Courses fulfilling SESP Distribution Requirements

2001-2002

This list is valid for 2001-2002 ONLY

The distribution requirements expose you to the major areas of intellectual inquiry within the arts and sciences. Courses in each of these five areas share subject matter, sources of primary data, evaluative criteria, and modes of analysis. By taking courses in each area, you become familiar with a broad range of problems and the methodologies for approaching them.

However, the distribution requirements are a beginning, not an end. By becoming familiar with these areas, you can only choose future courses wisely but also begin acquiring the knowledge, breadth of interests, and intellectual flexibility that are the hallmark of the well-educated person.

Approved Courses

Courses taken to satisfy the distribution requirements must be chosen from the attached list of courses (SESP generally follows the guidelines developed by CAS). Each year a few courses are added to the list, and a few are deleted; only courses on the approved list in the year you take them satisfy these requirements.

Courses on the approved list meet several criteria: few or no prerequisites, making them suitable for freshmen and sophomores; consistent content from year to year, whoever the instructor may be; and availability each year or at least every other year. Because of this dependability, you can plan a program of study that will satisfy the distribution requirements as well as your interests and needs.

Courses that satisfy the distribution requirements provide a breadth of coverage, presenting a broad range of problems, introduce a discipline’s basic vocabulary, or consider a central way a discipline’s methods of inquiry. Most introductory survey courses also meet these criteria, but the approved list contains far more than just survey courses. For example, many courses on the list introduce major subfields of a discipline: Biological sciences offers courses in biological clocks, human reproduction, and evolution and ecology that will fulfill the natural science requirements.

Note: Letters in parentheses indicate the quarter in which departments intend to offer courses. Actual offerings will appear in the Class Schedule available before advance registration each quarter. The availability and/or schedules for courses marked (TBA) had not yet been set as of July 2001.

Note: Course numbers reflect the new Northwestern numbering system: Former A-level courses are now 100 level courses; B-level courses are now 200 level courses.

Area I: Natural Sciences

This area introduces you to methods of inquiry and fundamental concepts in the natural sciences. Courses in this area consider the theoretical and empirical bases of generally applicable statements about the natural world.

Anthropology (ANTHRO)
213 Human Origins (W)

Astronomy (ASTRON)
101 Modern Cosmology (S)
103 Solar System (W)
120 Highlights of Astronomy (WS)

Biological Sciences (BIOL SCI)
Note: any quarter of Biological Sciences 409-210-1,2,3 can be counted as one credit of the Area I requirement.
101 Biology in the Information Age (F)
102 Human Abilities (S)
103 Diversity of Life (WS)
112 Biotechnology and Society (W)
124 Genetics (S)
141 Genetics (S)

Chemistry (CHEM)
Note: any quarter of Chemistry 411-210-1,2,3 or 212-1,2,3 can be counted as one credit of the Area I requirement.
101 General Chemistry (F)
102 General Inorganic Chemistry (W)
171 Accelerated General Inorganic Chemistry (F)
172 Accelerated General Physical Chemistry (W)
201 Chemistry of Nature & Culture (W)

Civil Engineering (CIV ENG)
208 Environmental Literacy (S)

Cognitive Science (CDG SCI)
210 Language and the Brain (S)

Communication Sciences & Disorders (COMM SCI)
202 Biological Foundations of Communication (WS)

Geological Sciences (GEOG SCI)
101 Earth Processes & Products (S)
102 The Ocean, Atmosphere & Our Climate (F)
107 Plate Tectonics (S)
110 The Earth as a Planet (W)
111 Global Environmental Change (S)
114 Uniformity, Catastrophe & Meaning of Evolution (F)
201 Surface Processes (F)

Material Science (MAT SCI)
101 Modern Materials and Society (S)

Physics (PHYSICS)
Note: any quarter of Physics 447-125-1,2,3 can be counted as one credit of the Area I requirement.
103 Ideas of Physics (FWS)
130-1 Introductory College Physics (F)
130-2 Introductory College Physics (W)
135-1 General Physics (F)
135-2 General Physics (W)

Psychology (PSYCH)
212 Introduction to Neuroscience (FS)

This area introduces you to concepts, methods, and use of formal rules of inference in mathematics, statistics, computer science, logic, linguistics, and computer areas by showing how objects of thought and experience and their relationships can be analyzed in formal terms.

