



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

*Statewide Transfer General
Education Core
(STGEC)*

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Statewide Transfer General Education Core

PREAMBLE

In 2012 the Indiana legislature enacted Senate Enrolled Act 182, thereby establishing the requirements for a Statewide Transfer General Education Core of at least 30 credit hours. The statute states that the Core must be based upon a set of competencies in areas agreed upon by the state educational institutions (IC 21-42-3-2).

A Statewide Leadership Team was created to develop a framework for the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, and to provide oversight of the implementation process. The Statewide Leadership Team agreed upon six competencies, for which student learning outcomes would be developed. Faculty representatives from each institution met to agree upon the learning outcomes for each competency.

Each state educational institution is required to offer a general education program of at least 30 credit hours, which addresses these statewide competencies and the associated learning outcomes.

After May 15, 2013, a student who satisfactorily completes the requirements of the Statewide General Education Core in an Indiana state educational institution and then subsequently transfers to another Indiana state educational institution will not be required to complete the Statewide Transfer General Education Core requirements at the institution to which the student transfers. The established framework for the Statewide Transfer General Education Core includes two categories: “Foundational Intellectual Skills” and “Ways of Knowing.” Each category includes three competency areas.

The **Foundational Intellectual Skills** category includes:

- Written Communication
- Speaking and Listening
- Quantitative Reasoning

The second category, **Ways of Knowing**, comprises learning outcomes in broad, disciplinary areas, and includes:

- Scientific Ways of Knowing
- Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing
- Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing

Learning outcomes that relate to historical ways of knowing appear in both the Humanistic and Artistic, and the Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing. The statewide student learning outcomes for each competency are set out in the following pages.¹

¹ The full text of the student learning outcomes is available for each competency on the website of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. See *Statewide Transfer General Education Core*, <http://www.in.gov/che/>.

Statewide Transfer General Education Core

FOUNDATIONAL INTELLECTUAL SKILLS

1. Written Communication

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 1.1 Produce texts that use appropriate formats, genre conventions, and documentation styles while controlling tone, syntax, grammar, and spelling.
- 1.2 Demonstrate an understanding of writing as a social process that includes multiple drafts, collaboration, and reflection.
- 1.3 Read critically, summarize, apply, analyze, and synthesize information and concepts in written and visual texts as the basis for developing original ideas and claims.
- 1.4 Demonstrate an understanding of writing assignments as a series of tasks including identifying and evaluating useful and reliable outside sources.
- 1.5 Develop, assert and support a focused thesis with appropriate reasoning and adequate evidence.
- 1.6 Compose texts that exhibit appropriate rhetorical choices, which include attention to audience, purpose, context, genre, and convention.
- 1.7 Demonstrate proficiency in reading, evaluating, analyzing, and using material collected from electronic sources (such as visual, electronic, library databases, Internet sources, other official databases, federal government databases, reputable blogs, wikis, etc.).

2. Speaking and Listening²

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 2.1 Use appropriate organization or logical sequencing to deliver an oral message.
- 2.2 Adapt an oral message for diverse audiences, contexts, and communication channels.
- 2.3 Identify and demonstrate appropriate oral and nonverbal communication practices.

² The written communication learning outcomes are expressed with the understanding that attention to the rhetorical situation is inherent within each. In addition, the following competencies entail facility with information literacy, which is defined by the Association of American Colleges and Universities as "The ability to know when there is a need for information, to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and share that information for the problem at hand" (<http://www.aacu.org/value/rubrics/InformationLiteracy.cfm>).

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- 2.4 Advance an oral argument using logical reasoning.
- 2.5 Provide credible and relevant evidence to support an oral argument.
- 2.6 Demonstrate the ethical responsibilities of sending and receiving oral messages.
- 2.7 Summarize or paraphrase an oral message to demonstrate comprehension.

3. Quantitative Reasoning³

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 3.1 Interpret information that has been presented in mathematical form (e.g. with functions, equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words, geometric figures).
- 3.2 Represent information/data in mathematical form as appropriate (e.g. with functions, equations, graphs, diagrams, tables, words, geometric figures).
- 3.3 Demonstrate skill in carrying out mathematical (e.g. algebraic, geometric, logical, statistical) procedures flexibly, accurately, and efficiently to solve problems.
- 3.4 Analyze mathematical arguments, determining whether stated conclusions can be inferred.
- 3.5 Communicate which assumptions have been made in the solution process.
- 3.6 Analyze mathematical results in order to determine the reasonableness of the solution.
- 3.7 Cite the limitations of the process where applicable.
- 3.8 Clearly explain the representation, solution, and interpretation of the math problem.

