General Education Package

Daniel Archer
Vice President for Academic Affairs
November 21, 2022

Kansas Board of Regents
Building a Future for Kansas Families, Businesses and the Economy
1. Board goal was established to create a common general education package
2. 19-member gen ed working group was created and began working on developing a common GE package.

1. Student complaints about transfer
2. Future of Higher Education Council
3. Board directive to address transfer

1. 19-member working group continued to work on ge framework
2. 9-member implementation working group created to help write policy
3. Board approved policy changes on June 15, 2022
1. Board goal was established to create a common general education package
2. 19-member gen ed working group was created and began working on developing a common GE package.

2019-2020 Year

1. Student complaints about transfer
2. Future of Higher Education Council
3. Board directive to address transfer

2021-2022 Year

1. 19-member working group continued to work on ge framework
2. 9-member implementation working group created to help write policy
3. Board approved policy changes on June 15, 2022
Background

1. Board goal was established to create a common general education package
2. 19-member gen ed working group was created and began working on developing a common GE package.

2019-2020 Year

1. Student complaints about transfer
2. Future of Higher Education Council
3. Board directive to address transfer

2020-2021 Year

1. 19-member working group continued to work on ge framework
2. 9-member implementation working group created to help write policy
3. Board approved policy changes on June 15, 2022

2021-2022 Year
New Systemwide General Education Program policy (Chapter III.A.18)

Amendments to the Transfer and Articulation Policy (Chapter III.A.2.g.)
SYSTEMWIDE GENERAL EDUCATION BACKGROUND

1. HOW DID THE SYSTEMWIDE GENERAL EDUCATION START?

At the end of FY 2020, the Board expressed a strong desire to develop a more robust system-based approach to facilitate student transfer. Building on this vision, in FY 2021 and 2022, the Board established a goal to develop a systemwide general education (GE) package under a common framework. When framing this goal, the Board instructed Board staff to develop a system-based GE package that would maximize the application of credit throughout the system, simplify processes for transfer students, and remove barriers for transfer students.

At the outset of this work in September 2020, 14 out of 15 states in the central United States had some variation of a systemwide GE, with Kansas being the outlier without a systemwide GE. From September 2020 to May 2022, a GE working group consisting of 19 faculty and administrators from community colleges, universities, and one technical college, a nine-member GE implementation working group consisting of registrars and transfer academic advisors, and detailed feedback from institutions helped shape the GE Framework and its related policies.

The policy revisions and additions pertaining to GE and the application of transfer GE credit were approved by the Board on June 15, 2022.

2. WHAT POLICY ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD?

First, a new policy, the Systemwide General Education Program policy (Chapter III.A.18), creates a systemwide GE for the state universities, community colleges, and Washburn University. Most notably, this details the common system framework (disciplines, core subjects, and credit hours) that each institution will adopt, establishes institutional reporting requirements, and creates a GE Council, which will be responsible for reviewing institutional reporting, issuing recommendations regarding requests for certain majors to deviate from the GE requirements, and investigating student and institutional complaints relating to the systemwide GE program and its application to the Transfer and Articulation policy.
General Education in the Central United States

- GE Package Required for Transfer Associate and Baccalaureate Degrees
- GE Package Required for Transfer Associate Degrees
- No GE Package Required
General Education in the Central United States

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General Education in the Central United States

- **GE Package Required for Transfer Associate and Baccalaureate Degrees**
- **GE Package Required for Transfer Associate Degrees**
- **No GE Package Required**
General Education in the Central United States
## Systemwide GE Hours by State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Average Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WI</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ark</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Minimum Credit Hours: 37
Systemwide GE Hours by State

- WI, 30
- TX, 42
- OK, 40
- MO, 42
- MN, 40
- KS, 34
- LA, 39
- IL, 37
- CO, 30
- Ark, 35
7-Bucket GE Framework

Implementation by Fall 2024

- English Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Communications Discipline Area: 3 Hours
- Math & Stats Discipline Area: 3 Hours
- Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area: 4-5 Hours
- Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Arts & Humanities Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Institutionally Designated Area: 6 Hours
7-Bucket GE Framework

Math & Statistics Area
3 Hours of Math or Statistics Courses
This will be defined by math pathways work.