Computer Science (COMP SCI)
110 Intro to Computer Programming (FWS)
111 Fundamentals of Computer Programming (FW)

Linguistics (LING)
206 Formal Analysis of Words & Sentences (FWS)
207 Sound Patterns in Human Language (S)

Mathematics (MATH)
A student who has passed a course in mathematics above 214-2 with a grade of C- or better will be considered as having satisfied the Area II requirement.
104 Games and Fallacies (W)
110 Modern Mathematics I (F)
111 Modern Mathematics II (W)
210-1 Math for the Behavioral Sciences (F)
210-2 Math for the Behavioral Sciences (W)
213 Review of Calculus of One Variable (F)
214-1 Calculus (FW)
214-2 Calculus (FWS)

Music Studies, General, for Non-majors (GEN MUS)
252 Harmony (F)

Philosophy (PHIL)
150 Elementary Logic I (F)
250 Elementary Logic II (W)

Statistics (STAT)
201 Statistics and Public Policy (W)
202 Introduction to Statistics (FWS)
210 Introduction to Statistics for Social Sciences (FWS)

Area III: Historical Studies

The area of historical studies introduces the chronological development and historical relationships in cultural, social, political, economic, and military affairs in a broad temporal perspective.

See also "Interdisciplinary Studies," below

African American Studies (AF AM ST)
214-1 History of African Americans (W)

Anthropology (ANTHRO)
214 Cultural Origins (S)

History (HISTORY)
201-1 European Civilization (W)
201-2 European Civilization (S)
210-1 History of the United States (F)
210-2 History of the United States (W)
214 Asian American History (W)
255-3 Background to African Civilization & Culture (W)
258 History of England to 1547 (W)
258-2 History of England: 1599-Present (S)
270 Middle Eastern/Islamic Civilization (F)
274 History of Ancient Egypt (W)
281 Chinese Civilization (W)
285 Indian Civilization (S)

International Studies (INTL ST)
201-1 Introduction to the World System (W)
201-2 Introduction to the World System (F)

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Note: Course numbers reflect the new Northwestern numbering system: Former A-level courses are now 100 level courses; B-level courses are now 200 level courses.
The area of values introduces the analysis of moral, social, and religious values and how they have developed. Values and value systems may be appreciated through many disciplines, such as the world’s religions, literary and mythological expressions, philosophical analysis, or ideologies.

See also “Interdisciplinary Studies,” below

Anthropology (ANTHRO)
220 Evolution of Moral Systems (S)
232 Myth and Symbolism (S)
240 Contemporary African Worlds (F)

International Studies (INTL ST)
202 International Ethics (W)

Philosophy (PHIL)
110 Introduction to Philosophy (S)
210-1 The History of Philosophy (S)
210-2 The History of Philosophy (W)
261 Classics of Ethical & Political Theory (W)
263 Social and Political Philosophy (S)
285 Introduction to the Philosophy of Law (F)

Religion (RELIGION)
100 Religion in Human Experience (S)
211 New Testament Origins (WS)
220 Introduction to Hinduism (W)
222 Introduction to History (W)
224 Introduction to Judaism (W)
228 Introduction to Islam (W)
229 Introduction to Native American Religions (F)

Writing Arts (WRITING)
114-5 Modes: Bible and Its Transformations (WS)

Area V: Literature and Fine Arts

Literature and fine arts courses help you understand how the attitudes, ideas, and values of individuals, groups, societies, or cultures are represented in their literature, arts, and creative activities.

