



General Education Core Curriculum Policy UB-PO-AC-003/0

1. Background and Purpose

The General Education Core (GEC) Curriculum at the University of Belize (UB) is designed to provide undergraduate students with a broad foundation that enables them to make meaningful connections across disciplines. Students are required to take general education elective and mandatory courses as part of their curriculum, enabling them to acquire a comprehensive education encompassing the breadth of knowledge epitomized by the humanities, mathematics, and social sciences branches of knowledge, along with special competencies courses. This core curriculum will lead students to develop intellectual curiosity, strengthen their thinking ability, and cultivate a knowledgeable, informed, and literate human being who can operate effectively in society. UB believes in empowering students to become active participants in and contributors to the sustainable development of society at various levels, be it institutional, local, national, or regional. This general knowledge fosters the development of intellectual skills and dispositions, leading to an informed citizenry.

2. Scope/Users

This policy guides the provision of general education core courses at the University of Belize. It applies to all faculty, students, and academic departments. All undergraduate students are required to complete General Education Core requirements as part of their degree programs. This policy does not apply to professional option courses.

3. Definitions/Terms/Acronyms

General Education Core (GEC) Curriculum	Aims to equip undergraduate students with a diverse foundation that facilitates significant interdisciplinary connections. As part of their academic program, students must complete specific courses that
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contribute to a well-rounded education, covering essential areas of knowledge such as the humanities, mathematics, social sciences, and special competencies.

General Competencies

The broad skills and knowledge that students are expected to develop through their general education courses, regardless of their specific major or field of study. It ensures breadth of knowledge, skills, fluency, and values that are integrated into the curriculum across disciplines through the branches of humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and

mathematics.

Special Competencies

Specific or specialized skills, knowledge, and abilities that students develop within a particular discipline or program of study which complement the broader general competencies.

4. Policy Statement

The General Education Core (GEC) Curriculum is a mandatory component of the UB's curriculum that provides general competencies in knowledge, skills, fluency, and values/attitudes. The GEC Curriculum is consistent with the UB mission and vision statements and the profile of the model UB student. The overall aim is two-fold: to develop necessary GEC competencies such as language proficiency and to contribute to the holistic development of the UB graduate by exposing them to the four major branches of human knowledge (Humanities, Mathematics, Social Sciences, and Special Competencies). All degree-seeking undergraduate students must satisfy the UB General Education Core Curriculum requirements by completing specified courses outlined in the GEC Manual.

5. Relevant Legislation

University of Belize Act Chapter 37 Revised Edition 2011.

6. Key Related Documents

General Education Curriculum Policy

Office of the Registrar. (2023). Academic Policies. University of Belize.
General Education Core Curriculum Manual

7. Policy Approval and Review

This policy will be approved by the Board of Trustees and will normally be subjected to a five-year review. The Vice President may recommend amendments to the policy from time to time, and approval will also be required by the Board of Trustees.

8. Amendment History

Revision #	Description of changes	Reason(s) for the change	Date of revisions
0	Initial Release	Not applicable	Same as initial release date