



RHODE  
ISLAND  
COLLEGE

## General Education at Rhode Island College

The General Education Program provides a foundation for deeper study in a wide range of academic disciplines. Through the General Education Program, students develop the skills and habits of mind necessary for full participation in an increasingly complex world. The structure comprises both foundational courses and upper-division courses that afford students the opportunity to further develop in their majors skills acquired in foundational courses and also to make connections across disciplinary boundaries. Students will develop the capacity to learn in their undergraduate courses and for the rest of their lives; we believe that goal requires introducing them to many different kinds of knowledge and offering many occasions for relating the knowledge they acquire. One key goal is to engage students fully in their own educations; we therefore offer as much choice and flexibility as possible in course selection and, crucially, a first-year seminar meant to excite student interest in college-level learning and to introduce the habits of inquiry essential to the academic enterprise. The program also includes an integrated course that emphasizes comparative perspectives on particular topics or ideas.

### General Education Outcomes

Each course in General Education addresses several outcomes. Students who complete the general education program will encounter each outcome at least once at an introductory level. No introductory course can fully meet an outcome. Rather, every course introduces or develops several outcomes. Relevant outcomes are addressed at a higher level within the advanced work of the respective majors.

**Written Communication** Students will understand the different purposes of writing and employ the conventions of writing in their major fields. Students will produce writing that is well organized, supported by evidence, demonstrates correct usage of grammar and terminology, and is appropriate to the academic context.

**Critical and Creative Thinking** Students will be able to analyze and interpret information from multiple perspectives, question assumptions and conclusions, and understand the impact of biases, including their own, on thinking and learning.

**Research Fluency** Students will demonstrate the ability to access, understand, evaluate, and ethically use information to address a wide range of goals or problems.

**Oral Communication** Students will learn to speak in a clearly expressed, purposeful, and carefully organized way that engages and connects with their audience.

**Collaborative Work** Students will learn to interact appropriately as part of a team to design and implement a strategy to achieve a team goal and to evaluate the process.

**Arts** Students will demonstrate through performance, creation, or analysis an ability to interpret and explain the arts from personal, aesthetic, cultural, and historical perspectives.

**Civic Knowledge** Students will gain knowledge of social and political systems and of how civic engagement can change the environment in which we live.

**Ethical Reasoning** Students will demonstrate an understanding of their own ethical values, other ethical traditions from diverse places and times, and the process of determining ethical practice.

**Global Understanding** Students will analyze and understand the social, historical, political, religious, economic, and cultural conditions that shape individuals, groups, and nations and the relationships among them across time.

**Quantitative Literacy** Students will demonstrate the ability to: (1) interpret and evaluate numerical and visual statistics; (2) develop models that can be solved by appropriate mathematical methods; and (3) create arguments supported by quantitative evidence and communicate them in writing and through numerical and visual displays of data including words, tables, graphs, and equations.

**Scientific Literacy** Students will understand how scientific knowledge is uncovered through the empirical testing of hypotheses; be familiar with how data is analyzed, scientific models are made, theories are generated, and practical scientific problems are approached and solved; have the capacity to be informed about scientific matters as they pertain to living in this complex world; be able to communicate scientific knowledge through speaking and writing.

### Program Requirements

All degree programs require both the completion of one 3-4 credit course in each of nine categories (three Core courses and six Distribution courses) AND the completion of at least 40 total credits of General Education courses. Students can take any additional courses from any category other than FYS and FYW to get to 40 credits but no more than two courses in any course prefix can be used to meet this requirement.

### Core Requirement

#### First-Year Writing (FYW)

FYW 100 (or FYW 100H, FYW 100P or FYW 100M) is required in freshman year. It introduces students to college-level writing and helps them develop the writing skills needed for success in college courses. Successful completion of the course (a final grade of C or better) will also meet the college's Writing Requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students.

## First-Year Seminar (FYS)

FYS 100 (or HONR 100) with sections on a wide variety of topics taught by professors from departments across the college, is required in the first year. Students are encouraged to choose a topic that interests them. Each section is discussion-based, and focused on developing skills in critical thinking, oral communication, research fluency, and written communication. FYS 100 is offered only in the fall and spring semesters. Students who enter the College with 24 or more transfer credits are not considered first-year students and are exempt from this requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students.

