

<http://www.utdallas.edu/student/catalog/undergrad06/degree-core.html>

Degree Programs

Core Curriculum

The University of Texas at Dallas requires that all students complete a Core Curriculum of 42 semester credit hours that serves as the foundation of the undergraduate education program of the university. These requirements must be met by every student pursuing a baccalaureate degree at The University of Texas at Dallas, regardless of his or her major. A specific course may be used to satisfy only one core requirement. Individual academic programs may require courses contained in parts of The University Core Curriculum to satisfy particular degree requirements. Students may be required to take extra courses if they fail to select these courses. In accordance with *Texas Education Code* Chapter 61, Subchapter S, a student who successfully completes a recognized core curriculum at another Texas public institution of higher education may transfer that block of courses to U.T. Dallas where it will be substituted for the U.T. Dallas core curriculum. Students are expected to master the techniques of English composition and rhetoric and complete a requirement in advanced writing. Students will be offered an exposure to the foundations of mathematical reasoning, an orientation to the natural sciences, an exploration of the methods of inquiry and the ways of knowing and expression in the arts and humanities, and an introduction to the history, government, and politics of the United States and Texas. The core curriculum also provides students the opportunity to choose an elective from a range of courses offered by the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

A. Communication (6 hours)

English Rhetoric and Composition (6 hours): At least one course that requires students to learn to communicate effectively in clear and correct prose and to master several modes of writing, including descriptive, expository, narrative and self-expressive. Other courses may require students to master more specific forms of writing tailored to the professional standards in their major field of study. Upper-division writing classes have RHET 1302 as a prerequisite. All courses require that students write, receive detailed feedback about, and revise at least 15 double-spaced pages.

B. Mathematics and Quantitative Methods (6 hours)

College Math (3 hours): Requires students to master the formal principles of algebra or calculus at a level higher than high school algebra II.

Quantitative Methods (3 hours): Requires students to master logical reasoning and inference; the application of mathematical concepts; statistical methods; or formal principles of algebra, calculus, or advanced mathematics beyond the College Math requirement.

C. Natural Science (9 hours)

Science (9 hours): Introductory or foundations-level treatment of fields of inquiry in the natural sciences.

Laboratory Science: At least one course must have a substantial laboratory component.

D. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)

Visual and Performing Arts (3 hours): Introductory or foundations-level treatment of one or more of the visual or performing arts.

Humanities (3 hours): Introductory or foundations-level treatment of literature, philosophy, cultural studies, modern language, or classic language.

E. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)

U.S. and Texas History (6 hours): Courses in United States and Texas history that satisfy Texas state law.

U.S. and Texas Government and Politics (6 hours): Courses that satisfy Texas state law requiring 6 semester hours or the equivalent in government or political science that include consideration of the Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the states, with special emphasis on the Texas Constitution.

Social and Behavioral Science (3 hours): Introductory or foundation-level treatments of any one or combination of topic areas dealing with the scientific inquiry of human behavior and social systems at the level of individuals, groups, societies, political systems, economic systems, management systems, or cultures. Approaches topics from a scientific perspective rather than a historical, philosophical, or applications perspective.