

General Education Requirements for Transfer Students

Accredited U.S. colleges and universities consider it very important that their graduates complete not only a major, but also receive a broad, well-rounded general education. To ensure this educational breadth, institutions generally require completion of courses in several disciplines or areas – usually English, mathematics, natural science, social science, and humanities. This course work constitutes the institution's general education requirement.

You are encouraged to complete your required general education course work before admission to the University of Illinois at Springfield. As a transfer student, you may satisfy this requirement in advance of enrolling at UIS in two ways:

- Complete the requirements of the Illinois Articulation Initiative Core Curriculum. (See page 36.)
- Have completed the requirements for an associate of arts or associate of science degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning at some time before the introduction of the Illinois Articulation Initiative Core Curriculum in the summer of 1998. Graduates of Illinois community colleges holding these degrees are considered to have met all general education requirements at the transferring institu-

tions. Requests for exceptions should be directed to the Office of Admissions and Records.

If you decide to transfer to UIS *before* completing your general education requirements in one of the two ways above, you will be subject to UIS' general education requirements. In any event, for all students except Capital Scholars, the minimum general education requirement for admission to UIS is the completion of three semester hours of English composition with a grade of C or better. Remedial or developmental courses are not applicable to admission requirements.

The general education requirement at UIS consists of 39 semester hours, distributed as shown below.


English (two courses, one of which is in composition, with a grade of C or better)	At least 6 semester hours
Humanities (two courses)	At least 6 semester hours
Social Science (two courses)	At least 6 semester hours
Math (one course)	At least 3 semester hours
Science (two courses, one with lab)	At least 6 semester hours
General education electives (additional courses from any of the above areas)	At least 12 semester hours

Online Course Admission Students who choose to pursue their studies online, in whole or in part, are held to the same admission standards and must meet the same requirements as those students who attend class on campus. If you have questions, call the Office of Admissions and Records at (217) 206-4847, or visit the UIS website at www.uis.edu. A list of online course offerings is available at the web site and also in any current course schedule.

International Student Admission (See page 34.)

ALTERNATIVE ADMISSION

Alternative admission at the junior level is available for mature students who have extensive life/work learning (a minimum of 12-15 years beyond high school) that may be considered in lieu of the traditional classroom learning during the first and second years of college. The admissions committee will provide an individual assessment of your eligibility for this option based on 1) a written narrative providing a review of learning through life experience; 2) three letters of recommendation that reinforce the demonstrated skills, work experiences, and other learning



experiences; and 3) demonstration of competency in the areas of general education plus 12 elective hours of general education. You can earn these 12 hours by either completing the required courses in general education or by achieving an appropriate score on the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests. You must also submit official transcripts from all colleges or universities where you attempted/earned credit. You will be expected to participate in undergraduate assessment activities. Contact a UIS admissions counselor for additional information.

SENIOR LEARNERS ADMISSION

The senior learners program is open to you if you have reached your 62nd birthday by the relevant registration day. There are two options.

For non-degree credit, you can audit courses of special interest as a senior learner and enjoy campus library privileges for \$10 per term, plus parking fees. In addition, senior learners are responsible for all course-related fees, including online course fees. This program does not offer academic credit and does not require graded tests or papers. To register, contact the Office of Admissions and Records.

For degree credit, there is a tuition waiver pro-

gram available for persons 65 or older with incomes of less than \$12,000 per year. This program allows you to earn undergraduate or graduate credit by paying only UIS fees; tuition is waived. You must meet regular class expectations to earn academic credit. This program must be arranged through the financial assistance office.

UNDERGRADUATE NON-DEGREE ADMISSION

The University of Illinois at Springfield encourages interested persons to enroll for individual courses. The non-degree category permits registration in individual courses without the regular admissions procedures and without a commitment to a particular degree program. A non-degree student may be someone who has not received a college degree but has noticed a course of particular interest, someone who wants to take a particular course for a career update, someone curious about an area which he/she did not have the opportunity to study in his/her earlier college work, or someone thinking about returning to school for a degree but who is not ready to make that commitment or is unsure as to what area of study to pursue.

Non-degree seeking students are not required to file all documents necessary for admission to a degree

program. A non-degree student will be asked for clarification of his/her educational intent before exceeding 16 semester hours as an undergraduate or 12 semester hours as a graduate. Non-degree students are subject to the same probation and suspension policies as degree-seeking students.

Students who later choose to become a candidate in a degree program will be required to meet all admission requirements. With the degree program's approval, up to 16 semester hours for undergraduates or 12 semester hours for graduates taken as a non-degree student may count toward the degree. ***Please note:*** Some programs do not allow hours taken as a non-degree student to be counted toward their degrees. In addition, non-degree students typically are not eligible for financial assistance.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION

The campus seeks to maintain a cosmopolitan atmosphere consistent with its focus on literacy, public affairs, problem solving, and lifelong learning. To that end, the University of Illinois at Springfield admits international transfer students whose academic preparation is equivalent to at least 45 semester hours of U.S. college-level credit and whose educational and