

General Studies

The following vision, mission statement, and goals for the General Studies Program were developed by the University Committee on General Studies and have been officially adopted by MTSU.

Vision

The General Studies Program at Middle Tennessee State University will provide all students with the intellectual building blocks that will make it possible to find meaning in an ever-changing world. The program will focus on the sciences, liberal arts, and fine arts and include the interdisciplinary nature of knowledge and the methods of inquiry demanded in a variety of fields. The program through lower-division courses, upper-division courses, and a capstone experience will explore cultural diversity, values, ethics, global issues, and the individual's responsibility as a citizen of the community and the world.

Mission Statement

The General Studies Program is at the core of Middle Tennessee State University's educational mission. It provides students with a broad knowledge and appreciation of the arts and sciences as well as the intellectual skills that provide a basis for effective communication, problem solving, and evaluation. The General Studies experience gives students the opportunity to use various technologies to access and analyze information and to debate competing claims of evidence and systems of thought.

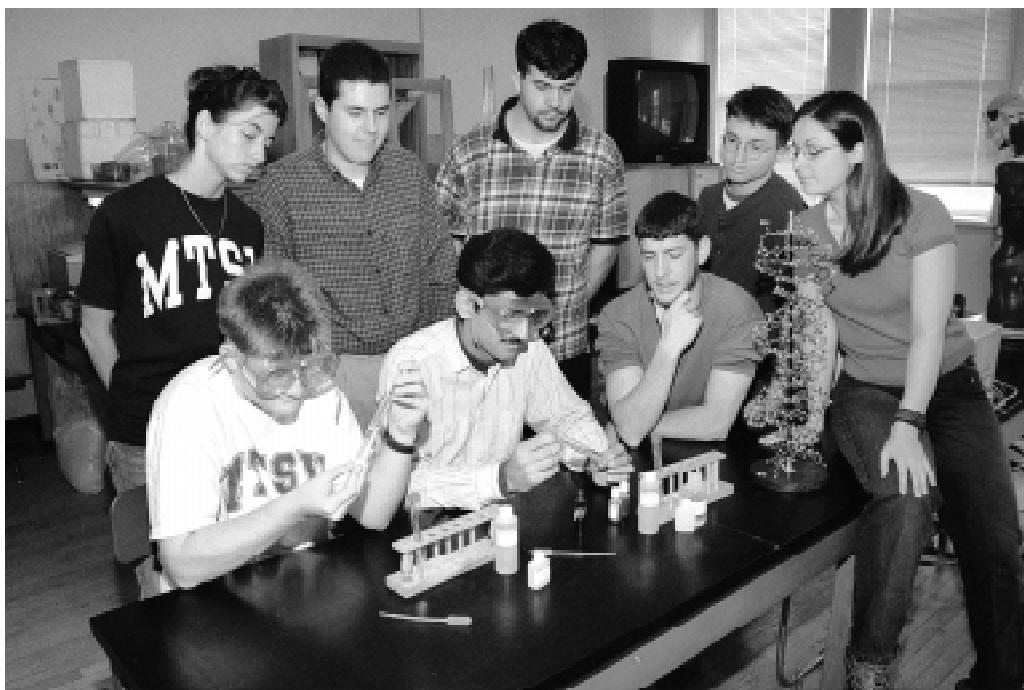
The program assists students in developing an objective view and understanding of the world, its institutions, and them-

selves by linking the cultural legacy of the past with the technological demands and global concerns of the contemporary world. Finally, it creates in students an awareness of the diverse nature of the world while encouraging them to become active lifelong learners and participants in society.

Program Goals and Accountability

To increase accountability and maintain integrity of the General Studies Program, each component course will undergo periodic evaluation to determine the degree to which the course contributes to the mission of the program. Continuous monitoring of the program will allow systematic change based upon student achievement that is relevant to the program mission. The program will foster in students the ability to

- think independently and critically;
- analyze and evaluate beliefs and attitudes, data and ideas, issues and values;
- gather information through various methods of inquiry;
- integrate and synthesize new ideas and information;
- communicate verbally, quantitatively, and artistically in a variety of contexts and media;
- weigh options and make decisions based on rational, ethical, moral, and aesthetic considerations;
- integrate acquired knowledge and personal experience with historical, cultural, and contemporary perspectives in a changing and diverse society; and
- recognize the significance of personal well being and understand the roles, problems, and concerns of an engaged citizen.



General Studies Requirements

MTSU administers the Academic Profile to students each semester to measure performance in relation to General Studies objectives. The test results are utilized by academic departments, the Committee on Admissions and Standards, the Committee on General Studies, and academic administrators in an ongoing evaluation of the General Studies Program.

Listed below are the requirements in General Studies which all candidates for baccalaureate degrees must meet regardless of the department or college in which they are pursuing a major. It is these requirements that are referred to as Area I-A and the like in the recommended and required programs listed in the departmental copy later in this catalog. If mitigating circumstances require a substitution for any specific course listed, such a substitution must have the approval of the academic dean of the college in which the student is pursuing a major.

All full-time, degree-seeking students should be enrolled in the appropriate General Studies English course and either 6 hours in General Studies or 3 hours in General Studies and 3 hours in their major until they have satisfied the University General Studies requirements.

Many academic majors require or recommend specific courses within the General Studies area. Consult your major advisor about specific General Studies requirements.

