

# Important Curriculum Changes and Reminders

Updated Spring 2021

## GENERAL EDUCATION NOTES

### 1. English Literature Requirement (all degrees)

- a. ENG 220 is a new 200-level literature survey course and is focused on different topics – literature and medicine; literature and law; literature and money;
- b. ENG 22x is used for transfer courses that are literature survey courses to fulfill this general education requirement. Careful, ENG 2xx doesn't satisfy this requirement.

### 2. Modern or Ancient Language Requirement (B.A. or B.S. degrees)

- a. Language courses from the Department of Modern Languages or the Department of Classics will fulfill the requirement of 6 hours at the 200-level or higher in one language. Speakers of languages other than English may present documentation to the Department of Modern Languages showing that they studied in high school in that language and will thus fulfill the language requirement. Online and independent study courses may be used to complete the language requirement.
- b. Another choice is American Sign Language from the UM Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (ASL 101, 102, 201, 202).

### 3. Additional Humanities (BA degree)

- a. There is a new LIBA course that fulfills this requirement: LIBA 305. Humanities and the Experience of War.
- b. The Gender Studies list now includes the following: 201, 202, 301, 304, 333, 350, 353, 391, 402.
- b. Southern Studies created a range of 100 level courses that are more topic specific. Therefore, the general education rule now says "S St 100-level only." The topics include food, music, popular culture, race, gender and sexuality, rights and activism, documentary, and slavery and the university.

### 4. Suggested Student Placement in Mathematics Courses

- a. The Department of Mathematics suggests that students who have a mathematics ACT sub-score of 24 or higher (or the SAT equivalent – SAT 560 or SATR 580) should not be placed in MATH 121 (College Algebra), but rather take MATH 125 (Basic Math for Science & Engineering), 261 (Calculus I), or 267 (Business Calculus).
- b. Students who do not plan to advance to calculus courses may be better served by taking Quantitative Reasoning or Elementary Statistics instead of College Algebra. After completing MATH 261 with a C or higher, students may not receive credit for MATH 121, 125, or 267.
- c. Students with a mathematics ACT sub-score of 17-18 or a SATR math score of 460-500 may take the ALEKS Placement Assessment given by the Department of Mathematics to attempt to place into a credit-bearing math course. See <http://mathlab.olemiss.edu/aleks/> for more information.

### 5. Natural Science Lower Division Requirement

- a. Each science course that counts towards the general education requirement must be a minimum of 3 credit hours.
- b. PHYS 107 and 108 are now called Conceptual Physics instead of Physical Science. Physics courses and (formerly) physical science courses are not considered separate areas of science for the general education requirement. Now the catalog statement says: "astronomy or physics" as the separate areas of science to avoid mixing if a student takes two courses from the Department of Physics and Astronomy.
- c. There are several basic course sequences that must not overlap in several of the science departments.
  - Students will not receive credit for both ASTR 101 and ASTR 103; or ASTR 101 and ASTR 104; or ASTR 101 and ASTR 204; for ASTR 104 and 204.
  - Students will not receive credit for both ASTR 103 and 204 if taken simultaneously.
  - Students will not receive credit for both GEOL 101 and GEOL 104.
  - Students will not receive credit for both BISC 102 and BISC 160; or BISC 104 and 162.
  - Students will not receive credit for both BISC 150 and BISC 160.
- d. CHEM 101 does not satisfy the gen ed requirement for natural science. It is a course that allows for remedial mathematics training, study skills, and some basic chemistry foundations before admission to CHEM 105. It is not a laboratory course – the 4<sup>th</sup> hour is a recitation hour. The only students who should enroll in the course are those who plan to take CHEM 105 and are not prepared/eligible yet.

