

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE PROGRAM

The general education core at Norfolk State University provides the foundation for the University's mission to develop in students the knowledge, qualities and attitudes necessary to become productive citizens who contribute to a globally and rapidly changing society. Such citizens are educated persons. They are lifelong learners who communicate effectively and appreciate diverse manifestations of different cultures, recognize and exercise their responsibility to contribute to the growth of society, use technology appropriately to enhance their personal and professional lives, and possess a rational open-mindedness that leads to analytical and critical patterns of thought.

The breadth of knowledge and skills required by the general education core complements the depth of knowledge that students acquire in their specialized fields, thus enhancing their ability to contribute to their local, national, and global communities.

Students entering Norfolk State University who complete the general education core will be able to:

- Write and speak logically, clearly, and precisely.
- Read and comprehend written and graphic information.
- Locate, compile, organize, and document information from print and digital sources.
- Understand mathematical and technological thought and conceptualize appropriate logic in problem solving.
- Understand and apply key concepts, principles and processes in the natural and social sciences.
- Demonstrate technological proficiency appropriate to their professional and personal needs.
- Examine, evaluate, and appreciate history's influences on economic, political, and social events.
- Understand and appreciate diverse cultures and perspectives.
- Examine and understand the role of personal and responsible citizenship in democratic society.
- Appreciate aesthetics.

Office of Academic Engagement: Spartan Seminar Series

Norfolk State University has created signature initiatives for student success. The Spartan Seminar Series will serve students into their sophomore year; three total semesters will provide sustained opportunities to onboard and socialize students into the academic culture and expectations of the institution. The three required courses are designed to increase academic performance, persistence, and preparation for success, resulting in students who are acutely aware, distinctively prepared and perpetually affiliated with Norfolk State University. During the first year, freshmen will take Spartan Seminar 101 and 102. Spartan Seminar 201 will follow in the sophomore year.

For more information, please contact the Office of Academic Engagement at (757) 823-9081.

Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

Requirements for the bachelor's degree are both quantitative and qualitative. The department head and advisor make the initial check

for fulfillment of departmental requirements. The Office of the registrar makes the final check for compliance with University-wide requirements.

To receive the bachelor's degree, a student must:

- Complete Spartan Seminar Series (SEM 101 Spartan Seminar 101, SEM 102 Spartan Seminar 102 and SEM 201 Spartan Seminar 201) with a minimum grade of C. An exemption approval form is available in the academic departments.
- Complete the General Education Core requirements.
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
- Have a minimum of 120 semester hours of credit.
- Meet all requirements of the curriculum leading to the degree for which he or she is a candidate.
- Have spent a minimum of two semesters in residence at Norfolk State University and have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit during this period, including all of the courses required by the senior year curriculum.
- Meet core competency requirements.

Exceptions to degree requirements may be made only with prior written approval of the Provost upon recommendation of the Department Head and College/School Dean. Exceptions may not exceed six semester hours of academic credit.

General Education Requirements for the Baccalaureate Degree

Students entering Norfolk State University seeking the baccalaureate degree are required to take forty (40) semester hours from the general education core curriculum consisting of the following subject areas:

Code	Title	Credits
Communications (9 Semester Hours)		
ENG 101	College English I	3
ENG 102	College English II	3
ENG 285	Public Speaking	3
Digital, Computer & Telecommunications (3 Semester Hours)		
CSC 150	Computer Literacy	3
Health and Physical Education (3 Semester Hours)		
PED 100	Fundamentals of Fitness for Life	1
HED 100	Personal and Community Health	2
Humanities (3 Semester Hours)		
Select one of the following:		3
ENG 207	Introduction to World Literature	
FIA 201	Basic Art Appreciation	
MUS 301	Music Appreciation	
Mathematics (3 Semester Hours)		
MTH 103	Mathematics in General Education	3
Spartan Seminar Series (3 Semester Hours)		
SEM 101	Spartan Seminar 101	1
SEM 102	Spartan Seminar 102	1
SEM 201	Spartan Seminar 201	1
Natural Sciences (7 Semester Hours)		
BIO 100	Biological Science	3
SCI 101	Physical Science for Non-Science Majors	3
Select one of the following:		1
BIO 100L	Biological Science Lab	

SCI 101L	Physical Science Laboratory	
Social Sciences (3 Semester Hours)		
Select one of the following:		3
SOC 101	Introduction to the Social Sciences	
HIS 101	History of World Societies II	
HIS 103	United States History Since 1865	
BUS 175	Intro to Business & Entrepreneurship	
ECN 200	Basic Principles of Economics	
Cultural Perspectives (6 Semester Hours)		
Select two of the following:		6
ENG 383	African American Literature ¹	
MUS 234	African American Music ¹	
HIS 335	African American History ¹	
HIS 336	African American History Since 1865 ¹	
HRP 320	African American Health ¹	
HIS 371	African History/Cultures 1600-PRESENT ¹	
Total Credits		40

¹ Courses satisfy the University's cultural elective requirement. Departments may require specific courses for their majors.

Requirements for the Associate Degree

The University awards the associate of science degree to those who successfully complete requirements as set forth for the program desired. Candidates for the associate degree must complete an application for graduation through the academic departments and pay the required graduation fee. At least 20 hours of general education core are required of students pursuing an associate degree. At least 25% of the coursework leading to an associate degree must be completed in residence (at Norfolk State University). Associate degree candidates must meet core competencies required of all NSU undergraduate students.

Minimum requirements for the associate degree are 60 semester hours with a cumulative grade point average of 2.00. A minimum grade of "C" or better is required in major courses and in ENG 101 College English I, ENG 102 College English II, and SEM 101 Spartan Seminar 101, SEM 102 Spartan Seminar 102 and SEM 201 Spartan Seminar 201.

General Education Requirements for the Associate Degree

Norfolk State University offers an associate degree program in Architectural Drafting. Students seeking an associate degree are required to complete general education core requirements appropriate to the degree program. See the associate degree program description and curriculum for more information about specific general education core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Communications (6 Semester Hours)		
ENG 101	College English I	3
ENG 102	College English II	3
Digital, Computer & Telecommunications (3 Semester Hours)		
CSC 150	Computer Literacy	3
Health and Physical Education (3 Semester Hours)		
PED 100	Fundamentals of Fitness for Life	1
HED 100	Personal and Community Health	2

Natural Sciences

PHY 152	General Physics	3
PHY 152L	General Physics Laboratory I	1

Spartan Seminar Series (3 Semester Hours)

SEM 101	Spartan Seminar 101	1
SEM 102	Spartan Seminar 102	1
SEM 201	Spartan Seminar 201	1

Mathematics (3 Semester Hours)

MTH 153	College Algebra & Trigonometry	3
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Social Sciences (3 Semester Hours)

Select one of the following: 3

SOC 101	Introduction to the Social Sciences	
HIS 100	History of World Societies I	
HIS 101	History of World Societies II	
PSY 210	Introduction to Psychology	
ECN 200	Basic Principles of Economics	

Humanities Elective (3 Semester Hours)

Select one of the following: 3

HUM 210	Humanities	
HUM 211	Humanities	
FIA 201	Basic Art Appreciation	
MUS 301	Music Appreciation	
ENG 207	Introduction to World Literature	

Total Credits **28**