Area I: The Analysis, Organization, and Communication of Ideas 9 semester hours

- A. A six-semester hour requirement in freshman composition is to be met as follows:
1. Students with satisfactory scores on CEEB or CLEP will be given 3 hours of advanced standing credit for ENGL 1010. Minimum placement scores are given in the section on Advanced Standing, page 33.
 2. Students with an Enhanced ACT composite score of 19 or greater **and** a score of 32 or higher on the English section of the Enhanced ACT will be given 6 hours of advanced standing credit for ENGL 1010 and 1020.
 3. Students with an Enhanced ACT Composite Score of 19 or greater **and** English score of 19-31 will take ENGL 1010 and 1020, 6 hours.
 4. Students whose Enhanced ACT English score is 18 or below or whose Enhanced ACT composite score is 18 or below must undergo further testing. See Developmental Studies, page 86.
 5. **If SAT scores are used:**
 - a. Students whose SAT verbal scores are 450 or below must undergo further testing.
 - b. Students whose SAT verbal scores are 460 through 710 are placed in ENGL 1010 and 1020 in sequence.
 - c. Students whose SAT verbal scores are 720 or greater will be given credit for ENGL 1010 and 1020.

NOTE: In the event that a student takes an examination for advanced placement credit for composition more than once, the most recent test score will determine the student's status in the freshman English program.

- B. Students should choose one of the following courses to meet the remaining three-hour requirement in this area:

Foreign Language 1010

(substitution: Foreign Language 2010 plus 2020, 6 hours)

JOUR 1020 or RATV 1020

PHIL 2110

COMM 2200 or 3230

(Students seeking state teacher licensure should take COMM 2200 or COMM 4000.)

Area II: Humanities and Fine Art 9 semester hours

- A. The 6 semester hours required in literature are to be met as follows:

ENGL 2030 plus ENGL 2130 or 2230 or 2330 or HUM 2610

(Students must successfully complete ENGL 2030 before enrolling in ENGL 2130, 2230, or 2330.)

NOTE: The 2000-level English courses may not be taken simultaneously with the 1000-level composition courses.

- B. Students should choose one of the following courses to meet the remaining 3-hour requirement in this area:

ART 1030

HIST 1010, 1020, 1110, or 1120

MUS 1030

(substitution MUTH 1110 and 1120, 8 hours)

PHIL 1030

(substitution: PHIL 3150 plus 3300, 6 hours)

THEA 1030

The 12 hours of art and music required for the Interdisciplinary Studies major fulfills the II-B General Studies requirement.

Area III: Social and Behavioral Sciences 9 semester hours

- A. Six semester hours must be chosen from these courses:
HIST 2010, 2020, 2030 (3 credit hours each)
(HIST 2010 is not a prerequisite for HIST 2020)
- B. Three semester hours must be chosen from these courses (each earns 3 credits):
AAS 2100
ANTH 1010 or ANTH 2010
BMOM 2000
ECON 2410*
GEOG 2000
(substitution: any two of the following regional geography courses: 3401, 3402, 3410, 3420, 3430, 3450, 3460, 3470, 6 hours)
P S 2010 or 1010
PSY 1410
SOC 1010
WMST 2100

*NOTE: Jennings A. Jones College of Business majors must take ECON 2410.

Area IV: Natural Science and Mathematics 11 semester hours

- A. An eight-semester hour requirement in natural science is to be met as follows:
BIOL 1030, 4 hours
(substitution: BIOL 1110 plus 1120, 8 hours)
and either
GEOL 1030 and GEOL 1031, 4 hours
(substitution: GEOL 1040 and 1050)
or
PSCI 1030 (Physical Science), 4 hours
(substitution: PHYS 2010, 2011, 2020, 2021 or PHYS 2110, 2111, 2120, 2121 or CHEM 1010, 1011 plus 1020, 1021, or CHEM 1110, 1111 plus 1120, 1121, 8 hours)
- B. The remaining three-hour requirement in this area is to be met as follows:
MATH 1010
or

one three-hour mathematics course which has as its prerequisite at least two years of high school algebra. MATH 1410, 1420, and 4010 will not satisfy this requirement.
NOTE: Jennings A. Jones College of Business students majoring in Accounting, Business Administration, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Information Systems, Management or Marketing must complete MATH 1610 and 2020 or 1810.

Students will be required to complete a sequence of courses based on their high school mathematics as outlined below. This requirement is applicable to all freshmen entering MTSU for the first time and to those transfer students who do not hold an associate's degree from another Tennessee Board of Regents school.

Unless the academic assessment placement test places an individual differently (see Developmental Studies, page 86), a student entering MTSU with

1. two years of algebra and a mathematics Enhanced ACT greater than 25—(Math SAT greater than 580) or with senior advanced mathematics should take the appropriate mathematics courses for his/her major.
2. two years of algebra and a mathematics Enhanced ACT Assessment of 19-25—(Math SAT 460-580) should take MATH 1010 or take MATH 1710 or 1730 and earn at least a C before taking other mathematics courses. Students preparing to become elementary school teachers should take MATH 1410 and 1420.
3. a mathematics Enhanced ACT less than 19—(Math SAT less than 460) must take an academic assessment placement test in mathematics for proper placement. (See Developmental Studies Program, page 86.)
4. one year of algebra must take DSPM 0850 before taking other mathematics courses.
5. no algebra must take DSPM 0800 and DSPM 0850 before taking other mathematics courses.

Area V: Health, Physical Development, and Recreation 4 semester hours

This requirement is to be met by either:

four semester hours of physical activity courses (only one activity course may be taken per semester for General Studies credit)

or

two semester hours of physical activity courses plus PHED 2100 (Health).

NOTE: Two semesters of basic Military Science courses or Marching Band may be substituted for two courses of General Studies physical activity credit, but this substitution does not meet teacher licensure requirements. Students whose physical limitations prevent their full participation in the basic instructional program will be placed in activities commensurate with their abilities.