

Indiana University Bloomington General Education Redesign Recommendation

The Indiana University Bloomington General Education Redesign Committee is proposing an updated General Education (GenEd) curriculum designed to simplify requirements, strengthen foundational learning, and better support student success, while preserving the intellectual breadth that defines an IU education. The following recommendations are being shared with the IUB community based on the feedback provided to the committee. The committee reviewed all the feedback and is appreciative of the IUB community taking the time to share their reactions, thoughts, and ideas to improve the recommendations.

The redesigned framework aligns with our [charge](#) and seeks to:

- clarify and improve transparency of General Education requirements;
- apply uniformly to all students – all schools/colleges for all majors;
- accommodate Indiana Commission for Higher Education requirements on transferability; and
- make, to the extent possible, GenEd at IUB consistent with other IU campuses to help students transition between campuses.

Overview of the Proposed General Education Framework - Updated

The proposed curriculum establishes a 29–30 credit hour GenEd that all undergraduate students will complete. It uses a distributive model, meaning students take courses across multiple areas of knowledge, ensuring broad exposure to diverse disciplines while allowing flexibility within degree programs.

UPDATED Proposed GenEd Framework:

- English Composition (3 credits)
- Arts and Humanities (6 credits)
A&H: at least one course (3 cr.) must carry World Culture A&H attribute
- Social and Historical Studies (6 credits)
S&H: at least one course (3cr.) must carry World Culture S&H attribute
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences (5–6 credits)
- Mathematical Reasoning (3 credits)
- **World Languages** (6 credits)

This clarity in credits will also increase understanding of the IUB GenEd curriculum throughout the campus community (e.g. faculty, advisors, registrars, etc.).

Alignment with Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE)

The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education \(ICHE\)](#) facilitates the transfer of the [Indiana College Core \(ICC\)](#), a 30-credit hour block of GenEd coursework that is guaranteed to transfer between all Indiana public colleges and universities. The core requires 18

credits across six competencies and learning outcomes—written communication, speaking/listening, quantitative reasoning, scientific, social/behavioral, and humanistic/artistic—plus 12 additional credits.

No changes to the alignment of the ICC with GenEd were recommended. Five of the six competencies and learning outcomes remain aligned with the GenEd. Speaking and listening will remain situated outside the general education requirements, and disciplines will continue to manage the speaking/listening competencies and learning outcomes within their individual disciplines.

Alignment of Indiana’s College Core (ICC) and Indiana University Bloomington’s Undergraduate GenEd



Description: Alignment of ICC competencies to the IU GenEd areas. Each ICC competency area represents 3-credits. Alignment indicates that students can find a course in the corresponding GenEd category that would fulfill the ICC requirement.

Key Changes of the Common Core - UPDATED

Removal of the Shared Goals

The shared goals will no longer be part of GenEd. This shift aligns with the key recommendations from the [BFC Task Force Report on General Education](#) and the [BFC Long Range Planning Committee report](#).

Mathematical Reasoning

Mathematical Modeling has been reframed as Mathematical Reasoning (MR). Two precalculus courses (M125, M127) will be certified as Mathematical Reasoning courses. All current Mathematical Modeling courses will also be certified as Mathematical Reasoning courses.

NEW: World Culture Attributes

The Arts & Humanities (A&H) and the Social and Historical Studies (S&H) categories will each require that at least one of the two courses (3 credits) carry a World Culture (WC) attribute, for a total of 6 credits of WC between the two categories.

UPDATED: World Languages

This category is a revision of World Languages and Culture. World Culture will be part of A&H and S&H, as described above. This section, World Languages (WL), will

require six credits in contrast to the existing requirement of zero to 14 credits. Students will meet this requirement by successfully completing one of two options:

Option 1: Students complete the study of a single GenEd-approved world language through the second semester of the first-year level of college-level course work.

Option 2: Students complete two first-semester courses in two different Gen-Ed approved world languages.

International students whose native language is not English may fulfill the requirement through demonstrated proficiency in their native languages, in accordance with the practice and policies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

NOTE: Education Abroad

Courses successfully completed as part of an approved education abroad experience will count toward GenEd requirements based on the category attribute the course carries at the time it is taken.

What Comes Next

During the rest of Spring 2026, the committee will focus on recommendations for GenEd course review and approval, provide faculty guidance for a phased implementation plan for the updated GenEd including the process for updating the learning outcomes associated with each GenEd area, and explore ways to further distinguish the IU Bloomington undergraduate experience (e.g. experiential learning and first-year seminar).