General Education
Focused on Student Choice

At the U, General Education is in your hands. You have the opportunity to select courses that meet General Education and Bachelor Degree Requirements. You can select courses that will help you develop the skills employers are looking for and you will need for success in any field – collaboration, teamwork, communication, ethics, perseverance, problem-solving, creativity, flexibility, responsiveness. You can use your GE courses to make sure that your learning has an impact.
Courses are organized in 5 intersections of the Learning Framework. You’ll have the opportunity to select courses from the intersection(s) of your choice, based on the connections and competencies you want to develop through your General Education & Bachelor Degree Requirement coursework.
Collaborate Effectively
Reason & Act Ethically
Respond Creatively
Persist in Addressing Complex Problems
Actualize & Contribute
Collaborate Effectively

When Community and Knowledge & Skills come together, it’s all about learning to collaborate effectively. Courses in this category target the collaborative skills necessary to work and live effectively in a community of people who have different backgrounds, experiences, perspectives, and beliefs.

- Communicate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Incorporate ideas from many diverse lived experiences.
- Develop effective teamwork behaviors and attitudes.
- Navigate conflict productively.
Reason & Act Ethically

When Community and Transformation come together, you learn how to reason and act ethically. Courses in this category provide opportunities to grapple with the ethical dimensions of problem solving and action

• Develop a personal ethical code.
• Apply a personal ethical code to different situations.
• Reflect on how ethical codes apply to global issues.
• Reflect on how ethical codes apply to community-based issues.
Respond Creatively

When Impact and Transformation come together, it’s all about learning to respond creatively to the challenges and the opportunities life brings. Courses in this category focus on opportunities to explore, create, engage, and transform.

- Consider context creatively in responding to opportunities.
- Explore and create multi-dimensional approaches in response.
- Explore connections with other topics or opportunities.
- Transform solutions to entirely new forms.
Persist in Addressing Complex Problems

When Knowledge & Skills and Impact come together, you learn about persisting in addressing complex problems. Courses in this category focus on developing the capacity to persist and remain engaged in complex problems, especially when an immediate solution seems elusive.

- Develop strategies for persistence.
- Respond productively to setbacks, errors and failures.
- Create processes that lead to effective problem solving.
- Develop a broad system of resources to support problem solving.
Actualize & Contribute.

When all four GE learning outcomes come together it’s all about learning to actualize and contribute. Courses in this learning outcome focus on growth, personal development and peak experiences.

- Build on academic and personal experiences to respond to new and challenging situations.
- Understand one’s capacity to design their own learning experiences.
- Analyze a system focusing on the interdependence of people and planet.
- Judge the value of a system according to how it accounts for equity and inequity created by human actions.
Use the Learning Outcomes to choose courses based on the skills you want to develop through your GE and BA coursework.

Visit the GE site to find courses in the intersections:
https://ugs.utah.edu/general-education/requirements/
“I’m a Kinesiology major and planning to become a personal trainer so I’m taking most of my GE courses in the **Collaborate Effectively** learning outcome. Courses in this outcomes will help me develop my interpersonal communication skills and I know these skills will be useful in my work since I’ll be helping many different people from different backgrounds with varying goals.”
“In my future career, I hope to make an impact on climate change. I know there isn’t a silver bullet approach to addressing it which means I’m going to need a set of skills that will help me approach the social complexities involved and remain productive knowing that there will not be a stopping point in the work. I plan to focus on the **Persist in Addressing Complex Problems** and the **Reason and Act Ethically** learning outcomes as I enroll in GE courses to help me develop the skills I’m going to need to be successful.”
My experience in GE courses was more than educational, it was transformative. It taught me to push myself creatively, solve problems thoughtfully, and experience my world in a new way. I have acquired an endurance for solving challenging tasks that I know will be a lifetime asset. I’ve also discovered a new understanding of empathy, which has helped me to grow as a person and strengthen the relationships in my life.”
"I'm not sure what I want to do after I graduate but I think the skills in all of the GE learning outcomes will help me be successful wherever I end up. I'm going to take GE courses in all four learning outcomes as well as a GESC course in the **Actualize and Contribute** outcomes so that I can use my GE experience to develop a well rounded set of skills any employer will appreciate."
General Education

Learn More: ugs.utah.edu/general-education/

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