



GENERAL EDUCATION AT MARS HILL UNIVERSITY: FOUNDATIONS & PERSPECTIVES

Student Learning Outcomes

FOUNDATIONS (12-15 credits)

FYS 111 (First-Year Seminar I)

- Explain both the traditional and historical meanings of a liberal arts education as well as its contemporary practical application. (C, K)¹
- Apply knowledge about academic habits, student success skills, and campus resources in a variety of academic and social settings. (T, R, C, K)
- Create a curricular and co-curricular plan based on personal and professional goals. (T, R, K)
- Apply ethical reasoning and behavior as it relates to academic integrity and college life. (R)

FYS 112 (First-Year Seminar II)

- Identify ethical issues in subject- or discipline-based settings. (T, R, C, K)
- Apply ethical perspectives to contemporary issues (T, R, C, K)
- Practice ethical reasoning skills through analysis of contemporary ethical problems (T, R, C, K)

ENG 111 (College Composition I: Introduction to Academic Writing)

- Understand and apply writing as process: generating ideas, drafting, revising, and editing. (C, K)
- Analyze and evaluate academic writing. (T, C)
- Apply principles of effective academic writing. (T, C, K)
- Create effective academic writing using a variety of modes (T, C, K)

ENG 112 (College Composition II: Writing Across the Curriculum)

- Understand the contexts for academic writing and the basic disciplinary conventions of the humanities, the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the arts (T, C, K)
- Conduct effective research using different types of texts and produce research projects that identify and evaluate relevant sources, integrate sources, avoid plagiarism, and maintain academic integrity. (T, R, C, K)

HEA 111 (Foundations of Health, Wellness, and Fitness)

- Develop a personal wellness program that integrates cardio-respiratory, endurance, strength, flexibility, body composition, and nutrition. (T)
- Explain the individual value of physical activity for health, wellness, and fitness. (R)
- Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of fitness through a personal wellness plan. (K)
- Use time management skills to allow for regular participation in physical activity and exercise. (K, R)
- Demonstrate personal responsibility and social behavior while working cooperatively in a fitness-based environment. (R, C)
- Appreciate the structure, function, and potential for beauty of the human body. (A)

¹ Parenthetical letters indicate alignment to MHU institutional learning outcomes.

PERSPECTIVES (28-37 credits)

Aesthetic Perspectives

- Understand the skills necessary to create an artistic product. (K)
- Practice the skills necessary to create an artistic product. (A)
- Reflect on aesthetic experience as a key component of artistic expression and of a balanced life. (A, R)
- Demonstrate creative problem-solving throughout the aesthetic experience. (T)

Global Perspectives or Foreign Language Study

Student learning outcomes for **Global Perspectives Courses**:

- Demonstrate developmentally appropriate understanding of cross-cultural and global issues, processes, trends, and systems. (K)
- Apply their understanding of effective methods of communicating across cultures and diverse groups, within our society and globally, both orally and in writing. (C)
- Use knowledge of diverse cultural frames of reference and alternate perspectives to analyze, evaluate, and address problems germane to global and cultural issues. (T)
- Respond constructively and creatively to questions or conflicts that arise between cultures or diverse groups. (T)
- Situate their cultural identities within global and comparative contexts. (R)

Student learning outcomes for **Foreign Language Study**:

- Students acquire knowledge of four skills central to foreign language study: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. (K)
- Students acquire and recognize vocabulary and can produce and translate utterances in a foreign language with a minimum of errors in syntax and semantics. (K)
- Students master basic and advanced concepts in grammar and syntax, recognize, name and discuss forms and structures, and compare the grammars of English and a foreign language. (T, K)
- Students drill, memorize, understand, adapt, and apply knowledge about a foreign language to speaking and writing situations. (T, C, K)
- Students develop awareness of culture, literature and history of the world relevant to the foreign language being studied, and interpret utterances in a foreign language in light of this awareness. (T, R, A)

Humanities Perspectives

- Demonstrate broad-based foundational knowledge of content, methodologies, and values in the humanities. (K)
- Understand the evolution of ideas over time in historical, literary, philosophical, or religious contexts. (K)
- Construct valid, effective written arguments using relevant evidence. (C)
- Critically interpret texts and documents, distinguishing between primary and secondary sources. (T)
- Demonstrate ethical use of source materials. (R)

Natural Scientific Perspectives

- Understand science as a process of discovery based on investigation and evidence from the natural world, and recognize that scientific understanding evolves based on new evidence. (T, K)
- Evaluate the credibility of information and differentiate scientific understanding from personal beliefs and opinions. (T, R, K)
- Evaluate the relevance and application of natural science to societal challenges as well as in their everyday lives. (T, R)
- Understand the language and foundational principles of one of the natural sciences. (K)

Quantitative Reasoning Perspectives

- Analyze problems, select appropriate mathematical strategies to solve them, and evaluate solutions for reasonableness and accuracy, utilizing technology when applicable. (T, K)
- Communicate ideas, processes, and solutions using appropriate mathematical vocabulary. (C, K)
- Analyze data, recognize patterns, and create mathematical models. (T)
- Understand the real number system and use numerical concepts in problem solving. (T, K)

Social Scientific Perspectives

- Understand the major concepts associated with a social science discipline and apply those concepts to critical societal problems. (T, K)
- Communicate effectively about social scientific concepts orally and in writing. (C)
- Articulate the complexity of socio-cultural diversity inherent to society, such as variations of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and religious preference (R, K)
- Analyze opposing viewpoints and the scientific literature associated with social issues, and evaluate various approaches aimed at addressing them (T, R)

Ideas & Innovations: U.S. and Ideas & Innovations: World

- Understand and interpret an idea or innovation that illuminates the past, present, or both. (T, K)
- Identify, investigate, and evaluate information about an idea or innovation using a variety of appropriate methods, such as reading, researching, collaborating, experiencing, reflecting, or debating. (T, C, K)
- Analyze and synthesize knowledge of a theme or topic from multiple perspectives, such as historical, political, economic, social, cultural, intellectual, philosophical, theoretical, scientific, aesthetic, or ethical. (T, R, A, K)
- Communicate knowledge of a theme or topic using appropriate and rigorous methods, such as writing, oral presentations, or creative projects. (T, C, K)

Practicum

- Conduct independent research or creative production or performance relevant to their discipline. (T, R, A, K)
- Evaluate, analyze and synthesize information from formative coursework, appropriate professional and scholarly sources, and personal experience. (T, R, K)
- Communicate as an incipient professional in the discipline in both written and oral forms. (T, A, C, K)