

UNDERGRADUATE CORE REQUIREMENTS

Philosophy of the Core Curriculum

The University of Colorado Denver subscribes to a liberal arts philosophy of education in order to develop a broad set of academic skills for the baccalaureate student and to establish a foundation for lifelong learning. Since 1990, the CU Denver Core curriculum of general education has been a campus-wide program for all undergraduate students, independent of the student's major.

The CU Denver faculty designed the Core curriculum to provide undergraduate students a high quality academic foundation while still allowing flexibility based on students' individual backgrounds and specific career goals. The Core curriculum develops multiple literacies, stimulates creative thinking, and utilizes technology. The Core engages students in developing sensitivity to diversity and developing their place in an urban environment, as well as in the rapidly changing global environment. The Core provides an understanding of ourselves, ours and other cultures, and our environment.

CU Denver Core Curriculum: Full Course Listing

Click the link below to view the CU Denver Core Curriculum full course listing in a separate page or click the CU Denver Core Curriculum tab (if viewing in a web browser).

[CU Denver Core Curriculum \(p. 1\)](#)

Please note, some Core requirements may overlap with other major and graduation requirements and others may not. Students should work with an advisor to understand degree requirements and determine their optimal degree plan.

CU Denver Core Curriculum

The following represents the CU Denver Core Curriculum as approved by the faculty on the Core Curriculum Oversight Committee (CCOC). The Core Curriculum is a total of 34-40 semester hours.

Intellectual Competencies 9-10 Total Semester Hours

A minimum letter grade of C- (1.7) ins required for English Composition and Mathematics courses. Pass/Fail grading is not an option.

Core English Composition

Both courses are required.

Code	Title	Hours
ENGL 1020	Core Composition I [^]	3
ENGL 2030	Core Composition II [^]	3

Core Mathematics

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
MATH 1010	Mathematics for the Liberal Arts [^]	3-4
MATH 1060	Finite Mathematics	
MATH 1109	Stretch College Algebra-Part 2 ¹	
MATH 1110	College Algebra ^{1, ^}	
MATH 1120	College Trigonometry ^{1, ^}	
MATH 1130	Precalculus Mathematics ^{1, ^}	
MATH 1401	Calculus I ^{1, ^}	
MATH 2411	Calculus II [^]	
MATH 2421	Calculus III [^]	
MATH 2830	Introductory Statistics [^]	
MATH 3041	Fundamental Mathematics: Algebra, Probability and Data Analysis	

¹ Students may receive credit for only one of the following:

- MATH 1108 Stretch College Algebra-Part 1 or MATH 1070 College Algebra for Business or MATH 1110 College Algebra or MATH 1130 Precalculus Mathematics
- MATH 1109 Stretch College Algebra-Part 2 or MATH 1070 College Algebra for Business or MATH 1110 College Algebra or MATH 1130 Precalculus Mathematics
- MATH 1120 College Trigonometry or MATH 1130 Precalculus Mathematics
- MATH 1080 Calculus for Social Sciences and Business or MATH 1401 Calculus I

Knowledge Areas 19-24 Total Semester Hours

While not formally approved for general CU Denver Core credit, CCOC has authorized new freshmen to apply one (only one) First-Year Seminar course for credit in the Knowledge Area section of the Core. Please see the First-Year Seminar website for a complete listing of FYS courses approved by CCOC for Core credit; www.ucdenver.edu/fye/ (<http://www.ucdenver.edu/fye/>) # FYS Courses # FYS Core Curriculum Table.

