

UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM POLICY
(applies to students admitting 2026-2027 only)

All Seattle University students complete the University Core requirements except those enrolled in University Honors or the Matteo Ricci Institute (MRI), which each have their own general education curriculum requirements. This policy includes rules governing University Core courses, requirements to satisfy the University Core, and transfer rules for satisfying the University Core requirements. Additional information regarding procedures, objectives, and course content can be found on the University Core website, in the Academic Catalog, and in University Core publications.

Policies Regarding University Core Courses

Identifying Core Courses:

University Core courses are identified by the use of the UCOR prefix and students must be enrolled in a UCOR section in order to receive Core credit for the course. There are three exceptions to this rule: 1) MATH 1024 or above courses of 5 credits may be used to satisfy the UCOR 1200: Quantitative Reasoning requirement, 2) advanced or major-level lab sciences (BIOL 1610/1611, 2200, CHEM 1500/1501, KINE 1100/1101, PHYS 1050/1051 or 1210/1211) may be used to satisfy the UCOR 1800: Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences requirement, and 3) Disciplinary Capstone courses all carry the appropriate departmental designation.

Cross-listing/Use of University Core courses for major requirements:

Departments may designate approved Core courses as courses that can count towards major requirements (including major electives). Courses that are designated in this way must be offered as cross-listed sections: one section with the UCOR designator that will award Core credit and one section with the department's course code that will award major credit. Capacity in cross-listed departmental sections is limited to a maximum of 25% of the total combined course capacity (i.e. 75% UCOR, 25% major). No UCOR course can simultaneously fulfill Core and major requirements (no double-counting).

Use of University Core courses for minor requirements:

Departments may include UCOR courses in minor requirements. Credits from UCOR courses may simultaneously fulfill Core and minor requirements (double-counting). The department is responsible for determining which UCOR sections were completed and for identifying those sections on the Program Add/Drop/Change e-form when the minor is declared.

Grading

Pass/No Pass grading is an option for up to one UCOR course per quarter for no more than two total for the degree. See Policy 2024-02 for details.

Major-specific Core Requirements:

Students' University Core requirements should be independent of their major requirements. Major requirements should not determine what Core course choices students make; courses that departments believe their students should take in order to complete a major should be included in the major requirements. However, there are three exceptions to this general policy (all exceptions must be approved by the University Core):

- a) **UCOR courses that are college-level requirements** dictated by accreditation standards that apply to all undergraduate students in the college or school and which, if included as

separatemajor requirements, would be significantly repetitive with Core requirements (e.g. Ethical Reasoning in Business for all Albers School of Business and Economics students, Ethical Reasoning in Health Care for all College of Nursing and Health Sciences students).

- b) **Non-UCOR courses providing advanced study in mathematics and natural sciences** that are essential to the major. Departments may require that their students complete these more advanced courses:
- i. MATH 1024 or above courses of 5 credits to fulfill UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning
 - ii. BIOL 1610/1611, 2200, CHEM 1500/1501, KINE 1100/1101, PHYS 1050/1051 or 1210/1211 to fulfill UCOR 1800 Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences
- c) **Engineering majors** will have one of their Global Challenges courses (UCOR 3600) satisfied in the major with the completion of CEEGR 3020
- d) DTA and AS-T Transfer Students in Albers fulfill the UCOR 3600 Global Challenges requirement in the major by completing ECON 3130 or GBUS 3200 for their program elective requirement. Business Economics (BABA) majors with a DTA or AS-T will have one of their Global Challenges courses (UCOR 3600) satisfied in the major with the completion of ECON 3130.

Prior Learning Assessment (AP, IB, etc.):

A limited number of UCOR courses can be satisfied through prior learning assessments. The specific exams, minimum scores, and course equivalents are detailed in the relevant policies (#75-16 and #99-1). UCOR courses eligible for prior learning assessment credit include:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning (or MATH 1024 or above courses of 5 credits)
- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation
- UCOR 1400 Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities
- UCOR 1600 Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences
- UCOR 1800 Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences (Only credit equivalent to the following major-level courses can fulfill this requirement: BIOL 1610/1611, 2200, CHEM 1500/1501, PHYS 1050/1051 or 1210/1211). Introductory science courses designed for nonmajors do not fulfill UCOR 1800.

Running Start credits are treated as transfer credits (see “Core Requirements for Transfer Students” beginning on page 4).

Matriculated Students: Allowable Transfer Courses

Once a student has matriculated at Seattle University only the following courses can be transferred from other accredited domestic institutions. Transfer evaluation is based on direct equivalencies. (See page 4.)

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- MATH 1024 or above courses of 5 credits to fulfill UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning
- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation
- BIOL 1610/1611, 2200, or 2220; CHEM 1500/1501; PHYS 1050/1051 or 1210/1211 to satisfy UCOR 1800. Introductory science courses designed for non-majors are not accepted for UCOR 1800.
- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context

Module II Core courses may be transferred back to Seattle University from other Jesuit universities (see below) after matriculation.

