

# General Studies

IN THE DIVISION OF ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

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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 147. Data Literacy: Human Choices Behind the Numbers (3) [GE]**

How social scientists use data, presentation of empirical analysis, and role of assumptions and choices in analyses.

#### **GEN S 150. Building Your Future Self for Success in College and Beyond (3) [GE]**

First-year students will meet one another where they are, build community, and explore how the latest interdisciplinary research, strategies, and tools can help cultivate success in academic and life pursuits as they develop and realize their future selves. Not open to students with credit in General Studies 100A, 100B, or 100C.

#### **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 203. Foundations of Cultural Competency (3)**

Cultural self-awareness, ethnocentrism, individual biases, institutional oppression, microaggressions, race relations. Historical background of racism. Impacts on current majority-minority relationships. (Formerly numbered Education 203.)

#### **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. Maximum credit six units.

## UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Intended for Undergraduates)

#### **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]**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

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]**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

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.

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

Prerequisites: General Studies 280, upper division standing, and minimum grade point average of 2.0.

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.