Core Arts

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 2156	Introduction to Creative Writing [^]	3
FINE 1000	Fostering Creativity	
FINE 1001	Introduction to Art [^]	
FINE 1004	Video Games, Story and Society	
FINE 1450	Visual Culture: Ways of Seeing [^]	
FITV 1001	Fundamentals of Film and Television	
FITV 1005	Introduction to Theatre & Arts in the Community [^]	
FITV 1115	Horror in Western Culture and Cinema	
LDAR 1015	Engaging Landscapes for Wicked Change	
PMUS 1001	Music Appreciation [^]	
PMUS 1011	World Pop	

Core Humanities

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		3
ARAB 1000	Introduction to Cultures of the Arabic-Speaking World	
CHIN 1000	China and the Chinese [^]	
ENGL 1601	Storytelling: Literature, Film, and Television [^]	
ENGL 2600	Greatest Hits [^]	
ETST 2155	African American History	
ETST 2357	Asian American & Pacific Islander Cultures	
FINE 2600	Art History Survey I	
FINE 2610	Art History Survey II	
FREN 1000	Introduction to Cultures of the French- Speaking World [^]	
HIST 1361	U.S. History to 1876 [^]	
HIST 1362	U.S. History Since 1876 [^]	
HIST 1381	The History of Now	
HIST 1400	Controversies in History [^]	
LCRT 2000	Rebels, Villains, & Superheroes: How Children's Literature Shapes Our Identities	
PHIL 1012	Truth, Reality, and the Good Life: Introduction to Philosophy [^]	
PHIL 1020	Right, Wrong, and Seeing the Difference: Introduction to Ethics [^]	
PHIL 2441	Logic, Language and Scientific Reasoning [^]	
PHIL 3333	Happiness and the Good Life	
RLST 1610	Introduction to Religious Studies [^]	
RLST 2660	World Religions [^]	
SPAN 1000	Introduction to Cultures of the Spanish Speaking World [^]	

Core Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		3-4
ANTH 1302	Introduction to Archaeology [^]	
ANTH 2102	Culture and the Human Experience [^]	
COMM 1011	Communication and Communities [^]	
COMM 1021	Introduction to Media Studies [^]	
HDFR 2080	Sex, Human Development and Family Systems	
HDFR 2083	Family and Personal Finance	
LING 2000	Foundations of Linguistics	
PSYC 1000	Introduction to Psychology I [^]	
PSYC 1005	Introduction to Psychology II [^]	
SPSY 2210	Infant, Toddler, and Preschool Mental Health in Schools and Communities	
SPSY 2200	Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Schools and Communities [^]	

Core Social Sciences

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		3-4
CRJU 1000	Criminology and Criminal Justice: An Overview [^]	
ECON 2012	Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics [^]	
ECON 2022	Principles of Economics: Microeconomics [^]	

EDFN 1000	Equality, Rights & Education
ENVS 1342	Environment, Society and Sustainability [^]
ETST 2000	Introduction to Ethnic Studies [^]
ETST 2108	Introduction to Chicanx and Latinx Studies
GEOG 1102	World Regions Global Context [^]
GEOG 1302	Introduction to Human Geography
GEOG 1602	Urban Studies and Planning [^]
HDFR 1080	Lifespan Issues in Family Violence
HDFR 2200	Love, Family and Human Development [^]
INTE 2500	#Learning: Digital Spaces and Far Out Places
PBHL 1001	Race, Gender, Class, & Health
PBHL 2001	Introduction to Public Health [^]
PSCI 1001	Introduction to Political Science: The Quest for Freedom and Justice [^]
PSCI 1101	American Political System [^]
PUAD 1001	Why We Care About Government, Nonprofits, and the Public Good
RLST 3800	Spirituality and Ecology in Global Societies
SJUS 2000	Foundations in Social Justice
SOCY 1001	Understanding the Social World [^]
SOCY 1011	From Killer Apps to Killer Bots: Technology and Social Change
SOCY 2462	Introduction to Social Psychology [^]
SOCY 3330	Social Problems

Core Natural and Physical Sciences, Mathematics

Students must complete two science courses, one of which must have an associated lab component.