See also “Interdisciplinary Studies,” below

African American Studies (AF AM ST)
210-2 Survey of African American Literature (S)
225 African American Culture (F)
240-1 Survey of African American Music (F)

Art History (ART HIST)
220 Introduction to African Art (F)
230 Introduction to African Art (S)
240 Introduction to European Art (W)
250 Introduction to European Art (W)

Art Theory & Practice (ART)
270 Introduction to the Understanding of Art (S)

Classics (CLASSICS)
210 Homer and Hellenism (F)
260 Classical Mythology (S)

Comparative Literary Studies (COMP LIT)
202 Practices of Reading (W)
210 European Fiction since 1800 (F)
210 The Bible as Literature (F)
211 Japanese Literature in Translation (W)
211 Japanese Literature in Translation (W)
212 Introduction to Chinese Literature (S)
214 Introduction to Chinese Literature (W)
215 Introduction to Chinese Literature (W)
275 African Literature in Translation (S)
279 Modern Jewish Literature (F)
280 Interscultural Culture (F)

English (ENGLISH)
210-1 English Literary Traditions (F)
210-2 English Literary Traditions (W)
211 Introduction to Poetry (W)
212 Introduction to Drama (F)
213 Introduction to Fiction (WS)
234 Introduction to Shakespeare (FS)
260 Introduction to 20th-Cent. British Literature (S)
270-1 American Literary Traditions (F)
270-2 American Literary Traditions (W)
273 Intro to 20th-Century American Literature (S)
275 Intro to Asian American Literature (F)

French (FRENCH)
210 Introduction to French Literature-in-French (FWS)
271 Introduction to the French Novel-in-French (WS)
272 Introduction to French Theatre-in-French (W)
279 Introduction to French Theatre-in-France (S)

German (GERMAN)
210-1 Introduction to German Literature-in-German (F)

Integrated Program INTG ART
230 Art Process (W)
231-1 Modes of Merchant (S)
231-2 Modes of Art (S)
231-3 Modes of Music (F)
231-4 Modes of Dance (F)

Italian (ITALIANT)
274 Dante’s Divine Comedy (F)
290 Memory, Exile, and the Italian Diaspora (S)

Music Studies, General (GEN MUS)
170 Introduction to Music (F)
220 History of the Symphony (TBA)
230 Masterpieces of Opera (F)
270-1 Western Musical Tradition (TBA)
270-2 Western Musical Tradition (TBA)

Spanish and Portuguese (SPANISH/PORT)
248 Contemporary Spanish-American Prose Fiction (F)
250 Spanish Lit. & Civilization Before 1700-in-Span (WS)
251 Spanish Lit. & Civilization Since 1700-in-Span (FS)
280 Latin Amer. Lit. and Culture Before 1888-in-Span (WS)
281 Latin Amer. Lit. and Culture Since 1888-in-Span (FWS)

Speech Courses, General Speech (GEN SPCH)
103 Analysis & Performance of Speech (FWS)

Interdisciplinary Studies (Areas III, IV, and V)

The interdisciplinary courses listed below may be counted toward one of the three distribution areas — III (Historical Studies), IV (Values), or V (Literature and Fine Arts) — as determined by the student. The student's second distribution course in that selected area cannot be another Interdisciplinary Studies course. For example, if a student elects to count EUR TH 219 in Area III, the second Area III distribution course must be selected from the courses listed under Area III above.

Classics (CLASSICS)
210 Early Western Civilization (F)
211 Classical Greece (W)
212 Roman Civilization (S)

European Thought & Culture (EUR TH)
213 The Middle Ages (W)
215 Age of Enlightenment (W)
217 The Romanic Period (F)
219 Modern Culture; 20th Century (S)
241-1 Jews and Germans: An Intercultural History (F)
241-2 Jews and Germans: An Intercultural History (W)

Note: Please direct any questions regarding fulfillment of SESP distribution requirements to the individual program advisors at the SESP Student Affairs Office, 2115 North Campus Drive, 491-3790.