

## Part 2. How is the GE Program Currently Structured?

The current General Education (GE) curriculum is a university-wide program offering courses housed in twenty different academic areas created in collaboration with the University Senate General Education Committee and the Division of General Education and Interdisciplinary Studies (DGEIS). It follows a Foundation/Distribution model with [eight GE Student Learning Outcomes](#):

- Transdisciplinarity
- Critical Thinking
- Quantitative Literacy
- Communication Literacies: Written & Speech
- Information & Technology Literacy
- Active Citizenship
- Ethical Judgement & Integrity
- Diversity

### Foundation Courses

Students are required to complete 13 credits of coursework in foundational areas: speech communication, college composition, a college-level math course prescribed by the major, and a college-based, 2000-level research course, in addition to a Transition to Kean course.

### Distribution Courses

The Distribution requirements typically consist of approximately 30 credits for students in BA programs and 20 credits for students in BS programs. Based on major guidelines, students have a choice of Distribution courses in the Sciences and Mathematics (GESM), Social Sciences (GESS), and Humanities (GEHU) and all students are required to take a 2000-level Humanities Distribution requirement (ENG\*2403, World Literature) and the 1000-level Social Science requirement (HIST\*1062, Worlds of History).

### Capstone Courses

In addition to the foundational and distribution courses, all major-specific Capstone courses are considered General Education capstones and assessment of GE student learning outcomes (SLOs) in these are intended to support understanding of student learning over the course of the undergraduate experience.

The current iteration of Kean's General Education Program was created in the early 2000's and has evolved in various ways over the last twenty-five years. Significant changes to the

GE Program have included a shift away from “concentrations” in GE Distribution credits; the addition of a required transitions course for transfer students; the inclusion of GE\*1855 (the First Year Seminar) as a GEHU option; and a number of additional modifications to developmental, non-credit bearing courses that support student success in first-year courses and aim to bring students into the credit-bearing, college-level General Education Program courses as quickly as possible.