


**CENTRAL**  
CONNECTICUT  
STATE UNIVERSITY

**GENERAL EDUCATION  
REVISIONS**

**Information Session**



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1

1

## Today's Agenda

1. Overview of General Education Revisions
2. Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills
3. Implementation Status & Advising Resources
4. Writing in the Disciplines
5. Q & A



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2

2

# New Program Overview

## Ways of Understanding

- **Arts and Humanities:** 9 credits
  - No more than 6 credits in any one discipline
  - Includes Literature: 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences:** 12 credits
  - No more than 6 credits in any one discipline
  - Includes History: 3 credits
- **Mathematics and Natural Sciences:** 9-10 credits
  - Includes Mathematics or Statistics: 3 credits
  - Includes Lab Science: 3-4 credits

## Essential Skills

- **Written and Oral Communication:** 6 credits
  - Includes First Year Writing (WRT 105 or WRT 110): 3 credits
- **World Languages:** 0-6 credits
- **Thriving in College:** 2-3 credits

## General Ed Free Elective: 3 credits

May include 3 credits of World Languages

**Total Credits: 41-46**



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3

3

# Additional Requirements

**(No Change) - International Requirement (6 credits)**

**(No Change) - Equity, Justice, and Inclusion Requirement (3 credits)**

**NEW: Writing in the Disciplines (3 credits)**



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4

4

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**Study Area I Arts & Humanities  
(9 credits)**  
Including 3 credits in a Literature Course



**Arts & Humanities  
(9 credits)**  
Including 3 credits in a Literature Course



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5

5

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**Study Area II Social Sciences  
(9 credits)**  
*Including 3 credits in History*



**Social & Behavioral Sciences  
(12 credits)**  
Including 3 credits in History

**Study Area III Behavioral Sciences  
(6 credits)**



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6

6

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas

**Study Area IV - Natural Sciences  
(6 or 7 credits)** Including 3-4  
credits in a Lab Science

**Skill Area II - Mathematics  
(6 credits)**  
Including a MATH or STAT course  
numbered 102 or higher



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**Mathematics & Natural Sciences  
(9-10 credits)**  
Including 3-4 credits in a Lab  
Science  
Including a MATH or STAT course  
numbered 102 or higher

7

7

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas

**Skill Area I Communication Skills  
(6 credits)**  
Including WRT 105 or 110



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**Written & Oral Communication  
(6 credits)**  
Including WRT 105 or 110



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8

8

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas

**Skill Area III Foreign Language Proficiency**  
(0 – 3 credits)



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**World Language (0 - 6 credits) & Gen Ed Free Elective (3 credits)**

Language course numbered 112 or 118 satisfy both the world language requirement and the general education free elective.

Students with 3 years, or more, of one world language at the high school level, a passing score on a world language placement exam, or native proficiency in a language other than English will have the World Language requirement waived and can satisfy this requirement with any **general education free elective** (3cr).



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9

9

## Compare: Skill & Study Areas vs. Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

### Skill & Study Areas

**Skill Area IV University Requirement (2-3 credits)**  
PE 144 (except for transfer students with 15+ credits)



### Ways of Understanding & Essential Skills

**Thriving in College (2-3 credits)**

CCSU 102, 103, or FYE course

Transfer students with 24 or more transfer credits at the time of admission can satisfy this requirement with any **general education free elective** (3cr).



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10

10

## Implementation Status & Advising Resources

- **General education revisions are effective in catalog term Fall 2025**  
*Admitted students in/after this term will default to the revised general education program. (Exception: WID -> Fall 2026)*
- **Updates to most systems and publications are complete**  
*(Banner, Degree Works, Catalog, Civitas, curriculum sheets/website)*
- **Current students can evaluate if moving to the revised general education program is advantageous**  
*The Degree Works what-if tool is available to both students and advisors for this use*
- **Current students can opt-in to move into the revised general education program**  
*Students who choose not to opt-in will remain under the Skill/Study Areas general education program*



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11

11

## Double Counting

- A maximum of **four courses totaling no more than 16 credits** in the **Essential Skills** and **Ways of Understanding** portions of General Education may be fulfilled by courses in a student's major and/or minor that are designated as applicable to General Education, with no more than 8 credits total from any one field of study.
- Courses that fulfill the **International, Writing in the Disciplines, or Equity, Justice and Inclusion** requirements may also fulfill another General Education requirement; otherwise, no course can count in more than one area of General Education.
- **FYE:** An embedded FYE course can only be used to satisfy one general education requirement, even if the course carries credit for multiple general education areas.



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12

12

## Writing in the Disciplines

- All students shall be required to complete a **writing-focused course or courses**, totaling at least **three credits**, in or related to their major.
- At a minimum, all courses qualifying as WID courses shall involve not only a substantial, discipline-appropriate amount of writing but also attention to the writing process including instruction in and opportunities for brainstorming, topic development, revision, peer response, editing and proofreading.



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13

13

## Writing in the Disciplines Options:

- An **“introduction to writing in the discipline”** course designed to prepare students for the sort of writing tasks they will encounter as students and practitioners of their discipline. This course may already exist in many majors.
- A course associated with or taken as a **capstone experience**, in which students undertake a major discipline-based assignment with a significant writing component. This course may already exist.
- **Credits added** to existing classes to accommodate an additional writing component
- If a department feels unable to offer such a course, it may require its students to take an equivalent **course offered by a related discipline** (with the consent of the department offering the course)
- If no such equivalent course is available, or if the major department prefers, students may take a qualifying writing focused class in their **minor, a Writing in the Disciplines course offered by the English Department, or HON 315** (with the permission of the Honors director)



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14

14

## Writing in the Disciplines Process:

- **Department creates course or adapts existing course** to meet WID requirements outlined in the rubric distributed to Chairs in October  
*Departments are invited to consult with WID committee (co-chairs Kris Larsen and Carrie Kilfoil) on development of WID course*
- **Department approves WID course through its curriculum process and submits it to university curriculum process** via Curriculum Strategy using either New Course or Course Change form
  - Departments will also usually have to submit a Program Change form to add the WID course to the major if it is not already included
  - Submissions should include a syllabus and a document explaining how the proposed course meets the WID requirements
  - To expedite approval, departments may at the same time submit the syllabus and explanatory document to the WID committee
- All departments must have a WID course, or an alternative means for its majors to fulfill the requirement, in place by **Fall 2026**



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15

15

## Additional Resources & Q&A

Visit the Office of the Registrar's Website:  
[www.ccsu.edu/registrar](http://www.ccsu.edu/registrar)

The Opt-In form for Current students to move into the revised General Education Program is now available



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16



16