

General Studies

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General Information

General studies courses serve as pathways for academic recovery, student transitions, and transformational learning experiences in community engagement, creative practices, internships, research, shared intellectual programs, and study abroad. A select number of general studies courses also satisfy general education graduation requirements.

Courses (GEN S)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and University Policies sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

GEN S 100. University Seminar (1) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Open only to freshmen.

Provides opportunities to interact with faculty and staff in a small group setting. Students acquire study and interpersonal skills for academic and personal success. Special sessions are offered featuring campus resources including library, advising, career, health and wellness services.

- A. University Seminar
- B. Learning in Communities
- C. Living/Learning Community

GEN S 200. Professional Experience and Community Service (1-3) Cr/NC

Prerequisites: Twelve units of college credit, minimum grade point average of 2.0, concurrent participation in professional or community service activity, and approval of course contract.

Academic work designed with faculty approval to complement concurrent paid or unpaid professional or community service experience. Information and course contract forms available in Division of Academic Engagement and Student Achievement, AD-220. Applications must be submitted to the division prior to the end of the first week of classes. May be used to satisfy major or minor requirements only upon written approval of department chair. No combination of General Studies 200 and 400 in excess of six units may be counted for credit toward a bachelor's degree.

GEN S 250. Interdisciplinary Topics (1-4)

Interdisciplinary selected topics course. To enroll contact the faculty adviser of the department offering the course. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit four units.

GEN S 255. Bounce Back Retention Seminar (1) Cr/NC

Prerequisites: Academic probation students only. All participants sign Institutional Review Board (IRB) consent form.

In a highly interactive, small group setting, students learn a variety of skills, such as time management, test taking, class preparedness, and study skills, in order to strengthen performance. Students learn what personal attributes contribute to academic success and learn how to recognize and expand on these characteristics.

GEN S 280. Introduction to Civic Engagement (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Civic engagement through service learning. Collective action and global citizenship. Civic dimensions supporting democratic engagement. Civic capacities and literacies for social responsibility. One to two hours of weekly community service required.

GEN S 290. Introduction to Undergraduate Research (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Linguistics 200 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200 with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

Basic principles and practices of research inquiry. Design and methodology of three research paradigms (mixed methods, qualitative, quantitative) and proposal preparation.

GEN S 299. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisites: Consent of department chair and instructor.
Individual study.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Intended for Undergraduates)

GEN S 330. Plagues Through the Ages (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Political, economic, religious, and cultural effects of disease. Significant role epidemics and disease have played in development of civilizations from beginning of recorded history to present.

GEN S 340. Confronting AIDS (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.A. Natural Sciences and Quantitative Reasoning.

Examines the AIDS epidemic from historical, epidemiological, biological, medical, psychological, political, legal, and ethical perspectives.

GEN S 350. Interdisciplinary Topics (1-4)

Interdisciplinary selected topics course. To enroll contact the faculty adviser of the department offering the course. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit four units.

GEN S 400. Professional Experience and Community Service (1-3) Cr/NC

Prerequisites: Upper division standing, minimum grade point average of 2.0, concurrent participation in professional or community service activity and approval of course contract.

Academic work designed with faculty approval to complement concurrent paid or unpaid professional or community service experience. Information and course forms available in Division of Academic Engagement and Student Achievement, AD-220. Applications must be submitted to the division prior to the end of the first week of classes. May be used to satisfy major or minor requirements only upon written approval of department chair. No combination of General Studies 200 and 400 in excess of six units may be counted for credit toward a bachelor's degree.

GEN S 420. Disability and Society (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Upper division standing and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Explores the range of the disability experience; examines society's attitudes toward individuals and the interrelationship between societal institutions and the perception of people with disabilities. Contemporary issues with particular emphasis on disability culture, ableism, and inclusion.

GEN S 450. Life and Culture Semester Abroad (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Upper division standing and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities.

Life and culture of a foreign country through an approved semester abroad program sponsored by an academic department or program at SDSU. Requires lecture attendance, excursions and site visits, examinations and written reports. See *Class Schedule* for geographic location.

General Studies

GEN S 480. Engaged Citizenship and Social Responsibility (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: General Studies 280, upper division standing, minimum grade point average of 2.0, and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Fieldwork in multidisciplinary analyses of civic citizenship and social responsibility through participatory action research and inquiry driven service in pluralistic communities. Service paradigms for engaged citizenship. Students will be required to complete nine hours of supervised fieldwork per week and to attend weekly meetings with instructor.

GEN S 490. Undergraduate Research (1-3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Research and creative activities to include preparation for qualitative and quantitative empirical research projects. Identify problem, formulate research question, design small-scale investigation, collect and analyze data, present findings, and may include creative and performing arts projects. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

