

Comparison of Distributive Studies Requirements for Peer Institutions

Peer or Peer aspirant Institutions:

Univ. of Illinois	Univ. North Carolina, Chapel Hill
UC Berkeley	Univ. Virginia (regional peer)
UCLA	Penn State (regional peer)
Univ Michigan	Cornell University (extra)

Univ of Illinois: (http://courses.uiuc.edu/cis/gened/urbana/2005/Spring/)

(~30 credits + language)

- [Cultural Studies: Non-Western/US Minority Culture\(s\)](#): 3 hours
- [Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Culture\(s\)](#): 3 hours
- [Language \(formerly Foreign Language\)](#): Completion of a 3rd semester college-level course in a language other than the student's primary language
- [Humanities/Arts](#): 6 hours
- [Natural Sciences/Technology](#): 6 hours
- [Social/Behavioral Sciences](#): 6 hours
- [Quantitative Reasoning I/II](#): 3 hours
- [Quantitative Reasoning II](#): 3 hours

Penn State: (http://www.psu.edu/bulletins/bluebook/gened/)

Knowledge Domains (30 credits)

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (3 credits)

NATURAL SCIENCES (9 credits)

ARTS (6 credits)

HUMANITIES (6 credits)

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (6 credits)

Berkeley, Michigan, I did not find Gen Ed requirements.

Cornell University: (http://www.cals.cornell.edu/Graduation_Requirements4.cfm)

(note this one is for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: the requirements vary for different colleges)

Distribution-39 credits

Physical and Life Sciences:

18 credits in at least 3 disciplines of which 6 credits must be of introductory biology and 3 credits in chemistry or physics.

Social Sciences and Humanities:

6 credits in Social Sciences and 6 credits in Humanities 100-400 level, excluding freshman seminars and language courses.

Written and Oral Expression

9 credits, including at least 6 in written expression.

UNC Chapel Hill: (<http://www.unc.edu/~jstohs/perspreg.html>)

General College Perspectives (27-30 credits)

- **Natural Sciences perspective:** The purpose of this requirement is to help you to see the world from the perspective of a scientist; to develop an understanding of the methodology and some of the content of the natural sciences. *Requirement: Two courses, one must include a lab*
- **Social Sciences Perspective:** The purpose of this requirement is to understand the methodology of the social sciences and to learn about social institutions and behavior. *Requirement: Two courses from different departments*
- **Philosophical perspective:** The purpose of this requirement is to investigate moral and ethical issues and to develop the ability to arrive at reasoned viewpoints. *Requirement: One course*
- **Historical perspective:** The purpose of this requirement is to develop an appreciation of the cultural heritage of the western world and to broaden understanding of one's own culture and of the world. *Requirement: Two courses; one must be pre-1700 history and the other may be western or non-western history*
- **Aesthetic perspective:** The purpose of this requirement is to develop an understanding of the varieties of artistic creation and expression. *Requirement: Two courses; one in fine arts and one in literature*

note: requirements for the College of Arts+Sciences has additional requirements.

UCLA: (<http://college.ucla.edu/ge/newgereq.htm>)

(~30 credits)

FOUNDATION AREA	NUMBER OF UNITS /COURSES
Foundations of the Arts and Humanities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary and Cultural Analysis • Philosophical and Linguistic Analysis • Visual and Performance Arts Analysis and Practice 	1 course 1 course 1 course
	Total = 15 units minimum
Foundations of Society and Culture	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Analysis • Historical Analysis 	1 course 1 course <i>3rd course from either subgroup</i>
	Total = 15 units minimum
Foundations of Scientific Inquiry*	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Sciences • Life Sciences 	2 courses 2 courses
	Total = 18 units minimum
Total GE courses/units	10 courses (48 units minimum)

** In each subgroup one of the two courses must be five (5) units and carry either laboratory, demonstration, or Writing II credit. Each of the other two courses may be four (4) units.*

Univ Virginia:
 (http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/undergrad/policies/2003/degree_requirements)

(~30 credits)

- (A) Historical Studies: 3 credits
- (B) Non-Western Perspectives: 3 credits
- (C) Social Sciences: 6 credits from 2 different departments
- (D) Humanities: 6 credits from 2 categories (Literature; Fine Arts; Moral, Philosophical & Religious Perspectives)
- (E) Math/Science: 12 credits from at least 2 departments (Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Sciences, Mathematics/Statistics or Physics)

Analysis of Humanities/Arts Distributive Studies requirements at our Peer Institutions

Most require 2 to 3 courses in Humanities and Arts

2 of the 6 with Distribution requirements have an explicit requirement that is something like "HO". Only UCLA has an explicit "Philosophical/Linguistic Analysis". UNC Chapel Hill has a "Philosophical Perspectives" requirement, and it includes courses from ANTH/ECON/COMM/PSc/PHIL/REL, which are a combination of our HO and SH.

1. Illinois:

2 courses, do not distinguish HL/HA/HO

2 add'l courses in "Cultural Studies" (one Western/one nonwestern), some of which would fall in our HO category.

2. Penn State:

2 HA courses

2 HL/HO, includes history, which are in our "SH"

3. Cornell (for BA in Arts/Sciences):

5 courses across SB/SH and HA/HL/HO, must have 2 in each, and 2 in same dept.

4. UNC Chapel Hill:

1 HA, 1 HL, 1 "Philosophical Perspectives" (combined HO/SH)

5. UCLA:

1 HA, 1 HL, 1 HO

6. Virginia:

2 courses from HA/HL/HO, must be from 2 different categories