

General Education Program

The General Education Program (GEP) at Quincy University provides the foundation for a liberal arts education. The GEP includes a "core" curriculum of 21 hours that is important in giving QU a special identity; the GEP Core courses are those that particularly support our mission - providing students with a clear sense of ethical and spiritual identity, and strong communication skills - so students can work towards the "transformation of the world." Because students will take these Core courses during the years specified, the classes and conversations about them help provide a shared and continuing liberal arts experience. Courses marked by the asterisk are the "Core" and should be taken during the year specified. Because of the foundational nature of the classes, it is recommended that 100-level and 200-level courses in the GEP be completed before the end of the sophomore year, except for the fine arts course, which can be taken at any time during the 4 years. Except for courses in the Core and the physical education requirement, students may take a higher numbered course to fulfill the general education requirement.

Goals of the GEP

1. Students encounter a variety of aesthetic experiences and demonstrate that they have the tools with which to think critically about them;
2. Students demonstrate that the learned skills of each QU student include critical thinking and problem solving;
3. Students demonstrate that their learned skills include effective written and oral communication;
4. Students demonstrate that they meet the standards of information literacy as defined by the Association of College and Research Libraries;
5. Students demonstrate growing leadership capabilities, team working and team building skills that will prepare students for ethical lives of responsible leadership and service in an increasingly complex professional and personal world;
6. Students demonstrate familiarity with cross-cultural studies that make students aware of a global culture marked by racial, ethnic, gender and regional differences;
7. Students demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of the Western religious traditions, especially including Roman Catholic and Franciscan;
8. Students demonstrate basic scientific competency;
9. Students demonstrate basic mathematical competency;
10. Students demonstrate basic technological competency;
11. Students develop the ability to weigh evidence without bias, tolerate ambiguity, and use ethical principles in their academic and personal lives.

Signature Courses in the GEP

The University Signature Courses, hours taken in theology and/or philosophy, are those courses that especially support our Franciscan mission. Two of these courses - Western Religious Traditions and Ethics - are included in the Core curriculum. Six additional hours consisting of Theology and a choice between Theology (TRS) and Philosophy (PHI) are also required.

Writing Across the Curriculum

Because Quincy University is committed to graduating students who are capable writers, the General Education Program requires four designated "writing-enriched" courses after completion of Composition and Texts I and II. One course in the major is strongly recommended. Students transferring in 48-85 hours need 2 writing-enriched courses (one in the major recommended) and students transferring in 86 hours or more must complete one (preferably in the major).

Technological Literacy in the GEP

The University is committed to graduating technologically literate students. Students will be required to achieve minimum technological competency as defined by the departments, divisions, or schools. These academic units will be responsible for demonstrating that the technology competency requirements have been met.