³ A foundational experience in quantitative reasoning will provide a rigorous mathematical curriculum applied to real world problem solving. The outcomes should deepen, extend, or be distinct from high school Core 40 mathematics competencies.

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WAYS OF KNOWING

4. Scientific Ways of Knowing

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 4.1 Explain how scientific explanations are formulated, tested, and modified or validated.
- 4.2 Distinguish between scientific and non-scientific evidence and explanations.
- 4.3 Apply foundational knowledge and discipline-specific concepts to address issues or solve problems.
- 4.4 Apply basic observational, quantitative, or technological methods to gather data and generate evidence-based conclusions.
- 4.5 Use current models and theories to describe, explain, or predict natural phenomena.
- 4.6 Locate reliable sources of scientific evidence to construct arguments related to real-world issues.

5. Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 5.1 Demonstrate knowledge of major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical patterns, or historical contexts within a given social or behavioral domain.
- 5.2 Identify the strengths and weaknesses of contending explanations or interpretations for social, behavioral, or historical phenomena.
- 5.3 Demonstrate basic literacy in social, behavioral, or historical research methods and analyses.
- 5.4 Evaluate evidence supporting conclusions about the behavior of individuals, groups, institutions, or organizations.
- 5.5 Recognize the extent and impact of diversity among individuals, cultures, or societies in contemporary or historical contexts.
- 5.6 Identify examples of how social, behavioral, or historical knowledge informs and can shape personal, ethical, civic, or global decisions and responsibilities.

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6. Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing

Upon completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, students will be able to:

- 6.1 Recognize and describe humanistic, historical, or artistic works or problems and patterns of the human experience.
- 6.2 Apply disciplinary methodologies, epistemologies, and traditions of the humanities and the arts, including the ability to distinguish primary and secondary sources.
- 6.3 Analyze and evaluate texts, objects, events, or ideas in their cultural, intellectual or historical contexts.
- 6.4 Analyze the concepts and principles of various types of humanistic or artistic expression.
- 6.5 Create, interpret, or reinterpret artistic and/or humanistic works through performance or criticism.
- 6.6 Develop arguments about forms of human agency or expression grounded in rational analysis and in an understanding of and respect for spatial, temporal, and cultural contexts.
- 6.7 Analyze diverse narratives and evidence in order to explore the complexity of human experience across space and time.

GUIDANCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATEWIDE TRANSFER GENERAL EDUCATION CORE

1. Each Indiana state educational institution will develop a transfer general education program of at least 30 credit hours.
2. Each Indiana state educational institution will make public how its general education program goals and learning outcomes correspond to the Statewide Transfer General Education Core competencies and associated student learning outcomes.
3. Each Indiana state educational institution will describe to other institutions how it will assure student mastery of the outcomes in the Statewide Transfer General Education Core.
4. Each Indiana state educational institution will be required to demonstrate that students transferring with the Statewide Transfer General Education Core have met the requirements of each competency by earning at least **THREE** credit hours in each of the six competencies, accounting for 18 credit hours.

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5. Each Indiana state educational institution may determine the distribution of the additional 12 credit hours of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core in accordance with both the competencies of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core and the curricular policies governing general education at the institution.
6. In determining whether a student has completed the requirements of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core, each state educational institution will make this determination consistent with state law in relevant areas, such as applying credit for Advanced Placement scores and approved dual credit courses.
7. Only coursework resulting in Advanced Placement credit, dual credit, and credit from regionally accredited institutions may apply to the Statewide Transfer General Education Core requirements. Institutions may accept other forms of credit according to their own existing policies, but these hours will not count towards the requirements of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core.
8. A minimum GPA of 2.0 for the 30 hours of courses within the Statewide Transfer General Education Core is required to meet the standard for satisfactory completion.
9. Once a student has satisfactorily completed the requirements of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core at an Indiana state educational institution, the institution will validate and then document that completion on the student's official transcript. If that student subsequently transfers to another state educational institution, the receiving institution will accept that documentation as satisfying its own Statewide Transfer General Education Core requirements. Furthermore, the receiving institution will apply toward satisfying the transfer student's degree requirement of at least 30 credit hours of transfer credit.
10. Successful completion of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core requirements is not a guarantee of admission to a particular state educational institution.
11. Students matriculating after May 1, 2013, are eligible for the Statewide Transfer General Education Core. Currently enrolled students may change their catalog year to Fall 2013 to be eligible.
12. Should there be residency requirements for general education at the receiving institution, they will be waived for students who have met the requirements of the Statewide Transfer General Education Core.
13. The Statewide Transfer General Education Core does not change any requirements for a major or other degree objective. If any course within the Statewide Transfer General Education Core is a requirement for a major or other degree objective at the receiving institution and does not meet the grade requirement for the major, the receiving institution may require the student to repeat the course. It is absolutely critical that