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Nat & Phys Science Courses w/Labs intended for Non-Science Majors</i>		
ANTH 1303	Introduction to Biological Anthropology [^]	
BIOL 1550	Basic Biology: Ecology and the Diversity of Life ^{1, ^}	
BIOL 1135 & BIOL 1137	Human Biology and Human Biology Laboratory	
BIOL 1400 & BIOL 1401	Biology for All and Biology for All Laboratory	
BIOL 1560	Basic Biology: From Cells to Organisms ^{1, ^}	
CHEM 1474	Core Chemistry: Chemistry for Everyday ^{2, ^}	
CHEM 1494	Forensic Chemistry ^{2, ^}	
ENVS 1044 & ENVS 1045	Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Introduction to Environmental Sciences Laboratory	
GEOL 1073 & GEOL 1074	Physical Geology: Surface Processes and Physical Geology: Surface Processes Laboratory [^]	
GEOL 1083 & GEOL 1084	Physical Geology: Internal Processes and Physical Geology: Internal Processes Laboratory [^]	
PHYS 1052	General Astronomy I [^]	

Nat & Phys Science Courses w/Labs intended for Science Majors

BIOL 2010 & BIOL 2011	Organisms to Ecosystems (Gen Bio) and Organisms to Ecosystems Lab (Gen Bio) ^{3, ^}
BIOL 2020 & BIOL 2021	Molecules to Cells (Gen Bio) and Molecules to Cells Lab (Gen Bio) ^{3, ^}

CHEM 2031 & CHEM 2038	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry Laboratory I ^{3,^}
CHEM 2061 & CHEM 2068	General Chemistry II and General Chemistry Laboratory II ^{3,^}
PHYS 2010 & PHYS 2321	College Physics I and Intro Experimental Phys Lab I [^]
PHYS 2020 & PHYS 2341	College Physics II and Intro Experimental Phys Lab II [^]
PHYS 2311 & PHYS 2321	General Physics I: Calculus-Based and Intro Experimental Phys Lab I [^]
PHYS 2311 & PHYS 2351	General Physics I: Calculus-Based and Applied Physics Lab I ⁴
PHYS 2331 & PHYS 2341	General Physics II: Calculus-Based and Intro Experimental Phys Lab II [^]
PHYS 2331 & PHYS 2361	General Physics II: Calculus-Based and Applied Physics Lab II ⁴
<i>Nat & Phys Science Courses WITHOUT Labs⁵</i>	
ANTH 3072	Lost Worlds and Crystal Skulls
CSCI 1350	Introduction to Computing in Society
GEOG 1202	Introduction to Physical Geography [^]
PHYS 1100	Foundations of Physics [^]
PSYC 2220	Biological Basis of Behavior [^]

¹ Students may not receive credit for BIOL 1550 Basic Biology: Ecology and the Diversity of Life or BIOL 1560 Basic Biology: From Cells to Organisms if they have already received credit for BIOL 2020 Molecules to Cells (Gen Bio) and BIOL 2010 Organisms to Ecosystems (Gen Bio).

² Students may not receive credit for CHEM 1474 Core Chemistry: Chemistry for Everyday or CHEM 1494 Forensic Chemistry if they have already received credit for CHEM 2031 General Chemistry I and CHEM 2061 General Chemistry II.

³ Honors sections of these courses will apply to the Core Natural & Physical Sciences Requirement. **Note: co-credit is not allowed for regular and honors sections.**

⁴ General Physics and Applied Physic Lab sequences are required and intended only for Physics (PHYS) majors and minors.

⁵ Students may use an approved Core Math course, except the course used to fulfill the Core Math requirement, or MATH 1108 Stretch College Algebra-Part 1 as a non-lab science.