Matriculated Students: Study Abroad Courses

Course credits earned via study abroad programs can count towards University Core requirements with

pre-approval from University Core. While Module III is the most easily fulfilled by study abroad, it is possible for a student to receive study abroad credit for some Module I courses, excluding UCOR 1400 and UCOR 1600. Students must follow the processes and procedures for pre-approval of study abroad courses for SU credit as prescribed by the Education Abroad Office.

Module II Courses: Limitations on Transfer

Module II courses must be taken at Seattle University. Students who have completed appropriate coursework at another Jesuit institution may be granted Module II transfer equivalencies from the University Core Director.

Repeating a Core course for grade replacement

Students who repeat a Core course to replace a grade must take a course with the same course number as the course being replaced. The section title can be different but the course number must be the same. See policy #77-2.

UCOR and Independent Study

UCOR courses cannot be satisfied by independent study credit.

University Core Requirements

The University Core consists of 13 courses (including one major-based course in Module IV) with a minimum of 63 credits. This list summarizes the general requirements. See below for variations of the Core requirements for transfer students. Detailed descriptions of the content, objectives, and guidelines for these courses can be found on the University Core website.

Module I: Engaging Academic Inquiry (30 credits)

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing Seminar
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning (fulfilled by UCOR 1200 or equivalent course listed above)
- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation
- UCOR 1400 Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities
- UCOR 1600 Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences
- UCOR 1800 Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences (fulfilled by UCOR 1800 or equivalent course listed above)

Module II: Engaging Jesuit Traditions (15 credits)

- UCOR 2100 Theological Explorations
- UCOR 2500 Philosophy of the Human Person
- UCOR 2900 Ethical Reasoning (fulfilled by UCOR 2900, 2910, or 2920)

Module III: Engaging the World (15 credits)

- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context
- Global Challenge courses: Students take 2 of these 3 courses as designated by major (see “Module III Breadth Requirements” below).
 - UCOR 3400 Humanities and Global Challenges
 - UCOR 3600 Social Sciences and Global Challenges
 - UCOR 3800 Natural Sciences and Global Challenges

Module IV: Reflection and Awareness

- Senior Synthesis/Capstone: 3 or more credits in designated major course

Module III Breadth Requirements: Module III Global Challenge course requirements are shaped by

students' majors. Students are required to take the two courses most outside of their major area of study. Students may consult their major requirements as listed in the Academic Catalog for the designation of Global Challenges courses required for their major. **Note:** students who are double-majoring only take the Global Challenges courses required for their primary major. Students seeking a double degree must complete the Global Challenges courses required for both majors (except MRI students, whose MRI coursework fulfills all Core requirements). In cases where double degree students are required to take all three Global Challenges courses, exceptions can be made with the approval of the Core Director. Students may submit a Petition for Exception to Policy through their advisor. Transfer students see section below.

Prerequisites for University Core Courses

Module II: Engaging Jesuit Traditions

- UCOR 1100 is a required prerequisite for UCOR 2100 & 2500
- UCOR 2900-2920: Ethical Reasoning – Prerequisite: UCOR 2500

Module III: Engaging the World

- Prerequisites for Global Challenges courses:
 - 60 earned credits
 - UCOR 3400 has prerequisites of UCOR 1100 & 1400
 - UCOR 3600 has prerequisites of UCOR 1200 & 1600
 - UCOR 3800 has prerequisites of UCOR 1200 & 1800

Core Requirements for Transfer Students

Core requirements for transfer students are based on the number of credits and type of degrees earned at students' previous institutions. Consult the appropriate section below for the relevant requirements. Note: Running Start credits and dual enrollment are counted as transfer credits. See Transfer Policy #77-1 regarding minimum grade requirements. A minimum of 4 transfer credits are required to satisfy a 5-credit requirement.

Where allowed, these Core requirements transfer through direct equivalencies based on a comparison of course content where the transfer course approximately matches the content and objectives of the SU Core requirement:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning
- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation (depends on credits earned: see below)
- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context

Where allowed, these Core requirements can be satisfied through categorical substitution based on general subject area:

- UCOR 1400: Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities: any acceptable course in English literature [except composition courses], history, philosophy, theology, non-performance based fine art courses [art history, music appreciation or history, drama history, etc.], film studies, humanities, communication/speech/journalism [except journalism writing courses]. Modern Language and ASL classes do not fulfill this requirement.
- UCOR 1600: Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences: any acceptable course in anthropology, administrative justice/criminal justice, economics, geography, government/political science, intercultural communication, international studies, psychology, sociology, or women/gender and sexuality studies
- UCOR 1800: Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences: any acceptable course

(must include a lab or field research component) in biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology, general science, but not computer science

- UCOR 3400: Humanities and Global Challenges: any acceptable course in English literature [except composition courses], history, philosophy, theology, non-performance based fine art courses [art history, music appreciation or history, drama history, etc.], humanities, communication/speech/journalism [except journalism writing courses]. Modern Language and ASL classes do not fulfill this requirement.
- UCOR 3600: Social Sciences and Global Challenges: any acceptable course in anthropology, administrative justice/criminal justice, economics, ~~geography~~ communication, international studies, government/political science, psychology, sociology or women/gender sexuality studies
- UCOR 3800: Natural Sciences and Global Challenges: any acceptable course in biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology, general science, computer science, engineering

Students transferring with up to 74 credits prior to first enrollment at SU.

