General Education

**Chair of the Committee on General Education**

James Magyar

General Information

The General Education Program is designed to provide students in all academic majors and professional programs with the knowledge and skills of a college-educated citizen. General Education approaches eleven learning outcomes through three core courses, seven distribution areas, a second language requirement, and writing in each of the disciplines. In the first year, First Year Writing provides a starting point for writing at all levels throughout the curriculum. Also in the first year, students choose from a large selection of intriguing topics with which to hone their skills in First Year Seminar. Connections courses, taken later in one’s program, again use a topical approach to strengthen academic skills. Writing in each discipline purposefully and explicitly develops student writing appropriate to the style and context of the individual discipline.

Recognizing the vast scope of knowledge available, Distribution courses allow students to choose courses in each area to advance professional goals, enhance personal interests, or explore new areas. One of these courses is a more advanced course that builds upon other General Education courses in science and mathematics to develop skills and understanding at a higher level.

Rhode Island College graduates also demonstrate knowledge of an additional language, demonstrated through the Second Language Requirement. The following sections provide more detailed information on General Education at the College.

Core Courses

Courses

First Year Seminar (FYS)

FYS 100 is required in the freshman year, with sections on a wide variety of topics. Each section is discussion-based and focused on developing critical thinking, oral communication, research fluency, and written communication. FYS 100 will not be offered in the summer or the early spring sessions. Students who enter the college as transfer students are not considered first-year students and are exempt from this requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students

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| FYS 100 | First Year Seminar | 4 | F, Sp |
| \*HONR 100 | First Year Seminar | 4 | F, Sp |

\* HONR 100 is open only to students in the College Honors Program.

First Year Writing (FYW)

FYW 100 (or FYW 100P) is required in freshman year. Either course introduces students to college-level writing and helps them develop the writing skills needed for success in college courses. Successful completion of the course (a final grade of C or better) will also meet the College Writing Requirement. Courses are limited to twenty students for FYW 100 (four credit hours); courses are limited to fifteen students for FYW 100P (six credit hours).

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| FYW 100 | Introduction to Academic Writing | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| \*FYW 100H | Introduction to Academic Writing | 4 | F, Sp |
| FYW 100P | Introduction to Academic Writing PLUS | 6 | F, Sp |

\* FYW 100H is open only to students in the College Honors Program.

Connections (C)

Courses in the Connections category are upper-level courses on topics that emphasize comparative perspectives, such as across disciplines, across time, and across cultures. Students must complete the FYS 100/HONR 100 and FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H courses and must have earned at least 45 college credits before taking a Connections course. Connections courses cannot be included in any major or minor program.

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| ANTH 261 | The Complexities of Global Health | 4 | F, Sp |
| AFRI 262 | Cultural Issues in Africana Studies | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| ANTH 262 | Indigenous Rights and the Global Environment | 4 | F, Sp |
| ANTH 265 | Anthropological Perspectives on Childhood | 4 | F, Sp |
| ANTH 266 | Anthropological and Indigenous Perspectives on Place | 4 | F, Sp |
| ART 261 | Art and Money | 4 | Sp |
| ART 262 | Encounters with Global Arts | 4 | F |
| BIOL 261 | The World's Forests | 4 | F (even years) |
| COMM 261 | Issues in Free Speech | 4 | Annually |
| COMM 262 | Dialect: What We Speak | 4 | As needed |
| COMM 263 | East Asian Media and Popular Culture | 4 | Sp, Su |
| ENGL 261 | Arctic Encounters | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 262 | Women, Crime, and Representation | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 263 | Zen East and West | 4 | Sp (alternate years) |
| ENGL 265 | Women's Stories across Cultures | 4 | As needed |
| ENGL 267 | Books that Changed American Culture | 4 | Alternate years |
| ENST 261 | Climate change and YOU | 4 | F, Su |
| FILM 262 | Cross-Cultural Projections: Exploring Cinematic Representation | 4 | As needed |
| GEND 261 | Resisting Authority: Girls of Fictional Futures | 4 | Sp (alternate years) |
| GEND 262 | Lights, Camera, Gender!: Gender in Film | 4 | F |
| GED 262 | Native American Narratives | 4 | F, Sp |
| GEOG 261 | Globalization, Cities and Sustainability | 4 | Sp |
| HIST 263 | Christianity | 4 | F, Sp |
| HIST 265 | Post-1945 Conflicts in Africa and Globally | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 267 | **Personal Memories of the World Wars** | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 268 | Civil Rights and National Liberation Movements | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 269 | Jazz and Civil Rights: Freedom Sounds | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| HIST 272 | Globalization, 15th Century to the Present | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| HIST 273 | Latin America and Globalization, 1492-Present | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 274 | The History of the Dominican Republic | 4 | Annually |
| HIST 275 | Russia from Beginning to End | 4 | F, Sp |
| MUS 261 | Music and Multimedia | 4 | As needed |
| NURS 262 | Substance Abuse as a Global Issue | 4 | F |
| NURS 264 | Status of the World's Children | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| NURS 266 | Health and Cultural Diversity | 4 | F, Sp |
| PHIL 262 | Freedom and Responsibility | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| PHIL 263 | The Idea of God | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| PHIL 265 | Philosophical Issues of Gender and Sex | 4 | F, Sp |
| PHIL 266 | Asian Philosophies: Theory and Practice | 4 | F, Sp |
| PSCI 262 | Space: The Final Frontier | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| POL 262 | Power and Community | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| POL 266 | Investing in the Global Economy | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| POL 267 | Immigration, Citizenship, and National Identity | 4 | Annually |
| SOC 262 | Sociology of Money | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| SOC 264 | Sex and Power: Global Gender Inequality | 4 | F, Sp |
| SOC 267 | Comparative Perspectives on Higher Education | 4 | Even years |
| SOC 268 | Genocide, Atrocity and Prevention | 4 | Annually |
| SUST 261 | Exploring Nature Through Art, Science, Technology | 4 | F, Sp |
| THTR 261 | Contemporary Black Theatre: Cultural Perspectives | 4 | Annually |

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| HIST 267 – Personal Memories of the World Wars (4)  Students examine personal experiences of living, serving, or suffering in the World Wars, by analyzing memoirs, fiction, and films. They compare how gender, race, ethnicity, and class, influence war memories.  General Education Category: Connections.  Prerequisite: FYS 100, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H and 45 credit hours.  Offered: Annually.  HIST 268 - Civil Rights and National Liberation Movements (4)  This course emphasizes a global approach to American history that places movements of national liberation, exemplified by Vietnam, Cuba, and Guinea Bissau, and the American Civil Rights movement, in context.  General Education Category: Connections.  Prerequisite: FYS 100, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H and 45 credit hours.  Offered: Annually.  HIST 269 - Jazz and Civil Rights: Freedom Sounds (4)  This course explores the evolution of jazz from bebop through free jazz, emphasizing the relationship between music and social change, in particular the civil rights movement, domestically and internationally.  General Education Category: Connections.  Prerequisite: FYS 100, FYW 100/FYW 100P/FYW 100H and 45 credit hours.  Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. |
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