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students work closely with their academic advisors to determine what relationship, if any, exists between requirements for general education and requirements for a specific major and/or other degree objective.

STATEWIDE TRANSFER GENERAL EDUCATION CORE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. *What is the Statewide Transferable General Education Core (STGEC)?*** The STGEC is a framework resulting from SEA 182 (2012), and to which all public institutions of higher education in Indiana agreed. It enables a student who satisfactorily completes an approved program of general education in any one of those institutions to transfer that coursework to any other Indiana public institution as a block of 30 credit hours towards meeting general education core requirements.
- 2. *Does the STGEC apply to me?*** The STGEC applies to all students matriculating to an Indiana state educational institution in the fall of 2013 and after. You may change your catalog year to 2013 in order to be eligible.
- 3. *What is meant by satisfactory completion of the STGEC?*** Each institution has determined how its general education program will meet the competencies of the STGEC. Students must complete 30 credit hours of general education coursework at their chosen school, and with a general education core GPA no lower than 2.0. Each state educational institution has specified how their program meets the competencies described within the STGEC Foundational Skills and Ways of Knowing.
- 4. *What are the STGEC competencies?*** Competencies are the skills and knowledge associated with the coursework considered foundational for further study in higher education, and which introduce students to a range of skills and disciplines. These are described in the STGEC as Foundational Skills and Ways of Knowing. The competencies were agreed by faculty across Indiana state educational institutions, and can be viewed here: http://www.in.gov/che/files/STGEC_Guidance_13May22.pdf
- 5. *I have satisfactorily completed the STGEC. Can I transfer to any state educational institution?*** No. You must apply for admission as a transfer student in the usual way. Once admitted, the state educational institution to which you transfer must accept for transfer the 30 credit hours of general education coursework you have completed.
- 6. *Does dual credit coursework and Advanced Placement (AP) examinations count towards the STGEC requirements?*** Yes. Dual credit and AP counts towards general education coursework in state educational institutions, and will be recognized as a part of the STGEC.

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7. ***Can I count other kinds of coursework?*** Only coursework resulting in AP credit, dual credit, and credit from regionally accredited institutions may apply to the Statewide Transfer General Education Core requirements. Institutions may accept other forms of credit according to their own existing policies, but these hours will not count towards the requirements of the STGEC.
8. ***The school I want to transfer to has a residency requirement for its general education program. How will that impact me?*** You will not be adversely affected by this. Any residency requirement relating to general education will be waived for students who have satisfactorily completed the STGEC at another Indiana state educational institution.
9. ***What if I want to transfer before I have completed the STGEC?*** Your coursework may still transfer, and all courses in the Indiana Core Transfer Library (CTL) must be articulated by state educational institutions. However, rather than receiving the block of 30 credit hours associated with the STGEC, your coursework will be articulated on a course-by-course basis by the institution to which you transfer.
10. ***How do I know that I have completed the STGEC?*** Each state educational institution will certify that you have met the STGEC requirements. Some institutions may award a certificate and all institutions will display it on your transcript. If you are admitted as a transfer student to another state educational institution, that school must recognize the STGEC and apply 30 credit hours of general education to your record.
11. ***Does the STGEC satisfy all general education requirements at the receiving campus?*** Not necessarily. While no state university can ask you to repeat coursework already met by the STGEC, some institutions may require additional general education coursework (i.e. different competencies, and more than 30 hours), and some degree programs require that specific coursework be completed for admission to a program or completion of degree objectives. You should work closely with an advisor to ensure that you will meet as many program-specific requirements as possible as a part of your general education coursework, and the STGEC. With a very few exceptions, baccalaureate degrees require 120 hours of coursework, of which the STGEC constitutes 30 hours.
12. ***Does the STGEC affect other degree requirements?*** The STGEC does not change any requirements for a major or other degree objective. If any course within the STGEC is a requirement for a major or other degree objective at the receiving institution, and you do not meet the grade requirement for that objective, then the receiving institution may require you to repeat the course. It is absolutely critical that you work closely with your academic advisor to determine what relationship, if any, exists between requirements for general education and requirements for a specific major and/or other degree objective.
13. ***I am studying at an independent college or university in Indiana. Does the STGEC apply to me?*** No. Independent institutions in Indiana are not subject to SEA 182 (2012) and are, therefore, not participants in the STGEC.