- e. Phys 201. Physics Toolbox is a new course to allow students to take the first course in the calculus-based introductory physics sequence one semester earlier than in the standard curriculum structure. Students could take Phys 201, Phys 211 and Math 261 together in their first semester. Phys 201 includes a lot of problem solving, and focuses on helping students become familiar with how to apply concepts of calculus to physics problems.
- g. We have the following prerequisites for some of the basic science and mathematics courses.
- CHEM 105 – ACT mathematics subscore of 24 (SAT 560 or SATR 580 or ALEKS PPL 76), or B minimum in CHEM 101, or B minimum in MATH 121 and 123, or B minimum in MATH 125 or higher.
  - BISC 160 - ACT mathematics subscore of 24 (SAT 560 or SATR 580 or ALEKS PPL 76), or B minimum in CHEM 101, or B minimum in MATH 121 and 123, or B minimum in MATH 125 or higher.
  - MATH 261 – ACT mathematics subscore of 24 (SAT 560 or SATR 580 or ALEKS PPL 76), or B minimum in MATH 121 and 123; or B minimum in MATH 125.
  - Other lower-level math courses also have a new ALEKS PPL score for entry if no standardized test scores exist.

### 6. Interdisciplinary Transfer Courses.

The College approved a series of courses - Liba 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, and 205L; 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 315L – to use for transfer courses that are interdisciplinary and do not directly match any UM course. Those courses were approved to count for general education requirements as appropriate for all the College degrees.

## MAJORS AND MINORS IN THE COLLEGE

### 1. Approved minors outside of the College now include:

- a. Legal Studies – deleted in spring 2020 – the only option if a student is following a 2017-2020 catalog
- b. Criminal Justice (not legal studies) - must follow fall 2020 catalog or later
- c. Law Studies (not legal studies) – must follow fall 2020 catalog or later
- d. Communicative Sciences & Disorders - must follow fall 2021 catalog or later
- e. Applied Gerontology- must follow fall 2021 catalog or later
- f. Sport Administration - must follow fall 2021 catalog or later

These two minors outside of the College also require an application:

- g. Recreation Therapy - must follow fall 2021 catalog or later
- h. Higher Education- must follow fall 2021 catalog or later

### 2. New (and relatively new) undergraduate minors in the College include:

- a. Astronomy from Dept. of Physics and Astronomy – must follow fall 2019 catalog or later
- b. Ethics & Values from Dept. of Philosophy & Religion – must follow fall 2020 catalog or later
- c. Museum Studies – must follow fall 2020 catalog or later

### 3. New majors/emphases in

- a. BA in Rhetoric from Dept of Writing & Rhetoric
- b. BFA in Film Production from Dept. of Theatre & Film
- c. BA and BS in Economics now has a financial economics emphasis

### 4. Liberal Studies changed to **Interdisciplinary Studies**. [General Studies changed to Multi-Disciplinary Studies.]

5 The relatively new **Allied Health Studies** degree program allows pre-allied health students (nursing, dental hygiene, med tech, etc) to complete their prerequisites and prepare for professional school while having a declared degree program at UM that they can complete if they wish. HPAO advises these students.

6. **Religious Studies** was suspended as a major. It is now an emphasis area within the Philosophy major.

7. Similar to African American Studies, **Southern Studies** was revised to 30 hour major that does require a minor.

8. Students completing the B.A. or B.S. in the College may pursue the **Accelerated Law (3+3)** program whereby they begin the first year of law school after their junior year of undergraduate. They will need to be in touch with Student services in the College (915-7177) as soon as they decide to pursue this program. They must complete the general education, major, minor/related subjects by the end of the junior year and be admitted to the UM School of Law. Students may use their first year law classes to fulfill the general electives for the B.A. or B.S. degree.

