THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

PREPARING FOR DEGREES, CAREERS, AND LIVES

*Pathways Through General Education*

IDEAS

ARTS & LITERATURE

CULTURE & SOCIETY

POLITICS
A university education is more than just training for a specific career. It challenges you to think through problems and questions from various points of view, using tools and ideas from different disciplines. Our goal is to provide our society with versatile citizens who can gather the relevant information, think carefully, and make judicious decisions in all walks of life.

General education is that part of your university experience where you gain a common core of skills and are introduced to very different ways of approaching the problems of human life. But in order to get the most from this experience, it helps to have some advice about which courses to take so that you can fit them together into a solid foundation and bring focus to the rest of your university experience.

The CHaSS pathways are designed to help you build that foundation. Each pathway provides a focused and efficient way through USU’s general education requirements.

But that is not all. When you encounter these different disciplines through general education—from English to Physics, from Biology to Philosophy—your mind will become alive to new kinds of questions and new kinds of possibilities.
When students come to college, they face a dizzying array of choices. Which course should I take? What should I major in? How do the gen ed courses fit into what I’m supposed to do?

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences has put together some options to make these choices a bit easier—and more informed. We recommend that students get going on their gen ed courses right away by taking some “core” courses in humanities, social sciences, math, and English. Students can also select a pathway through the rest of gen ed that matches their own interests and fits in with their major.
Students who are interested in big questions and deep ideas can satisfy their general education requirements, and feed their interests, by taking at least ONE course from each box:
AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

HIST 2700: development of American society, economy, culture, and politics up to 1877
HIST 2710: the same, but after 1877
POL 1100: studying U.S. Constitution, political parties and elections, Congress, president, courts, and civil liberties
HONR 1300: for students in the Honors program

CREATIVE ARTS

USU 1330: exploring the nature of art, how it is judged, and how artistic expression varies across cultures
HONR 1330: for students in the Honors program

LIFE SCIENCES

USU 1350: focusing on basic concepts of life science, and the role of modeling, prediction, and observation in scientific discovery
ANTH 1020: the study of fossil and living primates, human evolution, and genetics
BIOL 1010: how biology impacts the daily life of the individual
WILD 2200: how organisms relate to physical environments, communities, and ecosystems
HONR 1350: for students in the Honors program

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

USU 1360: basic concepts of physical science, including structure of matter and the forces of nature
GEOG 1000: geographic analysis of physical processes, the atmosphere, and the biosphere
PHYS 1010: the basic principles of classical physics, such as the scientific method, conservation laws, properties of matter
PHYS 1040: the solar system and universe, laws of motion, matter, and conceptual models of celestial motions
PHYS 1080: the likelihood of extraterrestrial intelligence and its probable locations, along with the nature and evolution of life on Earth
PHYS 1200: matter, electricity and magnetism, light and sound, forces, energy, momentum, thermodynamics, and modern physics
HONR 1360: for students in the Honors program

EXPLORATION

ARTH 2710: history of art, from prehistoric art through the end of the Gothic era
ARTH 2720: the same, continuing from the Renaissance through modern times
ENGL 2200: introducing fiction, drama, and poetry of different periods and cultures
ENGL 2300: Shakespeare’s comedies, histories, tragedies, and poetry
ENGL 2630: a broad selection of American literary, historical, artistic, and cultural works

Students who want to explore the creative powers of the arts, and the world they express, can satisfy their general education requirements, and feed their interests, by taking at least ONE course from each box:
**AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECN 1500</td>
<td>understanding economic institutions, including property rights, markets, banking, trade, and taxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 2700</td>
<td>development of American society, economy, culture, and politics up to 1877</td>
</tr>
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<td>HIST 2710</td>
<td>the same, but after 1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1100</td>
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**CREATIVE ARTS**

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<td>USU 1330</td>
<td>exploring the nature of art, how it is judged, and how artistic expression varies across cultures</td>
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<td>HONR 1330</td>
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**LIFE SCIENCES**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USU 1350</td>
<td>focusing on basic concepts of physical science, including structure of matter and the forces of nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 1020</td>
<td>study of fossil and living primates, human evolution, and genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1010</td>
<td>how biology impacts the daily life of the individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDFS 1020</td>
<td>Role of dietary choices in providing physical well-being to people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATS 1200</td>
<td>understanding the impact our species is having on natural ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILD 2200</td>
<td>how organisms relate to physical environments, communities, and ecosystems</td>
</tr>
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**PHYSICAL SCIENCES**