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- 14. *Is there a list of courses that are included in the STGEC?*** *No*, there is a list of competencies. Each state educational institution has its own general education program. Some institutions may provide a list but the institutions are not required to do so. By following and satisfactorily completing this and, where relevant, any additional coursework specified for the STGEC, you will meet the statewide general education core requirements.
- 15. *What is the relationship between the Core Transfer Library (CTL) the STGEC?*** The courses in the CTL have all been approved for transfer and articulation at Indiana state educational institutions. These are the most commonly taken and transferred courses, and many of them are courses that satisfy general education requirements. The most important thing to remember about the STGEC, though, is that it is met by following a program of general education at any one state educational institution, and courses in the CTL represent just a fraction of those available to you at public institutions in Indiana.

Indiana Codes for the CTL and STGEC

CORE TRANSFER LIBRARY - P.L. 246 – 2005

IC 20-12-0.5-13

- (a) The commission shall exercise its powers and duties under section 8 of this chapter in a manner to facilitate the use of: (1) the core transfer library established under section 8(18) of this chapter at state educational institutions; and (2) at least twelve (12) degree programs established under section 8 (19) of this chapter at Ivy Tech State College and Vincennes University.
- (b) The core transfer library developed under section 8(18) of this chapter shall be developed in accordance with the following principles:
 - (1) Each course in the core transfer library must transfer in and apply toward meeting degree requirements in the same way as the receiving state educational institution's equivalent course.
 - (2) Courses in the core transfer library must draw primarily from the liberal arts but must include introductory or foundational courses in technical, professional, and occupational fields.

STATEWIDE TRANSFER GENERAL EDUCATION CORE – S.E.A. 182 (2012)

IC 21-42-3-2

Each state educational institution, in collaboration with the commission for higher education, shall:

- (1) not later than December 1, 2012, create and report to the commission for higher education a statewide transfer general education core, to be implemented not later than May 15, 2013. The core must be based upon a set of core competencies, translated into at least thirty (30) semester credit hours in areas agreed upon by the state educational institutions, which apply for credit toward undergraduate degrees, including associate degrees and baccalaureate degrees at all campuses of state educational institutions; and
- (2) jointly establish statewide standards for use by all state educational institutions to document an individual's completion of the statewide transfer general education core on the individual's transcripts.

IC 21-42-3-5

- (a) After May 15, 2013, an individual who has satisfactorily completed the statewide transfer general education core at a state educational institution, as indicated on the individual's official transcript, may not be required to complete additional courses in the statewide transfer general education core at the state educational institution to which the individual transfers, regardless of whether the individual has received an associate degree or the delivery method of the statewide transfer general education core the individual completed.

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- (b) If an individual does not complete the statewide transfer general education core of a state educational institution before transferring to another state educational institution, the individual must complete the statewide transfer general education core required by the state educational institution to which the individual has transferred. The state educational institution to which the individual has transferred shall award credit to the individual for courses the individual has satisfactorily completed, based on the course to course equivalencies of the core transfer library established under IC 21-42-5.

- (c) An individual who holds an associate of arts or associate of science degree approved by the commission who is admitted to a four (4) year state educational institution is considered to have met at least thirty (30) semester credit hours of the state educational institution's general education requirement.