English Discipline Area
6 Hours

Communications Discipline Area
3 Hours

Math & Stats Discipline Area
3 Hours

Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area
4-5 Hours

Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area
6 Hours

Arts & Humanities Discipline Area
6 Hours

Institutionally Designated Area
6 Hours
A math pathways system may look something like the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Statistics</th>
<th>Majors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public &amp; Protective Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library &amp; Info Science</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantitative Reasoning</th>
<th>Majors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td></td>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applied Arts/Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hospitality &amp; Culinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ag &amp; Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Algebra to Calculus</th>
<th>Majors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engineering &amp; Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business</td>
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7-Bucket GE Framework

- English Discipline Area: 6 Hours
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<td>6</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math &amp; Stats Discipline Area</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural &amp; Physical Sciences Area</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences Area</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities Discipline Area</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutionally Designated Area</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area – 6 Credit Hours**

At least two courses from two subject areas

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- Ethnic and/or Gender Studies
- Geography
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the social sciences area
**7-Bucket GE Framework**

**Arts & Humanities Discipline Area – 6 Credit Hours**

At least two courses from two subject areas

- Art *
- Communications
- Cultural Studies
- Dance *
- English
- General Humanities
- History
- Literature
- Modern and Classical Languages
- Music *
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Theater *

Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the arts and humanities

*The application of performance courses in this subject area is at the discretion of the institution
7-Bucket GE Framework

- English Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Communications Discipline Area: 3 Hours
- Math & Stats Discipline Area: 3 Hours
- Natural & Physical Sciences Discipline Area: 4-5 Hours
- Social & Behavioral Sciences Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Arts & Humanities Discipline Area: 6 Hours
- Institutionally Designated Area: 6 Hours

6 Hours Determined by the Institution.
This area provides flexibility for each institution to define requirements to account for societal issues, local needs, and institutional priorities (Intermediate Algebra shall not be applied toward meeting this area).
How does this Work for Transfer Students Who Completed the Systemwide GE?

Institution A

The student Completes the Systemwide GE

Institution B

Institution B cannot require additional GE unless one of the exceptions below apply

All 7 GE Buckets Completed
Student Name: Ricky Bobby  
Student ID: 11111111  
Birth Date: November 21  
Major: ART

### Fall 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Num.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>History Since 1877</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>English Comp. I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Intro to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>Elementary Stats</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Gen Bio &amp; Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sem Hrs Ttl=16  
Sem GPA 3.81

### Spring 2025

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>101</td>
<td>Music Appreciation</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>102</td>
<td>English Comp. II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Intro to Pub Spk</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Personal Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>American Govt</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sem Hrs Ttl=15  
Sem GPA 4.0

### Summer 2025

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Num.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Intro to Comp Scl</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sem Hrs Ttl=15  
Sem GPA 4.0

**KS Systemwide General Education Completed**

CUM HOURS=34  
CUM POINTS=133  
CUM GPA=3.91

END OF TRANSCRIPT------------------------------------------
Institution B cannot require additional GE unless one of the exceptions below apply.
How does this Work for Transfer Students Who Completed the Systemwide GE?

Institution A

The student Completes the Systemwide GE

All 7 GE Buckets Completed

Institution B

Institution B cannot require additional GE unless one of the exceptions below apply

Exceptions

Grading Performance Courses
An institution requires native students to complete a specific GE requirement.

An institution wishes to continue requiring - and not waive - such a GE course requirement when the transfer student completed the systemwide GE or the discipline bucket requirement through systemwide transfer coursework.

What is required?

A request to continue requiring – and not waive – such a GE course requirement for transfer students.

Natural & Physical Sciences
Discipline Area
Student Completed GE: Exception

An institution requires native students to complete a specific GE requirement.

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What is required?

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Natural & Physical Sciences
Discipline Area

Gen Chem I & Lab
An institution requires native students to complete a specific GE requirement.

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What is required?

A request to continue requiring – and not waive – such a GE course requirement for transfer students.

Natural & Physical Sciences
Discipline Area

Gen Chem I
& Lab

An institution wishes for a major to deviate from the systemwide GE framework.

What is required?

A request to deviate from the systemwide GE.
How does this Work for Transfer Students Who Completed the Systemwide GE?

