

LOWER-DIVISION UCA CORE SUMMARY

Document updated 2016-03-21

The lower-division (LD) UCA Core (“general education”) requires 38 semester credit hours, as outlined here.

1 Critical Inquiry (20 hours)

- 1.1 Quantitative (3 hours)
- 1.2 Natural Sciences (8 hours)
 - 1.2.1 Physical Science (4 hours)
 - 1.2.2 Life Science (4 hours)
- 1.3 Inquiry and Analysis (9 hours)
 - 1.3.1 American History and Government (3 hours)
 - 1.3.2 Social Science (3 hours)
 - 1.3.3 Fine Arts/Humanities (3 hours)

2 Communication (9 hours)

- 2.1 Writing Foundation (3 hours)
- 2.2 Research and Writing (3 hours)
- 2.3 Oral Communication (3 hours)

3 Diversity (6 hours)

- 3.1 Diversity in Creative Works (3 hours)
- 3.2 Diversity in World Cultures (3 hours)

4 Responsible Living (3 hours)

Transfer students, the State Minimum Core, and the LD UCA Core

- ♦ A transfer student who has completed the 35-hour State Minimum Core curriculum before entering UCA will be deemed to have completed the lower-division UCA Core. No additional lower-division UCA Core courses will be required. A transfer student who has not completed the 35-hour State Minimum Core curriculum before entering UCA must work with an academic advisor to ensure timely completion of lower-division UCA Core requirements.
- ♦ In the Quantitative or Natural Science sections (§§ 1.1, 1.2) of the Lower-Division (LD) UCA Core, higher-level courses than those listed that are accepted in transfer or as evaluated credit at the time of initial admission to the university will satisfy the respective LD UCA Core requirements provided that (1) the student has otherwise met respective grade and laboratory requirements and (2) the UCA equivalent to the transferred course has as a prerequisite an LD UCA Core course within the same UCA Core category.

Arkansas Course Transfer System. The UCA Core checksheet includes notations following selected courses, indicating the corresponding Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) index number. For more information, see the *UBulletin* ACTS page.

First-Year Seminar. During the first year, one course – from the Critical Inquiry, Diversity, or Responsible Living category – must be a First-Year Seminar (FYS). See the online class schedule to find FYS sections.

Other Requirements

- ♦ Students must successfully complete the Written Communication course sequence (Writing Foundation + Research and Writing) in their first year unless the requirement was already met or remediation is required.
- ♦ An approved UCA Core lab science and an approved UCA Core math course should be completed in the first two years.
- ♦ **Fine Arts and Humanities:** Students must take at least one course in the Fine Arts and one course in the Humanities in fulfillment of lower-division UCA Core requirements.
- ♦ **Social Science:** All students are required to take six credits of social science. In order to complete the Lower-Division Core in 38 credit hours, it is recommended that students take, in addition to the Social Science course taken in the Critical Inquiry category, a Social Science course in either the Diversity in World Cultures or the Responsible Living Category.

Additional information

- ♦ If an ACT subject score is below 19 in reading, writing, or mathematics, remediation is required.
- ♦ Some majors require specific UCA Core courses.
- ♦ A course may be used only once to satisfy the UCA Core requirements.
- ♦ A minimum grade of C is required in some UCA Core courses.
- ♦ For additional information, consult your academic advisor and the relevant sections of the *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

Useful links

- ♦ UCA Core web site: <http://uca.edu/core/>
- ♦ ACTS page: <http://uca.edu/academicbulletins/acts/>
- ♦ Online class schedule: <http://uca.edu/go/class-schedule>
- ♦ Current Undergraduate Bulletin: <http://uca.edu/ubulletin/>