General Education Summary

Basic elements of Willamette University's General Education Program

- College Colloquium—First-year Seminar
- Study of Language other than English (up to 4 Credits)
- Writing-Centered Courses (3 Credits)
- Quantitative & Analytical Reasoning (2 Credits)
- Complete Study in Six Modes of Inquiry (5 Credit minimum)
- Senior Year Experience

The General Education program is described in the catalog at http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/overview/cla/generaled/

You can find courses taught this fall that satisfy particular parts of the General Education program by going to the schedule of classes and under Department Quick Access you’ll find Course Type Quick Assess. http://www.willamette.edu/dept/registrar/schedule/fall/index.html

Foreign Language – All students are expected to complete a foreign language study through the intermediate level. The number of courses needed to complete this requirement depends on where you begin the sequence, and could be up to 4 courses. If you’d like to continue on in a language please take the appropriate language placement exam before registering for classes. http://www.willamette.edu/cla/dean/firstyear_students/foreign_language_placement/index.php

Please read the note about placement testing in the fourth paragraph on the web page linked above.

There are several ways to satisfy the language requirement:

(a) Complete the fourth semester (e.g., GERM 232 or SPAN 232) or a higher level in a classic or foreign language course with a minimum grade of C-; or

(b) Pass an examination demonstrating the equivalent of two years of college language study (e.g. achieve a minimum score of 4 on the AP exam, place higher than the 4th semester on the placement exam); or

(c) Present evidence of a primary language other than English to the Registrar’s Office; or

(d) Complete the 3rd semester of a foreign language (e.g., SPAN 231) with a minimum grade of C-, plus one semester of a course (taught in English) that deals with the culture or literature of the language studied or with linguistics

Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning (QA) – A QA* course highlights quantitative methods, e.g., Calculus MATH 141, or statistics MATH 138 or ECON 230. A plain QA course uses quantitative methods to learn another subject, e.g., PHYS 221. For more information about this requirement and placement in quantitative courses please go to the web page http://www.willamette.edu/cla/dean/firstyear_students/reasoning_requirement/index.php

- Must take 2 quantitative courses. (Exception: MATH 249-Multivariable Calculus satisfies the entire quantitative requirement.)
- Need at least one QA* which expands your quantitative boundaries and provides you with the ability to interpret & apply mathematics,
- Need a second course which can be another QA* course or a QA course.
Modes of Inquiry (MOI) – Students are required to complete work (with a minimum grade of C-) in six broadly defined Modes of Inquiry. The range of courses available allows students a great deal of choice and flexibility in constructing their general education program. Some courses are designated to satisfy two categories, however, you must take at least five courses in satisfying the six requirements. The catalog has brief descriptions of the six Modes of Inquiry in the catalog under General Education (it is part way down the page at http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/overview/cla/gernealed/). Please note that courses from a variety of disciplines will be designated to fulfill each Mode.

- Understanding the Natural World (NW)
- Creating in the Arts (CA)
- Analyzing Arguments, Reasons & Values (AR)
- Interpreting Texts (IT)
- Thinking Historically (TH)
- Understanding Society (US)

Writing-Centered (W) – All entering students become part of the writing culture at Willamette through a series of writing-centered courses taken throughout their college careers. The program has two central goals: the use of writing to develop understanding of course content across the disciplines, and the progressive development of fluency in writing for a variety of audiences, both general and disciplinary. The Writing Center, housed in Matthews Hall, supports the program by providing opportunities for students at all levels to confer individually with faculty and peer consultants about their writing.

- A W following the course number designates a writing-centered course.
- Three courses are needed: in the major, out of major, any field.
- One of the three must be at 300 or higher
- While College Colloquium is not a writing-centered course; it does embody the goals of the writing program.