

Why GE?

General Education is the foundation of a university education, providing students with core skills that will not only benefit them in their specialties, but also serve them well as they advance in their careers.

Scan here for more information about the CSUF General Education Program



Which GE Applies to Me?

Catalog Rights

Title 5 Sec. 40401 Election of Regulations
(5 CCR § 40401)

Catalog rights refer to the criteria established for the completion of your degree (both GE and your major) based on the catalog in effect at the time you began attending a community college or CSU. An undergraduate student remaining in continuous attendance* can choose to meet the CSUF graduation requirements in the catalog that was in effect:

1. At the time you began continuous attendance at a California community college (if applicable)
2. At the time you transferred to or began attendance at CSUF
3. At the time you graduate from CSUF

Campus authorities may authorize or require substitutions for discontinued courses.

**Attendance means enrollment in at least one semester or two quarters each academic year.*



GENERAL EDUCATION

Cal State Fullerton



Comparisons of GE Areas for:

- **CSUF GE Breadth**
Effective Fall 2021 to Summer 2025
- **CSUF GE Requirements**
Effective Fall 2025 and beyond
- **Cal-GETC at Community Colleges**
Effective Fall 2025 and beyond

Fall 2021 - Summer 2025

CSUF GE Breadth

LOWER- AND UPPER-DIVISION (48-49 units)

Area A Core Competencies

- A1 Oral Communication (3 units)
- A2 Written Communication (3 units)
- A3 Critical Thinking (3 units)

Area B Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

- B1 Physical Science (3 units)
- B2 Life Science (3 units)
- B3 Laboratory (0 - 1 unit)
- B4 Mathematics/QR (3 units)
- B5 Impl. & Expl. in Natural Sciences & Math/QR (3 units)

Area C Arts and Humanities

- C1 Intro. to Arts (3 units)
- C2 Intro. to Humanities (3 units)
- Additional C1 or C2 (3 units)
- C3 Expl. in Arts or Humanities (3 units)

Area D Social Sciences

- D1 Intro. to Social Sciences (3 units)
- D2 American History, Institutions, & Values (3 units)
- D3 Expl. in Social Sciences (3 units)

Area E Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

- One course (3 units)

Area F Ethnic Studies

- One course (3 units)

Overlay Z Cultural Diversity

- One course (0 units)

Fall 2025 & Beyond

CSUF GE

LOWER- AND UPPER-DIVISION (43 units)

Area 1 English Communication

- 1A English Composition (3 units)
- 1B Critical Thinking (3 units)
- 1C Oral Communication (3 units)

Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

- 2A Math Concepts and QR (3 units)
- 2U Impl. & Expl. in Math/QR (0-3 units)[†]

Area 3 Arts and Humanities

- 3A Intro. to Arts (3 units)
- 3B Intro. to Humanities (3 units)
- 3U Expl. in Arts or Humanities (3 units)

Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences

- 4A Intro. to Social & Behavioral Sci. (3 units)
- 4B American History, Institutions, & Values (3 units)
- 4U Expl. in Social & Behavioral Sci. (3 units)

Area 5 Physical and Biological Sciences

- 5A Physical Science (3 units)
- 5B Biological Science (3 units)
- 5C Laboratory (1 unit)
- 5U Impl. & Expl. in Physical & Biological Sciences (0-3 units)[†]

Area 6 Ethnic Studies

- One course (3 units)

Overlay Z Cultural Diversity

- One course (0 units)

[†] Students must complete 3 units in either Area 2U or 5U

Fall 2025 & Beyond

Cal-GETC* at Community Colleges

LOWER-DIVISION (34 units)

Area 1 English Communication

- 1A English Composition (3 units)
- 1B Critical Thinking and Composition (3 units)
- 1C Oral Communication (3 units)

Area 2 Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

- One course (3 units)

Area 3 Arts and Humanities

- 3A Arts (3 units)
- 3B Humanities (3 units)

Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences

- Two courses (6 units)

Area 5 Physical and Biological Sciences

- 5A Physical Science (3 units)
- 5B Biological Science (3 units)
- 5C Laboratory (1 unit) - May be embedded in 5A or 5B course, as long as 7 units are met for lower-division Area 5.

Area 6 Ethnic Studies

- One course (3 units)

***Cal-GETC** is the lower-division transfer pattern for California Community College students transferring to the CSU or the UC.

Note: Nine units of upper-division GE are required of Cal-GETC-certified students after transferring to a CSU campus.