE Pattern Updates

Current GE Pattern

- Area B: Scientific Inquiry & Quantitative Reasoning
 - B1: Physical Science
 - B2: Life Science
 - B3: Laboratory
 - B4: Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning

What changed?

- Science and Laboratory requirements moved to new Subject Area 5

What stays?

- Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning
- New Subject Area 2

GE Pattern Update

- Subject Area 2: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning (3 units)



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GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern
- Area C: Arts & Humanities (9 units)
 - C1: Arts (3 units)
 - C2: Humanities (3 units)
 - Additional C1 or C2 (3 units)
- GE Pattern Update
 - Subject Area 3 Arts & Humanities (6 units)
 - 3A: Arts (3 units)
 - 3B: Humanities (3 units)

GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern
 - Area D: Social Sciences
 - Two courses in two different disciplines across the 9 units in Area D (the 9 units include lower and upper division)
- GE Pattern Update
 - Subject Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences
 - Two courses in two different disciplines across the 9 units in Area 4 (the 9 units include 6 units in lower division and 3 units in upper division)

GE Pattern Updates

Current GE Pattern

- Area B: Scientific Inquiry & Quantitative Reasoning
 - B1: Physical Science
 - B2: Life Science
 - B3: Laboratory
 - B4: Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning

What changed?

- Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning requirement moved to the new Subject Area 2

What stays?

- Science and Laboratory requirements moved to new Subject Area 5

GE Pattern Update

- Subject Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences
 - 5A: Physical Science (3 units)
 - 5B: Biological Science (3 units)
 - 5C: Laboratory (1 unit)*

*May be embedded in 5A or 5B course as long as 7 units met for lower division Subject Area 5



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GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern
 - Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development
- GE Pattern Update
 - Area E has been removed from the GE pattern beginning Fall 2025 for all incoming students

Note: There are still Area E courses offered next year to help “teach out” continuing students that may need to satisfy the requirement

GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern
 - Area F: Ethnic Studies
 - One course
- GE Pattern Update
 - Subject Area 6: Ethnic Studies
 - One course (3 units)

Upper Division GE Pattern Updates

- 9 units

GE Pattern Updates

- Current GE Pattern: Upper Division
 - B5: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning
 - C: Arts or Humanities
 - D: Social Sciences
- GE Pattern Update: Upper Division
 - 2 Mathematical Concepts/ Quantitative Reasoning or 5 Science (3 units)
 - 3 Arts or Humanities (3 units)
 - 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 units)
 - Two different disciplines across the 9 units in Area 4 (the 9 units include 6 units in lower division and 3 units in upper division)

Additional Info

- Attributes for both GE patterns are already updated in CMS and in the Sac State scheduler on each course
- Student AR will show the appropriate pattern (e.g. Fall 25 FY will show new pattern list)
- B5 courses have been coded as Area 2 or Area 5 in CMS/catalog and will be reviewed by appropriate faculty curriculum groups next year to ensure they are appropriately categorized
- New GE courses approved for Fall 25 and other GE courses updated and changed (now in a different GE category). Some of these moved courses drastically changed and will not satisfy prior year GE area. Please review current catalog advising students.

**Which students do these changes
apply to?**

Which students will follow the new GE pattern?

- Automatic per policy:
 - Incoming First Year students
 - Many incoming Fall 2025 Transfer students
- How will student know?
 - Students applying for graduation will receive email with information and students will be automatically switched to most beneficial GE pattern option
 - College Success Centers will message students who are eligible to graduate
- Continuing students who change their major cannot elect the GE pattern at the same time

Resources

GE Worksheet

General Education/Graduation Requirements Checklist

General Education requirements cover a breadth of areas spanning 1. English Communication, 2. Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning, 3. Arts & Humanities, 4. Social & Behavioral Sciences, 5. Physical & Biological Sciences, and 6. Ethnic Studies.	
For a list of courses that satisfy each Area and Requirement, please see the University Catalog .	Units
General Education Requirements:	43
Lower Division: A total of 34 units of General Education Courses must be taken at the lower-division level (courses numbered 1-99) covering Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.	34
Upper Division: A total of 9 units of General Education Courses must be taken at the upper-division level (courses numbered 100-199) from Areas 3, 4, and 5 or 2. Upper Division GE courses must be taken within the CSU.	9
GE Area 1. English Communication: 9 Lower Division Units	9
1A. English Composition (C- or better required)	3
1B. Critical Thinking (C- or better required)	3
1C. Oral Communication (C- or better required)	3
GE Area 2. Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning: 3 Lower Division Units and up to 3 Upper Division Units	3
2. Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (C- or better required)	3
GE Area 3. Arts & Humanities: 6 Lower Division Units and 3 Upper Division Units	6
3A. Arts	3
3B. Humanities (3B courses may also satisfy the Foreign Language Graduation Requirement)	3
GE Area 4. Social & Behavioral Sciences: 6 Lower Division Units and 3 Upper Division Units.	6
• Area 4 courses must be taken in 2 separate disciplines (e.g., ANTH, ECON, ETHN, HIST, RPTA, etc.).	
• Up to 3 units of Area 4 courses may also satisfy CSU American Institutions Graduation Requirements in US History, the US Constitution and California Government.	
4. Any Area 4 Course	3
4. Any Area 4 Course	3
GE Area 5. Physical & Biological Sciences: 7 Lower Division Units and up to 3 Upper Division Units	7
5A. Physical Science	3
5B. Biological Science	3
5C. Laboratory (NOTE: May be embedded in 5A or 5B course, as long as 7 units met for lower division Subject Area 5.)	1
GE Area 6. Ethnic Studies: 3 Lower Division Units	3
6. Any Area 6 Course	3
Upper Division GE	9
Area 3. Any Upper Division Area 3 course	3
Area 4. Any Upper Division Area 4 course	3
Area 2 or 5. Any Upper Division Area 2 or 5 course	3
Graduation Requirements:	
Minimum 2.0 GPA required for GE	
Graduation Requirements (required by CSU)	
American Institutions: U.S. History. The following Area 4 courses also satisfy the U.S. History Graduation Requirement: HIST 17A, 17B, 18B, 151B, 159, 161, 162, 167, 177; ANTH 101, WGS 130.*	3
American Institutions: U.S. Constitution & California Government. The following Area 4 courses also satisfy the U.S. Constitution & CA Government graduation requirement: POLS 1, 113, 150.*	3
Writing Intensive (WI) WI courses may also satisfy an Upper Division GE or Major Requirement (C- or better required).	3
Graduation Requirements (required by California State University, Sacramento)	
Second Semester Composition (ENGL 20, ENGL 20M or an approved equivalent) must be completed with a C- or better.	3
Race & Ethnicity in American Society (R&E). R&E courses may also satisfy a GE Area 3, 4, or 6 Requirement	3
Foreign Language Graduation Requirement (FLGR). If not satisfied before entering CSUS, 4-5 units towards the FLGR may also satisfy a GE Area 3B Requirement. (C- or better required). The Foreign Language Graduation Requirement is described here: https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html .	0-8