#### **10. Majors and Minors in the Same Department**

Except for International Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies, students who complete the B.A. degree in the College of Liberal Arts must complete a minor course of study (or a second major). In a department that offers multiple areas of study, a student may complete the minor course of study (or complete a second major) in the same department as the one in which the student takes his or her major. The one exception is the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

#### **11. Minimum Grade of C Requirements for Majors/Minors**

Some majors and/or minors in the College require a minimum grade of C in those department courses used to satisfy graduation requirements for the major or minor. This rule is made effective beginning in a particular semester (indicated below in parenthesis) for all majors and/or minors regardless of when the student first enrolled at the University. ***Please be aware that grades of C- will not fulfill this requirement.***

- African American Studies major (Spring 2005)
- Art major for the B.F.A. degree (Fall 1980)
- Biology major for the B.A. and B.S. degrees (Fall 2001)
- Classics major and minor for the B.A. degree (Fall 2013)
- Disaster Sciences (Fall 2018)
- East Asian Studies minor (Spring 2016)
- Ethics & Values minor (Fall 2020)
- Film Production major for the BFA (Fall 2020)
- Gender Studies minor (Fall 2006)
- History major and minor (Fall 2003)
- International Studies major and minor (Fall 2006)
- Liberal Studies for the B.A. degree (Fall 2001)
- Mathematics major for the B.A. and B.S. degrees (Fall 1995)
- Modern Languages majors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Linguistics and Spanish; and minors in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, TESL (most for Fall 2007)
- Museum Studies (Fall 2020)
- Music major for the B.A. and B.M. degrees (Fall 2000)
- Philosophy major and minor (Fall 2004)
- Political Science major and minor (Fall 2006)
- Psychology major and minor (Fall 2018)
- Religious Studies minor (Spring 2009)
- Rhetoric major (Fall 2020)
- Society & Health minor (Fall 2016)
- Theatre Arts majors for the B.A. and B.F.A. degrees and the minor (Spring 2001)

### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**New change:** A student who returns after an academic suspension or dismissal will automatically be on academic probation. ~~No work earned elsewhere during the suspension or dismissal will be used either in the calculation of the candidate's academic status, nor transferred as credit toward a degree.~~

Therefore, students may take courses at other institutions during the time they are on dismissal/suspension, which will transfer back to UM.

#### **1. Courses Taken by a University of Mississippi Student at Another Institution**

In order to guarantee that the credit will transfer and apply to the students degree program, the student must obtain written approval from his or her academic dean before enrolling in the course at another institution. Prior

approval protects students by determining if and how credits earned elsewhere may satisfy degree requirements. Students who do not receive prior approval risk not being awarded transfer credit if the courses do not equate to UM courses, do not satisfy degree requirements, are not accredited with regional and/or professional accrediting bodies, or other UM rule conflicts.

**2. Developmental Studies courses** do not count towards degree requirements even as elective credit. No course under the number 100 counts towards a degree at UM. However, they will show on the transcript, and the credit hours are totaled into the overall hours and the grades are calculated in the GPA - - so beware!

**3. Dual Credit.** UM students may take courses at other institutions. In order to guarantee that the credit will transfer and apply to the students' degree program, the student must obtain written approval from his or her academic dean before enrolling in the course at another institution. Prior approval protects students by determining if and how credits earned elsewhere may satisfy degree requirements. Students who do not receive prior approval risk not being awarded transfer credit if the courses do not equate to UM courses, do not satisfy degree requirements, are not accredited with SACS-COC or professional accrediting bodies, or other UM rule conflicts.

#### **4. Multiple Majors and Bachelor Degrees....and (not) Double Counting Courses.**

Students who wish to receive a second bachelor's degree can only do so if the second degree is of a different degree type, such as a B.A. in History and a B.B.A. in Marketing or a B.A. in Classics and a B.S. in Biology. Students who wish to complete the majors in English and History, for example, may only receive one degree – the B.A. Both majors will show up on the transcript but the student will only receive one diploma. Note that students will no longer be allowed to earn both the B.A. and B.S. in the same discipline, such as the B.A. and B.S. in Biological Science or the B.A. and B.S. in Chemistry.

The College of Liberal Arts clarified its rule that the same course may not count towards two majors, or for the majors for two degrees, or for a major and a minor. No double counting a course under those circumstances. However, a course may double count between a general education requirement and either the major or the minor.

