

General Education Requirements

The general education (GE) requirements provide opportunities for students to develop their writing, speaking, analytical, and interpretive skills, and to familiarize themselves with important divisions of knowledge.

Individual departments determine which courses meet the general education requirements in their fields of study. Normally, general education requirements are completed at Claremont McKenna College. Students must obtain approval from the appropriate department chair to use a non-CMC course or a substitute course toward a general education requirement.

General Education Requirements Checklist

Students entering CMC may use the chart below as a guide for their general education requirements. The course numbers refer to CMC courses, and the rules and numbers do not apply to courses at the other Claremont Colleges.

General Education	Courses to be completed by all students
First-Year Writing Seminar	FWS 010 CM: Must be taken during the first year
First-Year Humanities Seminar	FHS 010 CM: Must be taken during the first year
Foreign Language	Competency at the 3rd college semester level of a Foreign Language
	May be waived based on a placement exam or demonstrated native proficiency for language not taught at the consortium
Mathematics or Computer Science	Any course offered by the CMC Department of Mathematical Sciences or any Computer Science or Calculus course offered within the Claremont Consortium
Lab Science	SCI 010L CM: Must be completed by the end of the second year at CMC
Physical Education	3 semesters of physical education or 2 seasons of participation in a team or club sport
	Must be completed during first two years with the exception for those excused by the Chair of the Department of Physical Education
Senior Thesis	To be completed in the senior year; related to the student's major(s)

Humanities

For the general education requirement in the humanities, all students must complete a designated course in 2 of the following 4 fields of study outside of their major(s): Literature in a Foreign Language, Literature, Philosophy, and Religious Studies. Students who major in one or more of these fields must complete courses in 3 of the 4 fields.

Humanities	Required courses in 2 areas outside of the student's major(s)
Foreign Literature	The 4th semester of a European or Classical Language, the 5th semester of Korean or Arabic, or the 6th semester of Chinese or Japanese
Literature	Any CMC Literature course
Philosophy	Any CMC Philosophy course numbered 59 or below
Religious Studies	Any CMC Religious Studies course numbered 180 or below

Social Sciences

For the general education requirement in the social sciences, students must complete at least 1 designated course in 3 of the following 4 fields of study outside of their major(s): Economics, Government, History, and Psychology. Students majoring in 1 or more of these fields must complete an appropriate course in each of the 4 fields.

Social Sciences	Required courses in 3 areas outside of the student's major(s)
ECON 050 CM	Principles of Economic Analysis
GOVT 020 CM	Introduction to American Politics
History	Any CMC History course
Psychological Sciences	Any CMC Psychological Science course numbered under 100



"The GEs were an opportunity to gain exposure to a wide variety of disciplines in order to make an informed decision on my major. I came into CMC as a History major also considering Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Music, and even Psychology as potential majors. CMC allowed me to see my diverse interests as a reason to explore. Without the GEs, I probably wouldn't have taken courses in all of these fields and majored in Economics and Philosophy. Now, I have a holistic understanding of a broad range of disciplines, helping my general understanding of the world. This greatly benefits everyday conversations and discussions I have with peers, professors, and professionals."

Ismail Iftikhar '28
Economics and Philosophy