Curriculum

Core Curriculum

The University of Texas at Dallas requires that all students complete a general education Core Curriculum of 42 semester credit hours that serves as a broad foundation for the undergraduate degree. Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning in accordance with Texas Administrative Code, chapter 4, Subchapter B, sections 4.28-4.31. These requirements must be met by every student pursuing a baccalaureate degree at The University of Texas at Dallas, regardless of their major. Specific approved courses must be used to satisfy each Core requirement listed in each category. In accordance with the Texas Education Code, Chapter 61, Subchapter S, a student who successfully completes the entirety of a Core Curriculum at another Texas public institution of higher education before matriculating at UT Dallas may transfer that block of courses to UT Dallas where it will be substituted for the UT Dallas Core Curriculum. If a student does not complete all of the Core Curriculum at another Texas public institution of higher education before matriculating at UT Dallas, the student will receive credit for the portion completed and then may be required to complete additional courses from the UT Dallas Core Curriculum.

010 Communication (6 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively. Courses involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

**Critical Thinking (CT)** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Teamwork (TW)** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

**Personal Responsibility (PR)** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

Courses:

- **COMM 1311** Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
- **RHET 1302** Rhetoric
- **ECS 3390** Professional and Technical Communication
020 Mathematics (3 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on quantitative literacy in logic, patterns, and relationships. Courses involve the understanding of key mathematical concepts and the application of appropriate quantitative tools to everyday experience.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**-to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**-to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)**-to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

**Courses:**

- **MATH 1306** College Algebra for the Non-Scientist *
- **MATH 1314** College Algebra *
- **MATH 1316** Trigonometry *
- **MATH 1325** Applied Calculus I *
- **MATH 2312** Precalculus *
- **MATH 2413** Differential Calculus *
- **MATH 2414** Integral Calculus *
- **MATH 2415** Calculus of Several Variables *
- **MATH 2417** Calculus I *
- **PSY 2317** Statistics for Psychology *
- **STAT 1342** Statistical Decision Making *
- **STAT 2332** Statistics for Life Sciences *

030 Life and Physical Sciences (6 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method. Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**-to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**-to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)**-to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
Teamwork (TW)-to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Courses:

**BIOL 1300** Body Systems with Lab *
**BIOL 1318** Human Genetics *
**BIOL 2311** Introduction to Modern Biology I *
**BIOL 2312** Introduction to Modern Biology II *
**BIOL 2350** Biological Basis of Health and Disease *
**CGS 2301** Cognitive Science *
**CHEM 1311** General Chemistry I *
**CHEM 1312** General Chemistry II *
**CHEM 1315** Honors Freshman Chemistry I *
**CHEM 1316** Honors Freshman Chemistry II *
**ENVR 2302** The Global Environment *
**GEOG 2302** The Global Environment *
**GEOS 1303** Physical Geology *
**GEOS 1304** History of Earth and Life *
**GEOS 2302** The Global Environment *
**GEOS 2310** Environmental Geology *
**GEOS 2321** Geology, Resources, and Environment of Latin America *
**GEOS 2332** Age of Dinosaurs *
**GEOS 2333** Introduction to Fossils *
**GEOS 2409** Rocks and Minerals *
**ISIS 2305** Humans: Our Place in Nature
**ISIS 2308** Bones, Bodies, and Disease
**ISNS 2359** Earthquakes and Volcanoes *
**ISNS 2367** The Oceans *
**ISNS 2368** Weather and Climate *
**NATS 1311** From the Cosmos to Earth *
**NATS 2330** The Basis of Evolution *
NATS 2333  Energy, Water, and the Environment *

PHYS 1301  College Physics I *

PHYS 1302  College Physics II *

PHYS 2125  Physics Laboratory I *

PHYS 2325  Mechanics *

PHYS 2326  Electromagnetism and Waves *

PHYS 2421  Honors Physics I - Mechanics and Heat *

PHYS 2422  Honors Physics II - Electromagnetism and Waves *

PSY 2364  Animal Communication *

040 Language, Philosophy and Culture (3 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

**Critical Thinking (CT)** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Social Responsibility (SR)** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Personal Responsibility (PR)** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

**Courses:**

- AMS 2300  American Popular Culture
- AMS 2341  American Studies for the Twenty-First Century
- HUMA 1301  Exploration of the Humanities
- LIT 2331  Masterpieces of World Literature
- PHIL 1301  Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 2316  History of Philosophy I
- PHIL 2317  History of Philosophy II

https://catalog.utdallas.edu/2014/undergraduate/curriculum/core-curriculum
050 Creative Arts (3 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on the appreciation and analysis of creative artifacts and works of the human imagination. Courses involve the synthesis and interpretation of artistic expression and enable critical, creative, and innovative communication about works of art.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**-to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**-to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Teamwork (TW)**-to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

