GENERAL EDUCATION

USC’s General Education program is designed to introduce you to the breadth of knowledge you will need to be a well-educated person in the 21st century. With careful choice of classes, students can meet the following 10 requirements with eight courses:

- Eight courses within the six Core Literacies: one course each in The Arts, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Quantitative Reasoning; and two courses each in Humanistic Inquiry and Social Analysis.
- Two courses in Global Perspectives: one in Citizenship in a Diverse World and one in Traditions and Historical Foundations.
- Some Global Perspectives courses will satisfy requirements in the Core Literacies as well. A single course can satisfy one Global Perspectives and one Core Literacy requirement at most.
- Transfer students must complete two GE courses at USC Dornsife College from among the six Core Literacy categories.
- Once enrolled at USC, students must complete all remaining GE Core Literacy requirements at USC.
- Transfer students are not required to complete the General Education Seminar (GESM) required of first-year students.
- A course taken at another institution must be at least 3 semester units or 4 quarter units to be eligible for GE credit.

Additional information about the 2015 General Education Program is available at dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge.

COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION

Writing and math are required for all transfer students. Students intending to study science, business, engineering, architecture or dental hygiene are required to complete additional courses before transferring. Refer to pages 12-15 for details.

WRITING/COMPOSITION

Strong writing skills are essential to success at USC. All undergraduates at USC are required to take two writing courses: one lower-division and one upper-division course. The upper-division course must be taken at USC.

Successful transfer applicants will complete a course equivalent to the lower-division requirement, WRIT 130, before applying for admission. Typically the second course in a college composition sequence satisfies this requirement.

If your school does not offer a course equivalent to WRIT 130, you should take the strongest composition course available. This course may not be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis. Professional, technical, creative and remedial writing courses will not satisfy this requirement.

If you are unsure if your writing course is equivalent to WRIT 130, or if it does not appear on any current articulation agreements or histories, keep the syllabus and papers for later review by USC.

MINIMUM MATH

Advanced or Intermediate Algebra

You are expected to have earned strong grades in at least three years of high school mathematics, including Advanced Algebra (Algebra II) or Intermediate Algebra at the college level with a grade of C or better.

Majors in the social sciences, business and architecture at USC require specific mathematics courses and achievement beyond this level. Science and engineering majors can become stronger candidates for admission by completing the additional coursework listed on pages 12-15 of this brochure, or found on the respective departmental website.

If lower-division mathematics courses are required by your major, we advise you to complete them early in your college studies, prior to applying to USC.

Please refer to Additional Coursework by Major on pages 12-15 to find out if your intended program of study requires additional coursework.
### GE: HUMANISTIC INQUIRY (2 COURSES)
Courses that meet this requirement examine the historical and cultural foundations of contemporary societies over a substantial period of time by teaching students to understand the enduring influence of literary, political, economic, philosophical, legal, ethical, and religious traditions.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- History of a particular civilization, including U.S. history (must include cultural context), History of World Religions, Old Testament, New Testament, Mythology (Greek/Roman/World)
- Intro to Religion (general), Modern or contemporary history courses focused on the 20th century or later.

**NOT ACCEPTABLE:**
Intro to Religion (general), Modern or contemporary history courses focused on the 20th century or later.

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### GE: TRADITIONS AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS
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### GE: CITIZENSHIP IN A DIVERSE WORLD
Courses that meet this requirement enhance understanding of citizenship and moral agency in today’s increasingly global society by teaching students to identify social, political, economic, and cultural forces that bear on human experience in the U.S. and around the world.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- Art History (must include cultural context), History of Architecture (must include cultural context), History of Theatre, Western Civilization, World Civilization, US History, Old Testament, New Testament, Mythology (Greek/Roman/World)
- Intro to Religion (general), Modern or contemporary history courses focused on the 20th century or later.

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### GE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
Courses that meet this requirement enable students to engage with the arts by teaching them to create and analyze works of art, understanding the context of their creations and their connections to cultural issues.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- Art History (must include cultural context), Intro to Film, Art Appreciation (Great Works), History of Architecture (must include cultural context), History of Music, History of Dance, History of Photography, Intro to Theatre, Modern Art, Contemporary Art, Music Appreciation, History of Jazz, History of Rock and Roll, Dramatic Literature (plays from all eras)

**NOT ACCEPTABLE:**
- Studio, performance, theory or pre-professional courses

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### GE: THE LIFE SCIENCES
Courses that meet this requirement analyze natural phenomena through quantitative description and synthesis, teaching students to solve scientific problems and to understand the processes by which scientific knowledge is obtained, evaluated and placed in the context of societal relevance.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- General Biology, Physical Anthropology, Environmental Biology, Marine Biology

- Courses must include a lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable.

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### GE: THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
Courses that meet this requirement analyze natural phenomena through quantitative description and synthesis, teaching students to solve scientific problems and to understand the processes by which scientific knowledge is obtained, evaluated and placed in the context of societal relevance.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- General Chemistry, intro to Chemistry, General Physics, Oceanography, Elementary Astronomy, Physical Geography

- Courses must include a lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable.

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### GE: QUANTITATIVE REASONING
Courses that meet this requirement teach students to use a set of formal tools, such as logical or statistical inference, probability, or mathematical analysis to pose and evaluate hypotheses, claims, questions, or problems within a formal mode of thought.

**EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE COURSES:**
- Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Pre-Calculus, College Algebra, Statistics, Finite Math, Calculus, Math for Liberal Arts, Calculus for Business

- Meeting This Requirement with Math Placement Test Scores: Students may meet their 2015 General Education requirement in Quantitative Reasoning with a score of 22 on the USC Mathematics Placement Exam, if that score is earned under certain conditions. Please visit dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge-requirements for complete information.