The following courses are satisfied through direct equivalencies:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning
- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation
- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context

The following courses are satisfied through categorical substitution:

- UCOR 1400: Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities
- UCOR 1600: Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences
- UCOR 1800-1810: Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences

Students transferring with 75 or more credits prior to first enrollment at SU, but without a transferrable degree

Module I:

The following courses are satisfied through direct equivalencies:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning

The following Core courses are satisfied through categorical substitution:

- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation (including any hands-on creative art course or any Survey/Appreciation courses in Art, Music, Dance, or Theater [not including credit for participation in artistic activities])
- UCOR 1400: Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities
- UCOR 1600: Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences
- UCOR 1800-1810: Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences

Module II: Must be completed at Seattle University

Module III:

- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context is waived.
- One Global Challenge course: select from either Global Challenge courses designated by major
 - a) Clarification: Engineering students fulfil this requirement in the major with CEEGR 3020

- The requirement for a second Global Challenge course is waived.

Students transferring with an Associate in Science – Transfer Degree (AS-T) from Washington Community Colleges (or equivalent as defined in Transfer Policy #77-1)

Module I:

The following courses are satisfied through by the AS-T:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning
- UCOR 1800: Inquiry Seminar in the Natural Sciences

The following Core courses are satisfied through categorical substitution:

- UCOR 1300 Creative Expression and Interpretation (including any hands-on creative art course or any regular courses in Art, Music, Dance, or Theater [not including credit for participation in artistic activities])
- UCOR 1400: Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities
- UCOR 1600: Inquiry Seminar in the Social Sciences
 - a) Students are guaranteed to need no more than one of the following courses at SU: UCOR 1300, 1400 or 1600. Some students will have satisfied all of these courses within their AS-T if they took applicable creative arts, humanities, and social science courses.

Module II: Must be completed at Seattle University

Module III:

- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context is waived.
- One Global Challenge course: select either Global Challenge courses designated by major
 - a) Clarification: Engineering students fulfil this requirement in the major with CEEGR 3020.
 - b) Exception: Albers School of Business and Economics BABA Business Economics students fulfill this requirement in the major by completing ECON 3130.
- The requirement for a second Global Challenge course is waived.

Students transferring with a Direct Transfer Associate Degree (DTA) from Washington Community Colleges (or equivalent as defined in Transfer Policy #77-1)

Module I: Satisfied by DTA degree curriculum

Module II: Must be completed at Seattle University

Module III:

- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context is waived.
- One Global Challenge course: select either Global Challenge courses designated by major
 - a) Clarification: Engineering students fulfil this requirement in the major with CEEGR 3020
 - b) Exception: Albers School of Business and Economics BABA Business Economics majors fulfill this requirement in the major by completing ECON 3130.
- The requirement for a second Global Challenge course is waived.

Students entering SU with a first undergraduate degree from an accredited US institution Most of the Core is waived. The following courses must be completed at Seattle University:

- UCOR 2100 Theological Explorations
- UCOR 2900-2920: Ethical Reasoning

Students entering SU with a first undergraduate degree from a non-US institution

Module I:

The following courses are satisfied through direct equivalencies:

- UCOR 1100 Academic Writing
- UCOR 1200 Quantitative Reasoning

The Inquiry Seminar requirements (UCOR 1300, 1400, 1600, 1800) are waived.

Module II:

- UCOR 2500 Philosophy of the Human Person is waived.
- UCOR 2100 Theological Explorations must be completed at Seattle University
- UCOR 2900-2920: Ethical Reasoning must be completed at Seattle University

Module III:

- UCOR 3100 Religion in a Global Context is waived.
- Both Global Challenge courses are waived.

Core Requirements for Readmitted Students

Students readmitted to Seattle University are subject to the Core requirements in effect at the time of their readmission (see Readmission Requirements Policy #76-10). Readmitted students' coursework will be evaluated based on the number of credits earned at the time of readmission and any degrees earned prior to *first* enrollment at SU. The following principles apply:

- a) If a student had finished all Core requirements from their previous catalog year prior to leaving SU, the new Core requirements will all be waived upon readmission.
- b) A student will not need to complete more UCOR courses post readmission than when they left SU.
- c) If a student enters SU having 75 or more previously earned credits, the following course can be waived: UCOR 3100.
- d) Equivalent Module II courses may be transferable from other Jesuit institutions upon approval from the Core Director.

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