

3.5.3 The institution defines and publishes requirements for its undergraduate programs, including its general education components. These requirements conform to commonly accepted standards and practices for degree programs. **(Undergraduate program requirements)**

Compliance Status: Compliance

Traditionally, general education focuses on oral and written communication, quantitative reasoning and mathematics, studies in culture and society, scientific reasoning, and aesthetic appreciation. Today, technology, information literacy, diversity, and global awareness have also become key additions to general education. With this evolution, general education provides an even stronger foundation that forms the basis for advanced study in a variety of fields offered in higher education. All students seeking a baccalaureate degree or an associate degree at the College are required to complete general education requirements as a part of a coherent program of study.

The College's Core Curriculum was developed under the guidelines of the USG [Academic Affairs Handbook](#). According to the USG Academic Affairs policies, each institution's core curriculum shall follow a common set of principles and framework. The System principles and framework were developed with the goal of allowing institutions some flexibility in defining learning outcomes while ensuring that the core curriculum completed at one System institution is fully transferable to another System institution. Each institution's Core Curriculum shall consist of 60 semester hours as follows:

Area	Concentration	Credit Hours
Area A	Essential Skills Specific courses in English composition and mathematics	9
Area B	Institutional Options Courses that address institution-wide general education outcomes of the institution's choosing	4
Area C	Humanities/Fine Arts Courses that address humanities/fine arts learning outcomes	6
Area D	Science and Mathematics Courses that address learning outcomes in the sciences and mathematics	11
Area E	Social Sciences Courses that address learning outcomes in the social sciences	12
Area F	Courses Related to the Program of Study Lower division courses related to the discipline(s) of the program of study and courses that are prerequisite to major courses at higher levels	18
Total		60

For students completing the core curriculum, the total number of hours required of transfer students for the baccalaureate degree shall not exceed the number of hours required of native students for the same major field.

The College clearly defines and publishes the requirements for its General Education Core (as noted in earlier sections) in the [2010-2011 College of Coastal Georgia Catalog](#). The College's *Catalog* is the primary electronic publication containing official information required in the comprehensive standard.

The baccalaureate degree must contain 120 semester hours with at least 21 semester hours of upper division courses in the major field and at least 39 semester hours of upper division work overall.

The annual *College of Coastal Georgia Catalog* contains not only the core curriculum, but all degree requirements, listed individually for each major, including the baccalaureate degrees, admissions requirements and procedures, degree completion requirements, transfer procedures, financial information and other information relevant to students attending the College. Catalog content, including program guides and other information relating to degree programs, may be viewed on the College's [website](#).

Supporting Documentation

[USG Academic Affairs Handbook, Section 2.4.1](#)

[2010-2011 College of Coastal Georgia Catalog](#)

[Undergraduate Programs, College of Coastal Georgia web page](#)