

# General Education (GE) resource list

## ****WHAT IS THIS RESOURCE?****

Links to USC resources to help faculty determine the type of General Education (GE) course they are teaching and the corresponding course requirements, such as reading load and assignment types.

## ****HOW DO I USE IT?****

Look up your course on the GE Course List, determine the type of GE category to which it belongs, review the requirements for GE courses in that category, and update your course as needed to ensure it complies with the GE requirements. For assistance with GE categories and requirements, contact the GE office. For assistance with course design and teaching for your GE or other courses, contact CET instructional designers.

### USC General Education course list

General Education, or GE, courses appear in the course catalogue with a course number and a letter suffix. The letter suffixes that indicate a course is GE are “g” “w” and “p”. GEs are of several types; each type has its own description and requirements.

| **GE Categories and Descriptions** |
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| Note: Courses of categories A-F are indicated with a suffix of “g” in the course catalog. |
| A—Arts: Courses that meet this requirement enable students to engage with the arts by teaching students to create and analyze works of art, understanding the context of their creations and their connections to cultural issues. |
| B—Humanistic Inquiry: Courses that meet this requirement cultivate a critical appreciation for various forms of human expression by teaching students to evaluate works of literature, philosophy, and the arts, to think critically and formulate informed opinions about ideas and values. |
| C—Social Analysis: Courses that meet this requirement explore the causes and consequences of social phenomena by teaching students to apply the quantitative and qualitative methods of the social sciences to understand how people behave and influence the world through institutions and other cultural forms. |
| D—Life Sciences: Courses that meet this requirement provide a scientific understanding of a full range of living systems from molecules to ecosystems by teaching students to understand how data is generated, presented and interpreted and how scientific discovery spurs technological growth and impacts society. A separate lab is required for all transfer courses. |
| E—Physical Sciences: Courses that meet this requirement analyze natural phenomena through quantitative description and synthesis, teaching students to solve scientific problems and to understand the processes by which scientific knowledge is obtained, evaluated and placed in the context of societal relevance. A separate lab is required. |
| F—Quantitative Reasoning: Courses that meet this requirement teach students to use a set of formal tools (such as logical or statistical inference, probability, or mathematical analysis) to pose and evaluate hypotheses, claims, questions, or problems within a formal mode of thought. |
| G—Citizenship in a Diverse World: Courses that meet this requirement enhance understanding of citizenship and moral agency in today's increasingly global society by teaching students to identify social, political, economic, and cultural forces that bear on human experience in the U.S. and around the world. Courses in this category are indicated with a suffix of “w.” |
| H—Traditions and Historical Foundations: Courses that meet this requirement examine the historical and cultural foundations of contemporary societies over a substantial period of time by teaching students to understand the enduring influence of literary, political, economic, philosophical, legal, ethical and religious traditions. Courses in this category are indicated with the suffix of “p.” |

### Steps to determine the type of general education course

**Step 1**: [Look up your course](https://catalogue.usc.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=8&poid=7227) to confirm it is a GE and determine what type of GE it is.

**Step 2**: [Consult the specific requirements](https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/875/docs/GE_Categories_2017.pdf) for that type of GE course.

**Step 3**: Review your course to ensure it aligns with the stated GE requirements. For assistance with your course (re)design, contact [CET instructional designers](http://cet.usc.edu/).