

# General Education Requirements

In order to meet the needs of learners in a constantly changing world, Lansing Community College believes that a common set of skills, knowledge, understanding, and reasoning is indispensable for all students granted an associate degree. This background is essential to every person as a productive worker and citizen and is a foundation upon which an individual can build a lifelong pursuit of knowledge and education. In keeping with these beliefs, the College has established General Education requirements at the college level for students seeking an LCC associate degree. Depending upon the degree, these requirements may be either the General Education Core or the Michigan Transfer Agreement.

The student outcomes expected for each of the Core areas are presented below.

1. Communication
  - Define and explain the nature of the communication process.
  - Use language and nonverbal behavior to express ideas and feelings clearly and responsibly.
  - Participate constructively in group/team discussions/activities.
  - Research, prepare, and present oral and/or visual information effectively.
  - Listen/interpret, with both literal and critical comprehension, in a variety of communication situations.
2. Global Perspectives and Diversity
  - Describe and analyze the ways in which societies and/or world civilizations establish socio-cultural order and the effects of these on individuals and the societies and/or world civilizations.
  - Describe and analyze how different societies and/or world civilizations have searched for truth, justice, and an understanding of what it means to be human.
  - Describe and analyze how major ideologies within societies and/or world civilizations have resulted in peaceful and/or violent solutions to conflicts.
  - Describe and analyze how major ideas, issues, values, and institutions in societies and/or world civilizations have shaped cultures and the effects these have on individuals.
  - Describe, analyze, and examine the impact of the inclusion and/or exclusion of diverse perspectives of gender and ethnicity by societies and/or world civilizations.
3. Mathematics
  - Use the strategies of arithmetic, geometry, and algebra to solve problems and effectively communicate the solutions in a variety of disciplines.
  - Use, interpret and produce one or more representations of a function, including graphs in one or more variables.
4. Science
  - Discuss and summarize basic knowledge of the nature, scope, purposes, and limitations of science and technology.

- Explain and apply the fundamental concepts of one of the sciences.
- Gather, analyze, interpret, and draw conclusions from empirical data.
- Use scientific knowledge and methods as tools to make decisions about contemporary issues involving science and technology.

#### 5. Writing

- Use reading, writing, and critical thinking skills to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate abstract concepts and concrete information.
- Use the stages of the writing process effectively.
- Properly locate, incorporate, and attribute sources of information.
- Produce effective writings that are targeted to various academic, community, and/or professional audiences.
- Conform to conventions of grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Information on the Michigan Transfer Agreement can be found on the [Michigan Transfer Agreement webpage](#).

*Revised: 10/22/18*

### **How Students Can Satisfy LCC General Education Requirements**

For more information, see [General Education Core Requirements webpage](#) or [Michigan Transfer Agreement webpage](#).

All students must fulfill LCC General Education requirements in order to be awarded an associate degree. The ways in which students can satisfy these requirements are presented below. Because these requirements may be revised each academic year, students should consult an academic advisor to stay informed of current options for satisfying General Education Core or Michigan Transfer Agreement requirements. Students should also be aware that not all courses that satisfy the General Education Core transfer to all colleges. Students planning to transfer should see an academic advisor before enrolling in any course.

For degrees requiring the General Education Core, students can satisfy the requirements in any of the following ways:

1. Achieve grades of 2.0 or higher in approved General Education Core courses.
2. Achieve a grade of 2.0 or higher on a Comprehensive Examination, where appropriate and available, for an approved course in a Core area. Upon successfully completing the exam, the student receives LCC credit for the course. (A comprehensive exam is an exam for which the student completes an application, pays the tuition for the course, and receives the grade earned on the exam on his or her transcript. See Credit by Examination procedure.)
3. Achieve a grade of 2.0 level or higher on a Core Area Proficiency Examination, where appropriate and available. Each exam is specific to a single Core area or, for Mathematics, to a particular course, and is administered for a \$50 fee in the Course Testing Center (TLC 104). Core Area Proficiency Examinations may only be taken once to satisfy the Core area. See [General Education Core Requirements webpage](#) for more information.

4. In mathematics, achieve a grade of 2.0 or higher in any non-Core mathematics course (STAT 170, STAT 215, MATH 120 or above).
5. Present evidence of completed Michigan Transfer Agreement from an accredited college or university.
6. Present evidence of an earned associate degree (or higher) from an accredited college or university.
7. If no degree has been earned, transfer in comparable course credit for an approved course from an accredited institution. General credit does not apply unless documentation for the Core area learning outcomes is provided and approved by the Provost.
8. Establish appropriate course credit through the Advanced Placement Examination (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST), and/or others as recognized by LCC.
9. Establish credit for an approved course through the Experiential Learning Process. See Credit for Previously Acquired Knowledge and Learning Experience procedure.

For degrees requiring the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA), students can satisfy the requirements in any of the following ways:

1. Achieve grades of 2.0 or higher in approved MTA courses. (See [Michigan Transfer Agreement webpage](#) for a full list of courses.)
2. Achieve a grade of 2.0 or higher on a Comprehensive Examination, where appropriate and available, for an approved course in an MTA area. Upon successfully completing the exam, the student receives LCC credit for the course. (A comprehensive exam is an exam for which the student completes an application, pays the tuition for the course, and receives the grade earned on the exam on his or her transcript. See Credit by Examination procedure.)
3. Present evidence of completed MTA from an accredited college or university.
4. Present evidence of an earned bachelor degree (or higher) from an accredited college or university.
5. If no degree has been earned, transfer in comparable course credit for an approved course from an accredited institution. General credit does not apply unless approved by the Provost.
6. Establish appropriate course credit through the Advanced Placement Examination (AP). Other areas of prior learning - for example, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) - are not applicable to the MTA at this time.

The following do NOT satisfy General Education requirements:

- LCC placement test scores
- A waiver of any course that is also a Core or MTA course
- Completion of higher-level courses that are not approved Core or MTA courses.

*Revised: 10/22/18*

## **Process for Granting Exceptions to the Institutional General Education Requirements for Associate Degrees**

General Education exceptions will be granted only as a result of verifiable college error, e.g. inappropriate advising, inaccurate printed materials. A student who wishes to formally appeal a determination that the General Education requirement for an Associate degree has not been met, should appeal initially to the Division offering the curriculum. The Dean should apply the following parameters in making a determination that an exception to current policy is warranted:

1. Even if a college error has been documented, if the student has the time and ability to take the course(s) necessary to satisfy the requirement, the course(s) should be completed.
2. The College does not waive a General Education requirement. In cases described in #1 above, substitutions are allowed only after consultation with the Dean of the department offering the General Education course for which a substitution will be made.

If the Dean determines that an exception is warranted, a recommendation must be sent to the Academic Affairs Office. The recommendation must include justification for the recommendation and any relevant documentation. The recommendation will be reviewed, and if any concerns arise, the matter will be further discussed with the Dean. The Academic Affairs Office will inform the student, Registrar, and the Dean in writing of either the approval or denial of the exception.

The final decision for granting exceptions to the institutional General Education requirements rests with the Academic Affairs Office.

*Revised: 10/22/18*