

**Pilot Program to Expand General Education Options for Incoming Honors Freshmen
Implementation Policies, 2008-09**

The General Education Pilot Program for Honors Freshmen consists of **Foundations** (Freshman Composition, Mathematics, and Second Language), **3 Study Areas** (Traditions and Cultures/Humanities, Individuals and Societies, and Natural Sciences), **Arts, and Diversity Emphasis Course**. Students must complete 3 courses in each study area according to the following stipulations: all students are required to take one Tier One course and one Tier Two course in each study area, in accordance with their degree program. The third required course in each study area is to be selected either from Tier One (a course with the same prefix but a different number) or from Tier Two (a course with a different prefix than the first Tier Two course). For example, in the Traditions and Cultures/Humanities Study Area, students must complete one TRAD course and one Humanities course; their third course in this study area may be a TRAD course with a different number or a Humanities course with a different prefix (cross-listed courses with a second department are acceptable). At the Tier Two level, students have a one-course exemption from the study area corresponding to their major. All students are also required to complete three units of Arts and one Diversity Emphasis course; the latter may be satisfied with a course from the approved Diversity list that is also listed in Tier One, Tier Two, the major, or the minor.

Table illustrating Expanded General Education Options for Honors Freshmen, 2008-09:

Note: Foundations Requirements are described in the General Catalog, <http://catalog.arizona.edu/2008-09/gened.html>.

General Education Study Areas	Required		Total Courses/ Units Required in each Study Area
Tier One - TRAD	1 course	1 additional course in this study area	3 courses
Tier Two - Humanities ¹	1 course		
Tier One - INDV	1 course	1 additional course in this study area	3 courses
Tier Two - Individuals & Societies ¹	1 course		
Tier One – NATS or laboratory science from approved list ²	1 course	1 additional course in this study area	3 courses
Tier Two - Natural Sciences ¹	1 course		
Arts ¹	3 units ³	---	3 units
Diversity Emphasis ⁴	See note ⁴	---	See note ⁴

¹ One Tier Two course (or the Arts) is satisfied by completion of major coursework, per the exemption policy.

² Tier One–NATS & Tier Two–Natural Sciences is satisfied by completion of coursework required for science intensive majors only.

³ Arts may be satisfied by completing three one-unit courses.

⁴ The Diversity Emphasis requirement of one course may be satisfied by completing a specific Tier One or Two course (or a course applying toward the major or minor) from the list of Diversity Emphasis courses.

The Honors General Education Pilot Program, 2008-09, is for all incoming freshmen admitted to the Honors College. These students will remain in the pilot until they graduate, even if they become inactive in the Honors Program. Changing majors will not affect their continuation in the pilot.

1. **Substitution of UA courses:** Substitutions using UA courses in the 3 study areas, if any, are only allowed in Tier Two, not Foundations or Tier One. Any UA course substitution must adhere to transfer policy and UWGEC guidelines. The course must meet the stated general learning outcomes of that requirement. Students requesting a General Education substitution must submit a petition to their college dean or the dean's representative, according to the college petition process.
2. **Substitution of transfer courses and exam credit:** The application of transfer course work and exam credit (i.e., AP, IB, and CLEP exams) toward any General Education requirement must be in accordance with UA transfer policy, exam credit policy, and UWGEC guidelines. The credit must meet the stated general learning outcomes of that requirement. **Within the three Study Areas, UWGEC strongly recommends that transfer and exam credit first be applied to the Tier One requirement, and second to the corresponding Tier Two requirement.**
3. No General Education requirement can be waived for an individual or group of students. **Note:** Colleges that have been granted exceptions by UWGEC on specific General Education requirements due to their professional accreditation standards and unit requirements will retain those exceptions.
4. Courses taken to satisfy a Tier One or Tier Two requirement cannot apply toward the student's major. A maximum of 6 units from Tier Two and/or Arts may also apply toward the student's minor or to an Interdisciplinary Studies subject area.
5. All students have one exempt course in the Tier Two study area specified by their major/degree program. That particular study area would be satisfied by 2 courses, at least one of which must be a Tier One course. If the second course is selected from Tier Two options, that course must be selected from a discipline/department other than the major.
6. A student with a double or triple major may have more than one exempt course in Tier Two, depending on the exempt areas specified by their particular majors.
7. If the student changes majors, the Tier Two course exemption shifts to the new major; the student does not retain a Tier Two exemption in the study area of the former major.
8. Students completing a second UA degree must meet all General Education requirements specified by the second degree program in addition to those required for the first degree. If the study area for which there's a course exemption differs between the two degree programs, a UA course from the major of the first degree may be substituted to meet the Tier Two study area for the second degree (assuming that a course was exempt in the first degree). Students completing simultaneous double degrees have one exempt Tier Two course in each degree, according to the major; a UA course from the major of the primary degree may be substituted for the Tier Two course required in the secondary degree (and vice versa) as long as the student completes both degrees. If the student does not complete the secondary degree, any UA course substitution for the primary degree must be approved by the college petition process.
9. The Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) satisfies the expanded options for UA General Education Program in the same way it has since 1998.

10. Substitutions—those for transfer, exam, and/or any UA course work—made by the student’s initial college advisor will be honored by any subsequent college advisor (for example, when a student changes colleges/majors).

*Submitted by the UWGEC Substitutions Subcommittee, 11/20/07;
approved in concept by UWGEC, 11/28/07 (additional input requested);
revised by Subcommittee as **pilot**, 2/14/08; approved w/o policies by UWGEC, 2/20/08;
sent by ICPC to Undergraduate Council, 3/5/08; reviewed by Curriculum/Policies Subcommittee, 3/11/08;
returned to UWGEC requesting Tier Two implementation & assessment plans, 3/12/08;
approved as pilot for one year by Wanda Howell, Chair of the Faculty, 3/25/08.*

Prepared by C. Pardee, 11/20/07, revised 2/14/08, updated 5/15/08.