*Up to 3 units of the American Institutions graduation requirement in either US History or US Constitution & California Government may overlap with General Education.

It is possible to use single courses to meet multiple requirements. Please complete this checklist with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited at www.csus.edu/acad or please call: (916) 278-6351 or email at advising@csus.edu.

GE Chart of Conversion

CSU GE Breadth

Fall 2021 to Summer 2025

LOWER-DIVISION (39-40 units)

Area A Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking

- A1 Oral Communication (3 units)
- A2 Written Communication (3 units)
- A3 Critical Thinking (3 units)

Area B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

- B1 Physical Science (3 units)
- B2 Life Science (3 units)
- B3 Laboratory Activity (0 - 1 unit)
- B4 Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (3 units)

Area C Arts and Humanities

- C1 Arts (3 units)
- C2 Humanities (3 units)
- Additional C1 or C2 (3 units)

Area D Social Sciences ^

- Two courses (6 units)

Area E Lifelong Learning and Self-Development (3 units)

Area F Ethnic Studies

- One course (3 units)

UPPER-DIVISION (9 units)

- Upper-division B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning (3 units)
- Upper-division C Arts or Humanities (3 units)
- Upper-division D Social Sciences ^ (3 units)

^ Two different disciplines across the 9 units in Area D.

CSU GE

Fall 2025 and Beyond

LOWER-DIVISION (34 units)

[Previously](#)

Subject Area 1 English Communication

- 1A English Composition (3 units) [A2](#)
- 1B Critical Thinking (3 units) [A3](#)
- 1C Oral Communication (3 units) [A1](#)

Subject Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

- One course (3 units) [B4](#)

Subject Area 3 Arts and Humanities

- 3A Arts (3 units) [C1](#)
- 3B Humanities (3 units) [C2](#)

Subject Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences ^

- Two courses (6 units) [D](#)

Subject Area 5 Physical and Biological Sciences

- 5A Physical Science (3 units) [B1](#)
- 5B Biological Science (3 units) [B2](#)
- 5C Laboratory (1 unit)–May be embedded in 5A or 5B course, as long as 7 units met for lower-division Subject Area 5. [B3](#)

Subject Area 6 Ethnic Studies

- One course (3 units) [F](#)

UPPER-DIVISION (9 units)

- Upper-division [5 Science](#) or [2 Mathematical Concepts/Quantitative Reasoning](#) (3 units)
- Upper-division [3 Arts or Humanities](#) (3 units)
- Upper-division [4 Social and Behavioral Sciences ^](#) (3 units)

^ Two different disciplines across the 9 units in Area 4.

CSU Fully Online

Registration starts:

- July 1 for CourseMatch courses
- August 1 for the rest

A promotional banner for CSU Fully Online. At the top left is the CSU logo with the text 'The California State University'. Below this is a photograph of three students (two women and one man) sitting on a grassy hill, looking at a laptop. Below the photo, the text 'CSU FULLY ONLINE' is displayed, with 'FULLY ONLINE' in red. Underneath this, a paragraph explains that students can take one online course concurrently with their home CSU courses, and defines a 'fully online' course as one offered in a completely online environment with no in-person meetings.

CSU The California State University

CSU FULLY ONLINE

If you're a CSU student, you can take **one online course** through any of the CSU's 23 campuses concurrently with your home CSU courses fall or spring semester*. A "fully online" course is any class that's offered in a completely online environment, no in person or on campus meetings. Many courses are offered in an asynchronous learning mode, meaning no scheduled meeting or exam times.

Note: Currently can only take 1 course per semester.
Registrar willing to consider extenuating circumstances.
Students should email registrar@csus.edu



First and Second Semester Composition

- ENGL 10/11 and ENGL 20 are not being offered in the AY 25-26 schedule
- UGS working with Writing Director and Hornet Launch to provide options for DSP
- Details to fulfill the Second Semester of Composition graduation requirement for 25/26 AY are yet to be determined
- WPJ portfolio process still progressing for continuing students
- Please ask continuing students for their patience

Questions?