### *Representative First-Year Seminars*

Music and the Social World  
Raid the Collections: Making Discoveries in RIC Collections  
Shock Therapy: Drama as Action  
Global Perspectives on Health  
Cultures Collide: Indians and Europeans in Early North America  
Language and Gender  
Performance in the First Person: This is ME!  
Food and Medicine of East Asia  
Sex Rights, Sex Wrongs

Mountains of Power and Culture  
You, Inc.: The Business of You  
Global Imagination of Korean Media: Meanings and Significance  
Languages in U.S. Education: Whose Matter?  
Self, Mind, Heart in Eastern Philosophies  
'Tattoos aren't just for sailors anymore': Men, women, & bodies  
Talkies and more: The sociology of cinema through Hollywood  
From Europe to the States: humor, friendship, and love through film remakes  
Leadership Study Through the Biography  
Native American Arts

## Connections (C)

Courses in the Connections category are courses on topics that emphasize comparative perspectives, such as across disciplines, across time, and across cultures. Students must complete the FYS and FYW courses before taking a Connections course.

|          |                                                                |          |                                                        |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| AFRI 262 | Cultural Issues in Africana Studies                            | HIST 267 | Personal Memories of the World Wars                    |
| ANTH 261 | The Complexities of Global Health                              | HIST 268 | Civil Rights and National Liberation Movements         |
| ANTH 262 | Indigenous Rights and the Global Environment                   | HIST 269 | Jazz and Civil Rights: Freedom Sounds                  |
| ANTH 265 | Anthropological Perspectives on Childhood                      | HIST 272 | Globalization 15th Century to the Present              |
| ANTH 266 | Anthropological and Indigenous Perspectives on Place           | HIST 274 | History of the Dominican Republic                      |
| ART 261  | Art and Money                                                  | HIST 275 | Russia from Beginning to End                           |
| ART 262  | Encounters with Global Arts                                    | HONR 264 | Seminar in Cross-Cultural and Interdisciplinary Issues |
| COMM 261 | Issues in Free Speech                                          | MUS 261  | Music and Multimedia                                   |
| COMM 262 | Dialect – What we Speak                                        | NURS 262 | Substance Abuse as a Global Issue                      |
| COMM 263 | East Asian Media and Popular Culture                           | NURS 264 | Status of the World's Children                         |
| ENGL 261 | Arctic Encounters                                              | NURS 266 | Health and Cultural Diversity                          |
| ENGL 263 | Zen - East and West                                            | PHIL 261 | Philosophy of Health and Wellbeing                     |
| ENGL 264 | American Persuaders                                            | PHIL 262 | Freedom and Responsibility                             |
| ENGL 265 | Women's Stories Across Cultures                                | PHIL 263 | The Idea of God                                        |
| ENGL 267 | Books That Changed American Culture                            | PHIL 265 | Philosophical Issues of Gender and Sex                 |
| ENST 261 | Climate Change and YOU                                         | POL 262  | Power and Community                                    |
| FILM 262 | Cross-Cultural Projections: Exploring Cinematic Representation | POL 267  | Immigration, Citizenship, and National Identity        |
|          |                                                                | POL 269  | International LGBTIQ+ Rights                           |
| FNED 246 | Schooling for Social Justice                                   | SOC 262  | Sociology of Money                                     |
| GED 262  | Native American Narratives                                     | SOC 264  | Sex and Power: Global Gender Inequality                |
| GEND 261 | Resisting Authority: Girls of Fictional Futures                | SOC 267  | Comparative Perspectives on Higher Education           |
| GEND 262 | Lights, Camera, Gender!: Gender in Film                        | SOC 268  | Genocide, Atrocity, and Prevention                     |
| GEOG 261 | Globalization, Cities and Sustainability                       | SUST 261 | Exploring Nature through Art, Science, Technology      |
| GLOB 260 | Global Studies and the World                                   | THTR 261 | Contemporary Black Theatre: Cultural Perspectives      |

## Distribution Requirement

Distribution courses emphasize ways of thinking and methods of inquiry within various disciplines. Students are required to take one course in each of the following six areas:

### Arts – Visual and Performing

|           |                                          |          |                                           |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| ART 101   | Drawing I: General Drawing               | FILM 221 | History of Film II                        |
| ART 104   | Design I: Two-Dimensional Design         | FILM 222 | History of Film III                       |
| ART 201   | Introduction to Visual Arts              | MUS 167  | Music Cultures of Non-Western Worlds      |
| ART 210   | Nurturing Artistic & Musical Development | MUS 201  | Survey of Music                           |
| ART 231   | Prehistoric to Renaissance Art           | MUS 203  | Elementary Music Theory                   |
| ART 232   | Renaissance to Contemporary Art          | MUS 220  | Digital Audio Production I                |
| COMM 220  | Digital Audio Production I               | MUS 223  | American Popular Music                    |
| COMM 241  | Introduction to Cinema and Video         | MUS 225  | History of Jazz                           |
| COMM 244  | Digital Media Lab                        | MUS 242  | Piano Improvisation for Beginner Pianists |
| DANC 215W | Contemporary Dance & Culture             | PHIL 230 | Aesthetics                                |
| ENGL 113  | Approaches to Drama                      | THTR 240 | Appreciation & Enjoyment of the Theatre   |
| FILM 116  | Introduction to Film                     | THTR 242 | Acting for Non-Majors                     |
| FILM 220  | History of Film I                        |          |                                           |

### History or Philosophy

|          |                                                 |          |                                           |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| HIST 101 | Multiple Voices: Africa in the World            | HIST 111 | Global History Since 1000                 |
| HIST 102 | Multiple Voices: Asia in the World              | HIST 117 | Special Topics in History                 |
| HIST 103 | Multiple Voices: Europe in the World to 1600    | HIST 118 | Topics in US History to 1877              |
| HIST 104 | Multiple Voices: Europe in the World since 1600 | HIST 119 | Topics in US History from 1877 to Present |
| HIST 105 | Multiple Voices: Latin America in the World     | PHIL 100 | Introduction to Philosophy                |
| HIST 106 | Multiple Voices: Muslim Peoples in the World    | PHIL 206 | Ethics                                    |
| HIST 107 | Multiple Voices: The US in the World            |          |                                           |
| HIST 108 | History of Science and Medicine                 |          |                                           |
| HIST 110 | Global History to 1000                          |          |                                           |

### Literature or Language

|          |                                     |          |                                             |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------|
| ASL 102  | Elem. American Sign Language II     | ITAL 113 | Intermediate Italian I                      |
| ENGL 120 | Studies in Literature and Identity  | ITAL 115 | Literature of Italy                         |
| ENGL 121 | Studies in Literature and Nation    | PORT 102 | Elementary Portuguese II                    |
| ENGL 122 | Studies in Literature and the Canon | PORT 113 | Intermediate Portuguese I                   |
| ENGL 123 | Studies in Literature and Genre     | PORT 114 | Intermediate Portuguese II                  |
| FREN 102 | Elementary French II                | PORT 115 | Literature of the Portuguese Speaking World |
| FREN 113 | Intermediate French I               | SPAN 102 | Elementary Spanish II                       |
| FREN 115 | Lit of the French Speaking World    | SPAN 113 | Intermediate Spanish I                      |
| ITAL 102 | Elementary Italian II               | SPAN 115 | Literature of the Spanish Speaking World    |

### Mathematics

|          |                                    |          |                       |
|----------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| MATH 117 | Calculus: A Short Course           | MATH 212 | Calculus I            |
| MATH 139 | Contemporary Topics in Mathematics | MATH 240 | Statistical Methods I |
| MATH 209 | Precalculus Mathematics            |          |                       |

*Note: In most cases, students are encouraged to complete the Mathematics category in their first year. Completion of the Mathematics category of General Education does not satisfy the College Mathematics Competency. In addition, students in the elementary education curriculum who complete MATH 144 (and its prerequisite, MATH 143) shall be considered to have fulfilled the Mathematics category of General Education.*

### Natural Science

|              |                                     |          |                                              |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| BIOL 100     | Fundamental Concepts of Biology     | PHYS 110 | Introductory Physics                         |
| BIOL 108     | Basic Principles of Biology         | PHYS 120 | The Extraordinary Physics of Ordinary Things |
| BIOL 111     | Introductory Biology                | PSCI 103 | Physical Sciences                            |
| BIOL 112     | Introductory Biology II             | PSCI 208 | Forensics                                    |
| BIOL 201&202 | Anatomy & Physiology I              | PSCI 211 | Intro to Astronomy                           |
| CHEM 103     | General Chemistry I                 | PSCI 212 | Introduction to Geology                      |
| CHEM 110     | Introductory Chemistry              | PSCI 216 | Science of Our Changing Planet               |
| PHYS 101     | Physics for Science and Mathematics | PSCI 217 | Introduction to Oceanography                 |