CTL Names in the Core Transfer Library: *Alphabetical*

- Abnormal Psychology
- Accounting 1
- Accounting 2
- Acting, Introduction to
- Algebra, College
- American Government
- American History 1
- American History 2
- American Literature 1
- American Literature 2
- Art Appreciation
- Art History 1
- Art History 2
- Astronomy, Introduction to
- Biology 1 w/lab, College*
- Biology 2 w/lab, College *
- Biology, Introduction to
- Business, Introduction to
- Calculus 1
- Calculus 2
- Calculus, Brief 1
- Calculus, Brief 2
- Calculus, Technical 1
- Calculus, Technical 2
- Chemistry 1 w/lab, General*
- Chemistry 2 w/lab, General*
- Chemistry, Survey of
- Children's Literature
- Creative Writing, Introduction to
- Criminal Justice, Introduction to
- Developmental Psychology
- Drawing
- Earth Science
- Economics, Introduction to
- English Composition 1
- English Composition 2
- Ethics
- Finite Mathematics
- First Aid
- French Level 1
- French Level 2
- French Level 3
- French Level 4
- German Level 1
- German Level 2
- German Level 3
- German Level 4
- Human Biology
- Human Nutrition
- Human Sexuality
- Interpersonal Communication
- Linguistics, Introduction to
- Literature, Appreciation of
- Macroeconomics
- Mass Communication, Introduction to
- Math Applications
- Medical Terminology
- Microbiology for the Health Sciences
- Microcomputers, Introduction to
- Microeconomics
- Music Appreciation
- Organic & Biochemistry w/lab
- Personal Finance
- Philosophy of Religion
- Philosophy, Introduction to
- Physical Geology
- Physical Science, Survey of
- Physics 1, Algebra-Based*
- Physics 1, Calculus-Based*
- Physics 2, Algebra-Based *
- Physics 2, Calculus-Based *
- Poetry, Introduction to
- Political Science, Introduction to
- Psychology, Introduction to
- Public Speaking, Fundamentals of
- Social Problems
- Social Psychology
- Sociology, Introduction to
- Spanish Level 1
- Spanish Level 2
- Spanish Level 3
- Spanish Level 4
- Technical Writing
- Theatre Appreciation
- Trigonometric Functions
- World Literature 1
- World Literature 2
- World Politics, Introduction to

**Level 1 and 2 courses, e.g. Algebra Based Physics 1 & 2, must be taken together to transfer.*

CTL Names in the Core Transfer Library: *Category*

BUSINESS

- Accounting 1
- Accounting 2
- Business, Introduction to
- Economics, Introduction to
- Macroeconomics
- Microcomputers, Introduction to
- Microeconomics
- Personal Finance

COMMUNICATION/ENGLISH/ LITERATURE

- American Literature 1
- American Literature 2
- Children's Literature
- Creative Writing, Introduction to
- English Composition 1
- English Composition 2
- French Level 1
- French Level 2
- French Level 3
- French Level 4
- German Level 1
- German Level 2
- German Level 3
- German Level 4
- Interpersonal Communication
- Linguistics, Introduction to
- Literature, Appreciation of
- Mass Communication, Introduction to
- Poetry, Introduction to
- Public Speaking, Fundamentals of
- Spanish Level 1
- Spanish Level 2
- Spanish Level 3
- Spanish Level 4
- Technical Writing
- World Literature 1
- World Literature 2

HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS

- Acting, Introduction to
- Art Appreciation
- Art History 1
- Art History 2
- Drawing
- Ethics
- Music Appreciation
- Philosophy of Religion
- Philosophy, Introduction to
- Theatre Appreciation

LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES – NATURAL

- Astronomy, Introduction to
- Biology 1 w/lab, College*
- Biology 2 w/lab, College*
- Biology, Introduction to
- Chemistry 1 w/lab, General*
- Chemistry 2 w/lab, General*
- Chemistry, Survey of
- Earth Science
- First Aid
- Human Biology
- Human Nutrition
- Medical Terminology
- Microbiology for the Health Sciences
- Organic & Biochemistry w/lab
- Physical Geology
- Physical Science, Survey of
- Physics 1, Algebra-Based*
- Physics 1, Calculus-Based*
- Physics 2, Algebra-Based*
- Physics 2, Calculus-Based*

MATH

- Algebra, College
- Calculus 1
- Calculus 2
- Calculus, Brief 1
- Calculus, Brief 2
- Calculus, Technical 1
- Calculus, Technical 2
- Finite Mathematics
- Math Applications
- Trigonometric Functions

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

- Abnormal Psychology
- American Government
- American History 1
- American History 2
- Criminal Justice, Introduction to
- Developmental Psychology
- Human Sexuality
- Political Science, Introduction to
- Psychology, Introduction to
- Social Problems
- Social Psychology
- Sociology, Introduction to
- World Politics, Introduction to

**Level 1 and 2 courses, e.g. Algebra Based Physics 1 & 2, must be taken together to transfer.*

Transfer Indiana Central Office
Ms. Tari Lambert, Director
765.285.5810 • tg Lambert@bsu.edu