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<td>USU 1360</td>
<td>basic concepts of physical science, including structure of matter and the forces of nature</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 1000</td>
<td>geographic analysis of physical processes, the atmosphere, and the biosphere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSC 2000</td>
<td>the processes governing the behavior of the atmosphere and the phenomenon of weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSC 2010</td>
<td>topics include water quality, global climate change, deforestation, soil conservation, and agricultural sustainability</td>
</tr>
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<td>HONR 1360</td>
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**EXPLORATION**

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<tr>
<td>ANTH 1010</td>
<td>social life, ideology and symbolism, and cultural change and diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJ 1010</td>
<td>history and functions of politics, courts, and corrections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JCOM 2010</td>
<td>the influence of mass media on society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHL 1120</td>
<td>moral arguments underlying debates in American law and politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 1010</td>
<td>social behavior of humans and institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPCH 2110</td>
<td>interpersonal relationships in family, intercultural, and other contexts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 1010</td>
<td>cultural beliefs and stereotypes concerning women’s and men’s roles in society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other courses: ANTH 1030, ASTE 2900, ENVS 2340, JCOM 1500, PHL 1000, PSY 1010, SOC 1020</td>
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**CULTURE & SOCIETY PATHWAY**

Students who want to understand the dynamics of cultures, and the ways that individuals relate to society, can satisfy their general education requirements, and feed their interests, by taking at least ONE course from each box:
Students who want to understand the nature of politics can satisfy their general education requirements, and feed their interests, by taking at least ONE course from each box:

**AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS**
- ECN 1500: understanding economic institutions, including property rights, markets, banking, trade, and taxes
- HIST 2700: development of American society, economy, culture, and politics up to 1877
- HIST 2710: the same, but after 1877
- POLS 1100: studying U.S. Constitution, political parties and elections, Congress, president, courts, and civil liberties
- HONR 1330: for students in the Honors program

**CREATIVE ARTS**
- USU 1330: exploring the nature of art, how it is judged, and how artistic expression varies across cultures
- HONR 1330: for students in the Honors program

**LIFE SCIENCES**
- USU 1350: focusing on basic concepts of life science, and the nature of scientific discovery
- ANTH 1020: the study of fossil and living primates, human evolution, and genetics
- BIOL 1010: how biology impacts the daily life of the individual
- NDFS 1020: Role of dietary choices in providing physical well-being to people
- WETS 1200: understanding the impact our species is having on natural ecosystems
- WILD 2200: how organisms relate to physical environments, communities, and ecosystems
- HONR 1350: for students in the Honors program

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES**
- USU 1360: basic concepts of physical science, including structure of matter and the forces of nature
- CS 1060: cyber-security threats, identifying potential attacks, and implementing solutions
- GEOG 1000: geographic analysis of physical processes, the atmosphere, and the biosphere
- PSC 2000: the processes governing the behavior of the atmosphere and the phenomenon of weather
- PSC 2010: topics include water quality, global climate change, deforestation, soil conservation, and agricultural sustainability
- HONR 1360: for students in the Honors program

**POLITICAL PATHWAY**

**EXPLORATION**
- ANTH 1010: social life, ideology, and symbolism, and cultural change and diversity
- JCOM 2010: the influence of mass media on society
- PHIL 1120: moral arguments underlying debates in American law and politics
- POLS 2200: political culture, institutions, and processes, political development, violence and corruption, and public policy
- PSY 1010: human thought and behavior
- SOC 1010: social behavior of humans and institutions
Other courses: ENVS 2340, JCOM 1500, PHIL 2400, SPCH 1020, SOC 1020, WGS 1010
CHaSS PATHWAYS FAQS

Do I have to complete a pathway? Students must meet USU’s gen ed requirements, but each pathway is just one way of doing so. Pathways are recommended, but not required.

What if I get started on a pathway, and then my interests change? Each pathway meets USU’s gen ed requirements, and can be applied to any major. Be sure to check with an academic advisor to see if the major you’re interested in has a pre-major or other recommendations for you.

How do pre-majors fit with pathways? There usually is some overlap. To work through the details, it is best to talk with an academic advisor.

What if I only partially complete a pathway? That’s okay. Just be sure that your gen ed requirements are met in one way or other.

Why should I choose a pathway? The most important reason is that the classes in each pathway are more likely to meet your interests, and make your gen ed experience more useful to you.

What if I don’t know what my major will be? You can choose any pathway that sounds good to you, and explore possible majors through the variety of courses you take.

What if I am double-majoring, and my other major is in another college? No matter what your major is, you will need to satisfy USU’s gen ed requirements, and each pathway does that. But it is always good to check with an academic advisor to make sure you are on track with your major programs’ expectations.

What if I can’t get into the class I want? You can be placed on a waiting list, or ask an instructor for permission to add, or choose another available course.

FOR OTHER QUESTIONS...

Please contact the CHaSS Advising Center at 797–3883, or visit us online at usu.edu/hass_advising/