#### **5. Repeating a Course**

With the exception of courses that are specifically indicated to be repeatable for credit, students may repeat courses taken at the university according to the following requirements:

- the first or prior courses must have been completed with a grade of B-, C+, C, C-, D, F, Z or P;
- a course with an Incomplete grade cannot be repeated;
- a lower division course may be repeated twice (e.g., three attempts) and an upper division or graduate course may be repeated once; exceptions to these numbers of attempts must be approved by the chair controlling the course;
- letter grades for all attempts will appear on the student's permanent academic record and will be calculated into the student's cumulative GPA (unless the Forgiveness Policy is invoked for the course);
- credit toward a degree will be granted only once;
- if a student passes a course at the university and then fails the course on a repeated attempt, the passing attempt will apply to degree requirements;
- individual schools may establish more restrictive requirements for their majors.

#### **6. Forgiveness Policy (revision effective Fall 2018)**

An undergraduate student may improve his or her overall GPA by invoking forgiveness or exclusion on a maximum of four courses (not to exceed 14 credit hours) in which the student received a grade of C-, D or F and requesting that the original grade be excluded from the GPA calculation. If the course has been repeated, the repeat must be in the same course and must be taken at The University of Mississippi in fall 1992 or later. Under the forgiveness policy, a maximum of two courses (not to exceed 7 hours) in which the student received a grade of C-, D or F may be excluded from the student's GPA calculation without repeating the course. See the catalog for the full policy.

#### **7. Declaring a Major**

When entering the university, a student may declare an intended degree program (major) or may declare to be Undecided. Students who have completed at least 12 hours at the university and who wish to declare a major or switch majors must have at least a 2.0 overall GPA (resident GPA) on these hours and must have at least a 2.0 GPA on all work attempted at other institutions. Individual degree programs and schools may impose a higher entering resident GPA requirement or

selection criteria and academic deans may approve exceptions to the above GPA requirement. Students must also declare a major upon completion of 45 credit hours.

If a student is within two semesters of graduation and is below the required 2.0 GPA to declare the desired major in the College of Liberal Arts, he or she can appeal this rule by submitting a degree application for graduation to the Student Services office in the College of Liberal Arts along with a note of explanation.

### **8. Withdrawal Policy.**

Liberal Arts Student Services has many requests for a late withdrawal after the deadline each semester. A request to drop a partial course load is rarely approved by the Dean's Office and must include an "extreme and unavoidable emergency" as stated in the academic catalog. An example of when a request is approved would be if a student with a broken foot needed to drop a dance course. Many students come to the Dean's office with prior approval to withdraw given by the instructor. Only the Dean's Office can give permission to withdraw so this can result in conflicting information to a student. If a student stops attending because an instructor accidentally gives wrong information regarding the withdrawal policy, they will receive an F in the class. Once the regular semester is over, the approval must come from the Office of the Provost.

#### **Catalog Language - Late Withdrawal from a Course**

After the course withdrawal deadline, a student may drop a course only in cases of extreme and unavoidable emergency as determined by the student's academic dean. Unacceptable reasons for late withdrawal include dissatisfaction over an expected grade or a change in a student's degree program or major. In no case may a class be dropped after the last regular class day in any semester, session, or term. Courses dropped after the course withdrawal deadline will still appear on the student's official transcript. The W mark will be recorded if the student is passing the course at the time of withdrawal; the F grade will be recorded if the student is failing.

### **9. Credit by Exam. (Revision effective Fall 2018)**

A student may be granted college level credit for the following types of learning, examinations, or experiences. The total number of hours one may earn through credit-by-examination (Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate, Advanced Standing Exams, and military credit) is no more than half of the total hours required for the degree program. The grade of Z is granted for these courses, which **count as transfer credit**. The credits will be posted to a student's academic record upon enrollment.

**There is a new AP table in effect for fall 2019.**

**There is a new Cambridge International table in effect for Fall 2020.**

### **10. Military Training Credit. (Effective Fall 2018)**

Starting Fall 2018 (and "grandfathering" in existing enrolled military veterans), student veterans will receive more substantial UM credit (mostly elective credit) for various training courses completed while in the military. This credit, treated as transfer credit, will show on the transcript summary at the top and in detail on the transfer equivalency report.