## Social and Behavioral Sciences

|           |                                         |          |                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| AFRI 200  | Introduction to Africana Studies        | POL 102  | American Government               |
| ANTH 101  | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology   | POL 103  | Global Politics                   |
| ANTH 102  | Introduction to Archaeology             | POL 204  | Introduction to Political Thought |
| ANTH 104  | Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology | PSYC 110 | Introduction to Psychology        |
| COMM 240  | Mass Media and Society                  | PSYC 215 | Social Psychology                 |
| COMM 245  | Social Media Communication              | SOC 200  | Introduction to Sociology         |
| COMM 256  | Social Media and Society                | SOC 202  | The Family                        |
| CEP 215   | Introduction to Educational Psychology  | SOC 204  | Urban Sociology                   |
| ECON 200  | Introduction to Economics               | SOC 207  | Crime and Criminal Justice        |
| ECON 214  | Principles of Microeconomics            | SOC 208  | Sociology of Race and Ethnicity   |
| ECON 215  | Principles of Macroeconomics            | SOC 217  | Sociology of Aging                |
| ECON 235  | Economics of Race, Gender, and          | SWRK 200 | Introduction to Social Work       |
| GEND 100W | Gender in Society                       |          |                                   |
| GEOG 100  | Introduction to Environmental Studies   |          |                                   |
| GEOG 101  | Introduction to Geography               |          |                                   |
| GEOG 200  | World Regional Geography                |          |                                   |
| GEOG 206  | Disaster Management                     |          |                                   |

## Additional General Education Electives

*These courses have also been approved as General Education courses, and along with any additional courses in the categories above except FYS and FYW, may be used to meet the requirement of achieving at least 40 credits of General Education courses. Please note that some of these courses may require prerequisites.*

|              |                                                      |          |                                               |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| ASL 101      | Elementary American Sign Language                    | ITAL 101 | Elementary Italian I                          |
| ANTH 237     | Measuring Injustice, Analyzing Inequality            | MGT 249  | Business Statistics II                        |
| ANTH 306     | Primate Ecology and Social Behavior                  | MATH 213 | Calculus II                                   |
| ANTH 307     | Human Nature: Evolution, Ecology and Behavior        | MATH 239 | Contemporary Topics in Mathematics II         |
| ANTH 235     | Bones and Stones: How Archaeologists Know            | MATH 241 | Statistical Methods II                        |
| BIOL 203&204 | Anatomy and Physiology II (Lecture and Lab)          | MATH 248 | Business Statistics I                         |
| BIOL 314     | Genetics                                             | MATH 324 | College Geometry                              |
| CHEM 104     | General Chemistry II                                 | PORT 101 | Elementary Portuguese I                       |
| CHEM 106     | General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry II        | PHIL 220 | Logic and Probability in Scientific Reasoning |
| CSCI 102     | Computer Fundamentals for Cybersecurity              | PSCI 204 | Understanding the Physical Universe           |
| CSCI 141     | Application and Impact of Artificial Intelligence    | PSCI 214 | Introduction to Meteorology                   |
| CSCI 157     | Introduction to Algorithmic Thinking in Python       | PHYS 102 | Physics for Science and Mathematics II        |
| CSCI 423     | Analysis of Algorithms                               | PHYS 309 | Nanoscience and Nanotechnology                |
| DATA 245     | Principles of Data Science                           | POL 300  | Methodology in Political Science              |
| ENGL 210     | Children's Literature: Interpretation and Evaluation | PORT 101 | Elementary Portuguese I                       |
| ENGL 220W    | Introduction to Creative Writing                     | SWRK 303 | Social Work Research Methods II               |
| FREN 101     | Elementary French I                                  | SOC 302W | Social Research Methods I                     |
| GEOG 201     | Mapping our Changing World                           | SOC 404  | Social Research Methods II                    |
| GEOG 205     | Earth's Physical Environments                        | SPAN 101 | Elementary Spanish I                          |
| HSCI 232     | Human Genetics                                       | TECH 306 | Automation and Control Systems                |