**Social Responsibility (SR)**-to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Courses:**

- **AHST 1303** Survey of Western Art History: Ancient to Medieval
- **AHST 1304** Survey of Western Art History: Renaissance to Modern
- **AHST 2331** Understanding Art
- **ARTS 1301** Exploration of the Arts
- **DANC 1310** Understanding Dance
- **DRAM 1310** Understanding Theater
- **FILM 2332** Understanding Film
- **MUSI 1306** Understanding Music

060 American History (6 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on the consideration of past events and ideas relative to the United States, with the option of including Texas History for a portion of this component area. Courses involve the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**-to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**-to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Social Responsibility (SR)**-to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Personal Responsibility (PR)**-to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making will be able to interpret and evaluate the acceptability of historical evidence.
Courses:

**HIST 1301** U.S. History Survey to Civil War  
**HIST 1302** U.S. History Survey from Civil War  
**HIST 2301** History of Texas  
**HIST 2330** Themes and Ideas in American History  
**HIST 2332** Civil War and Reconstruction

070 Government/Political Science (6 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on consideration of the Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the states, with special emphasis on that of Texas. Courses involve the analysis of governmental institutions, political behavior, civic engagement, and their political and philosophical foundations.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**- to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Social Responsibility (SR)**- to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Personal Responsibility (PR)**- to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

Courses:

**GOVT 2107** Federal and Texas Constitutions  
**GOVT 2305** American National Government  
**GOVT 2306** State and Local Government

The University of Texas at Dallas is transitioning its core Government offerings to comply with State of Texas requirements. UT Dallas will be phasing out its Government 2301 and 2302 sequence. UT Dallas has added the Government 2305 and 2306 sequence. To assist students with the transition UT Dallas will temporarily teach both sets of Government offerings through the spring 2015 semester. The 2301 and 2302 sequence is now only open to students who have taken one or the other of 2301 and 2302. Students who have not taken any government course should only take the 2305 and 2306 sequence. After the spring 2015 semester UT Dallas will only teach 2305 and 2306. Students should follow the below guidelines when selecting a Government course:

I have not taken any Government (GOVT) courses:

- Take **GOVT 2305** and **GOVT 2306**

I have taken **GOVT 2305**:
• Take **GOVT 2306**

I have taken **GOVT 2306**: 

• Take **GOVT 2305**

I have taken **GOVT 2301**: 

• Take **GOVT 2302** or **GOVT 2305** or **GOVT 2306**

I have taken **GOVT 2302**: 

• Take **GOVT 2301** no later than the spring 2015 semester
• Otherwise you must take both **GOVT 2305** and **GOVT 2306**

080 Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 semester credit hours)

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

**Critical Thinking (CT)**-to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

**Communication (COM)**-to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

**Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)**-to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

**Social Responsibility (SR)**-to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Courses:**

- **CLDP 2314** Lifespan Development *
- **CRIM 1301** Introduction to Criminal Justice
- **CRIM 1307** Introduction to Crime and Criminology
- **ECON 2301** Principles of Macroeconomics *
- **ECON 2302** Principles of Microeconomics *
- **ECS 3361** Social Issues and Ethics in Computer Science and Engineering
- **GEOG 2303** People and Place: An Introduction to World Geographic Regions
- **GST 2300** Introduction to Gender Studies
- **PA 2325** Introduction to Public Service
090 Component Area Option (6 semester credit hours)

1. A minimum of 3 semester credit hours must meet the definition and corresponding Core Objectives specified in one of the foundational component areas.

2. As an option for up to 3 semester credit hours of the Component Area Option, an institution may select course(s) that:
   1. Meet(s) the definition specified for one or more of the foundation component areas; and
   2. Include(s) a minimum of three Core Objectives, including Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, and one of the remaining Core Objectives.
      • Critical Thinking (CT)—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
      • Communication (COM)—to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
      • Option of Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, or Personal Responsibility

Courses:

- ARHM 2340 Creativity
- ARHM 2341 Global Media
- ARHM 2342 Connections in the Arts and Humanities
- ARHM 2343 Science and the Humanities
- EPPS 2301 Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
- EPPS 2302 Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
- EPPS 2303 Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences
- MATH 1326 Applied Calculus II
- MATH 2419 Calculus II

Additionally, courses marked with an asterisk in the various core categories listed above could be offered as Component Area Option courses.

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