International Perspectives 3 Total Semester Hours

Core International Perspectives¹

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following: 3		
ANTH 3000	Globalization, Migration and Transnationalism	
CLDE 1000	Language, Identity, & Power: International Perspectives	
ENGL 3798	International Perspectives in Literature and Film	
ENGR 3600	International Dimensions of Technology and Culture	
ETST 3110	Indigenous Studies	
ETST 3272	Global Media	
FINE 1002	International Perspectives through Animation	

FINE 3775	Asian Art After 1850
FITV 1120	Contemporary World Cinema
FITV 3550	World Theatre
FREN 3200	The Francophone World in the Post-Colonial Era
GEOG 3412	Globalization and Regional Development
GRMN 3200	Current German Society and Culture
HDFR 1000	Global Human Development & Learning
HDFR 3250	Families in Global Perspectives
HIST 3121	The World at War, 1914-1945
HIST 4032	Globalization in World History Since 1945
INTB 3000	Global Perspectives
INTB/MKTG 4200	International Marketing
INTB/MGMT 4400	Environments of International Business
INTS 2020	Foundations of International Studies
MKTG 4200	International Marketing
PBHL 2052	Global Demography and Health
MUSC 1600	International Perspectives & Global Reach of Musics from Mexico
PSCI 3022	Political Systems of the World
PSCI 3042	World Politics
RLST 3120	Islamic Traditions
RLST/PHIL 3410	Asian Philosophies and Religions
SOCY 3720	Global Perspectives on Social Issues

¹ The Core International Perspectives requirement may be waived on the basis of prior international residency, study abroad, approved military experience, or other significant international experience, as described in the International Perspectives Proficiency Credit Guidelines (https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider113/ccoc-documents/ccoc-approved-bylaws-and-policies/ip-proficiency-guidelines-revised-4-2018-final.pdf?sfvrsn=1ae46eba_2).

Cultural Diversity 3 Total Semester Hours

Core Cultural Diversity¹

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following: 3		
ANTH 3142	Cultural Diversity in the Modern World	
BUSN 4100	Empowering Women in Business	
COMM 3271	Communication and Diversity	
ECON 3100	Economics of Race and Gender	
ENGL 3795	Race and Ethnicity in American Literature	
ENGR 3400	Technology and Culture	
ETST 3036	American Indian Cultural Images	
ETST 3704	Culture, Racism and Alienation	
FINE 3636	Through the Lens: Photography and Diversity	
FITV 3611	Drama of Diversity	
HDFR 3020	Black and Latino Children in Families and Schools	

HDFR 3800	Leadership for Racial Justice in School and Community Settings
HIST 3345	Immigration and Ethnicity in American History
HIST 3349	Social Movements in 20th Century America
LCRT 3815	Once Upon a Time: Family Literacies in Culturally Diverse Communities
LDFS 3000	Undocumented Mexican Immigration
LDFS 4000	Food Justice in City & Schools
LING 3100	Language in Society
MGMT 4100	Leveraging Diversity and Inclusion in Business
PHIL 3500	Ideology and Culture: Racism and Sexism
PMUS 3100	US Music: Social & Political Impact
PSCI 3034	Race, Gender, Law and Public Policy
PSCI 3035	Political Movements: Race and Gender
PSYC 4485	Psychology of Cultural Diversity
RLST 4000	Religion and Cultural Diversity
SOCY 3020	Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.
WGST 3020	Gender, Sexuality and Race in American Popular Culture

- School of Public Affairs (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/#graduationrequirements>)

^ indicates this is a gtPathways course

¹ Transfer Credit must have been taken at the upper-division level from the sending institution.

Other Degree Requirements

In addition to the CU Denver Core Curriculum requirements listed above, students must complete a major and fulfill all additional School/College requirements. More information on these requirements can be found in the Academic Catalog in the following locations:

- Programs (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/>)
- CU Denver General Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/graduation/>)
- School/College Specific Graduation Requirements
 - Business School (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/business-school/#graduationrequirements>)
 - College of Architecture and Planning (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/college-architecture-planning/#graduationrequirements>)
 - College of Arts & Media (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/college-arts-media/#graduationrequirements>)
 - College of Engineering, Design and Computing (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/college-engineering-design-computing/#graduationrequirements>)
 - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/college-liberal-arts-sciences/#graduationrequirements>)
 - School of Education and Human Development (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-education-human-development/#graduationrequirements>)