Institution A

The student Completes the Systemwide GE

All 7 GE Buckets Completed

Institution B

Institution B cannot require additional GE unless one of the exceptions below apply

Exceptions

Grading Performance Courses
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Student Completed GE: Grading</th>
<th>Student Completed GE: Performance Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If a receiving institution requires all its native students to earn a “C” or higher in a specific GE course(s), it cannot require a transfer student who completed the systemwide GE to retake and ultimately earn a higher grade in such a specific GE course in which he/she earned a “D” Grade.</td>
<td>If a receiving institution prohibits native students from using a performance course (e.g., piano I) to apply toward the six-credit-hour arts and humanities bucket, it cannot enforce the same standard when a transfer student completed the systemwide GE.</td>
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However, it should be noted that if the student is pursuing a program with a grade standard that is required to meet selective admission criteria or is necessary to meet programmatic accreditation or licensure standards, the student may be required to retake a GE course and ultimately earn a higher grade.
If a receiving institution requires all its native students to earn a “C” or higher in a specific GE course(s), it cannot require a transfer student who completed the systemwide GE to retake and ultimately earn a higher grade in such a specific GE course in which he/she earned a “D” Grade.

However, it should be noted that if the student is pursuing a program with a grade standard that is required to meet selective admission criteria or is necessary to meet programmatic accreditation or licensure standards, the student may be required to retake a GE course and ultimately earn a higher grade.

If a receiving institution prohibits native students from using a performance course (e.g., piano I) to apply toward the six-credit-hour arts and humanities bucket, it cannot enforce the same standard when a transfer student completed the systemwide GE.

**Arts & Humanities Discipline Area – 6 Credit Hours**
At least two courses from two subject areas
- Art *
- Communications
- Cultural Studies
- Dance *
- English
- General Humanities
- History
- Literature
- Modern and Classical Languages
- Music *
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Theater *
Other subjects that the offering institution determines fit within the arts and humanities

*The application of performance courses in this subject area is at the discretion of the institution
How Does this Work for Transfer Students Who Did Not Complete the Systemwide GE?

**Institution A**
- Student Does **Not** Complete the Systemwide GE but Completes Some GE Courses

**Institution B**
- Official Transcript Evaluation (of credit earned at Institution A)
  - For each course, is the transfer course a Systemwide Transfer course that falls under one of the Systemwide GE buckets?

**Yes**

The Systemwide Transfer course is applied toward satisfying GE credit hour requirements in the applicable bucket at Institution B unless one of the exceptions noted below apply.

**No**

Since the course is not a Systemwide Transfer course, the application of the course towards satisfying a GE requirement is at the discretion of Institution B.

Six Discipline Buckets: See Systemwide Transfer Courses by GE Bucket Resource Below for More Information
Student Name: Ron Burgundy III  
Student ID: 11111111  
Birth Date: November 21  
Major: Music

### Fall 2024

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Total Semester Hours: 6  
Semester GPA: 4.0

### Spring 2025

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</tbody>
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Total Semester Hours: 6  
Semester GPA: 4.0

Cumulative Hours: 12  
Cumulative Points: 48  
Cumulative GPA: 4.0

END OF TRANSCRIPT------------------------------------------
Ron took: English Comp I and II and Music Appreciation and US History since 1877
How Does this Work for Transfer Students Who Did Not Complete the Systemwide GE?

**Institution A**
- Student Does Not Complete the Systemwide GE but Completes Some GE Courses

**Institution B**
- Official Transcript Evaluation (of credit earned at Institution A)
  - For each course, is the transfer course a Systemwide Transfer course that falls under one of the Systemwide GE buckets?

**Diagram Flow:**
- Student Transfers

**Decision Flow:**
- Yes
- No

**Systemwide Transfer course is applied toward satisfying GE credit hour requirements in the applicable bucket at Institution B unless one of the exceptions noted below apply.

**Six Discipline Buckets: See Systemwide Transfer Courses by GE Bucket Resource Below for More Information**

**Special Note:**
- Since the course is not a Systemwide Transfer course, the application of the course towards satisfying a GE requirement is at the discretion of Institution B.
## Completing the Systemwide GE versus Not Completing the Systemwide GE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Transfer Student Completed the Systemwide GE</th>
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