General Education Requirements

3 Requirements for Earning UNC General Education Requirements

To receive General Education credit, please email the Credit Transfer Specialist (credit_abroad@unc.edu) your Study Abroad Course Approval Form and course Syllabi.

*General Education Courses MUST include the following to be approved*

**Course Content**
- **2/3rds of the course** must cover the specific Gen Ed content
- e.g for World Before 1750, 2/3rds of the course must focus on history before 1750

**Writing Requirement**
- The course must have **3000 words of writing** or an equivalent amount of work
- This can include the final assessment, however the writing must be completed outside of class
- An equivalent amount of work may include presentations, portfolios, and well documented project outside of class

**Final Exam**
- Courses must include a **final exam or assessment**
- Further definition: final test, paper, presentation or project which signifies a cumulative assessment of gained knowledge from a course

**Experiential Education (EE) Credit** is automatic for students who Study Abroad!

A course can be approved for up to 2 General Education Requirements.

This can include:

1 Approach and 1 Connection
or
2 Connections
Foundations:
QR = Quantitative Reasoning - QR courses extend abilities to think critically about, and with, numerical information by focusing on mathematics, data analysis, statistics, computing, probability, or modeling.

FL = Foreign Language - All students must successfully complete level 3 of a foreign language.

Approaches:
PL = Physical and Life Sciences (PX=with lab) - PL and PX courses emphasize the physical and life sciences, the scientific basis of technology, or a combination of these topics. For PX credit, a significant field experience of at least 30 hours in the field is required.

SS = Social and Behavioral Sciences (Non-Historical) - SS courses study individual or collective behavior, drawing on established quantitative or qualitative methods of analysis and interpretation to consider various dimensions of individual behavior, the family, society, politics, and the economy.

HS = Historical Analysis (Soc. and Behavioral Sciences) - HS courses study human behavior in past times, with an emphasis on change over time. The primary emphasis is on human behavior in social or cultural contexts.

PH = Philosophical and Moral Reasoning - PH courses address fundamental questions about aspects of human experience or endeavor and teach methods of reasoning, analysis, and interpretation appropriate to such inquiry. Courses treating the social dimensions of philosophical reasoning must devote at least 20% of the course to questions of morality and values.

VP = Visual and Performing Arts - VP courses emphasize aesthetic non-literary content, foster critical thinking and creative practice, and encourage life-long engagement with the fine arts. At least two-thirds of the course content should involve analysis of or creative expression within the visual or performing arts.

LA = Literary Arts - LA courses examine literary or filmic texts as the written or visual expressions of human experience. At least two-thirds of the course content should involve the reading/viewing/analysis/creation of literary or filmic texts.
Connections:

GL = Global Issues - GL courses emphasize transnational connections and global forces among two or more cultures, nations, or other social units. Courses devoted to natural phenomena or technology must place at least half of the emphasis on the human dimensions of the phenomena studied.

NA = North Atlantic World - NA courses devote more than two-thirds of the course content to the history, culture, or society of North America (including American Indians) or of Europe, especially cultures whose dominant language belongs to the Germanic, Celtic, or Romance language families. Courses designated as NA may not also be US Diversity.

BN = Beyond the North Atlantic World - BN courses focus at least two-thirds of the course content on the history, geography, and/or culture of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and the Pacific.

WB = World Before 1750 - WB courses devote at least two-thirds of the course content to the period prior to 1750 CE. They deal explicitly with change over time or situate course material within cultural, political, or social contexts.

QI = Quantitative Intensive - QI courses refine quantitative-reasoning skills in disciplinary contexts. At least half the course must involve modeling, numerical reasoning, interpreting quantitative data, mathematical analysis, or formal logic and proofs.

US = US Diversity - A course that systematically explores the perspectives/experiences of at least one US group or subcultures (or important groups within these larger communities). Courses designated as US may not also be NA.
Supplemental Education

Students are required to take three different upper-level courses numbered 200 and above in a department outside a student’s major department. Students may also meet this requirement with a double major or with one major and a minor. For students with only one major (and no minor), it is possible to earn credits for the Supplemental Education courses overseas; please contact your Study Abroad Advisor for more information.

**Note about Fine Arts courses and Supplemental Education:**

- Drama, Music, or Art History courses may be used pending departmental approval. The Art Department WILL NOT approve Studio Art courses for this requirement.

- Dance courses that are not academic in nature may not count for this requirement. Courses on the history of dance, etc. that have an academic component may be considered for Supplemental Education.

Rare exceptions occur but the following requirements are EXTREMELY difficult to fulfill abroad. We strongly encourage students to fulfill these requirements at UNC:

1) **CI = Communication Intensive** - A course preferably in a major or minor area of concentration. Communication Intensive courses must integrate writing and speaking into the subject matter in evident and important ways. Written and oral assignments should reflect course content and promote the revision of writing or speaking in response to feedback and discussion. Courses that incorporate communication only in the form of one research paper and/or oral report at the end of the term with no opportunity for revision are NOT eligible for the CI designation.

2) **Supplemental Education** - Integrative option

**NOTE:** LFIT requirements may not be satisfied with study abroad courses. This requirement MUST be fulfilled by a course taken on the UNC campus. Also, Physical Education courses (such as dance, exercise or sport classes), may only receive one credit hour (which does not count towards graduation). These courses must be taken for a grade and must appear on the student's study abroad program transcript. You also cannot take the ENGL 105 requirement abroad. Please note that these are general guidelines. This is to help you select courses ABROAD that may count as general education courses. General education courses taken at Carolina MUST be chosen from the approved list of specific general education classes. You MUST have general education course choices abroad approved by the Credit Transfer Specialist. Course content is the critical factor in determining if a course abroad can be used as to fulfill general education requirements. There are courses offered within departments suggested above that will NOT meet Carolina’s requirements.