

UB CURRICULUM (New General Education Requirements)

The UB Curriculum is a program of core study built around intellectual discovery and integrative learning. It emphasizes critical thinking, ethical reasoning, global learning, and strong communication skills, providing the tools students would need to succeed in their professional life and to meet the responsibilities of citizenship in a diverse and interconnected world.

There are FOUR main program components and requirements of the UB Curriculum.

1. UB Seminar (3 credits)
These are semester one seminars specifically designed to address the needs of students and to prepare them for the academic expectations of a world-class research university. These discussion-based seminars encourage critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and reflective discussion from across the disciplines.
2. Foundations (21 credits)
These are modules in diversity, writing, math and science that lay the foundations for academic inquiry.
Communication Literacy I (4 credits)
This module establishes strong foundation in writing, rhetoric, and oral and visual communication, while developing strategies to organize, evaluate and manage enormous quantities of information.
Communication Literacy II (3 credits)
This module adopts a “writing in the disciplines” model that transmits the skills required to both learn and create knowledge within the chosen academic field, and to develop a professional voice through opportunities to write on substantive issues arising from the major.
Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning (4 credits)
This module provides a basis for students to develop skills in mathematical and quantitative literacy, especially those skills that apply to issues arising in everyday life.
Scientific Literacy and Inquiry (7 credits)
This interdisciplinary sequence promotes scientific literacy through a basic understanding of the sciences covered, along with an active exploration of how scientific discoveries are made, how they are subject to forms of manipulation, how they have impacted society in the short and longer terms, and their ethical and cultural implications. Students complete two three-credit lectures plus one credit of lab.
Diversity Learning (3 credits)
Cultural competence is a foundational skill that every student should be able to demonstrate prior to graduation. As such, Diversity Learning modules serve to equip students with the cultural knowledge and awareness necessary to live, work and recreate with the diverse groups that characterize the United States.
3. Pathways (18-19 credits)
The Pathways include a series of modules interconnected by theme or concept across a wide range of disciplines. Pathways can be customized to complement pre-existing interests or designed to expand horizons and engage curiosity.
Thematic Pathways (9 credits)
Taking as a point of departure one of the UB themes of health, humanity, innovation, justice, or environment, the Thematic Pathway invites students to design their own course of study across a range of disciplinary fields.
Global Pathways (9-10 credits)
The Global Pathways encourage sustained engagement with the world and its cultures, languages, societies, people, and histories to develop global perspectives and cultural literacies, and to encourage personal reflection on the earth’s diversity.
4. UBC 399 Capstone (1 credit)
The Capstone is the culminating experience of the UB Curriculum program. It provides a space for thinking, reflecting and weaving together disparate elements of the program by means of an ePortfolio platform provided to all students.