

Global Awareness Core

Building on Alexander Campbell's belief that religious literacy and instruction in the modern languages were important parts of a liberal education that helped students become responsible, useful members of society, Bethany College is committed to providing an education that also prepares students to be citizens of the world and to participate in an increasingly globalized community. As such, each student must complete the Global Awareness Core. The Global Awareness Core is comprised of the following components:

Religious Studies Requirement

Religious literacy is essential to the liberally-educated citizen of the world. Bethany students are required to complete successfully RELS 100 (Introduction to Religion: Texts, Contexts, Practices). The course is offered by faculty members of the Department of Humanities and is preferably taken during the first year. RELS 100 takes an academic approach to the study of religion. Students are introduced to critical methods and definitions in religious studies and then proceed to apply one or more of those methods to a comparative study of three different world religions. The lens through which the religions are compared varies with the interest and expertise of the professor teaching the course. Students might consider, for example, religious definitions of the human condition in relation to philosophical, political, or moral definitions; the meaning and function of religious rituals; or the way religions develop, reinforce, or challenge gender roles in society.

World Languages and Cultures Requirement

All students must demonstrate world languages and cultures proficiency at the elementary level or above. Students may demonstrate proficiency according to the following stipulations:

- Students successfully complete at Bethany two courses of a language sequence in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, or Spanish into which they have been placed based on the results of an internal or external placement procedure. Acceptable external instruments are the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview, or a certified Common European Framework (CEFR) ranking. The validity of other external tests will be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- Students who test above the 110 level in a language available at Bethany College are encouraged to continue the study in that language at a higher level. Alternatively, they have the option to begin the study of an additional world language and culture.
- Native speakers of languages other than English have the option to continue their study of English as a Second Language.
- Based on test results, or completed class work, students may earn up to six credits for prior language study.
- Students who transfer two semesters of college language credit, and students who have achieved a 3 or better on the College Board AP exam, are exempt from the requirement.

Students with documented disabilities are offered accommodations and modifications on a case by case basis in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Cultural Awareness Requirement (GAC)

To become aware of the nature and significance of one existing culture, ethnic subculture, or cluster of ethnic subcultures differing from that of mainstream United States.

Each student is required to complete successfully a three or four credit course from the list below. The list of courses approved for satisfying the requirement in each area changes every year.

Arabic 130 Arabic Language and Cultures III, 180 Civilization of the Arabic Speaking World; Business 345 Intercultural Communications; **Chinese** 130 Chinese Language and Cultures III, 180 Chinese Civilization; Communications 345 Intercultural Communication; **English** 267 Masterpieces of World Literature, 383 African American Novel; Fine Arts 104 Out of the Blues and Into Rock; **French** 130 French III, 181 Contemporary France, 220 Conversation and Composition: France; **German** 130 German III, 160 German Culture through Film, 180 Civilization of Germany, 220 Conversation and Composition: Germany; **History** 329 Islamic Civilization, 330 Modern China, 331 Modern Japan; Japanese 130 Japanese III, 180 Japanese Culture, 181 Modern Japan; **Music** 104 Out of the Blues and Into Rock; Psychology 250 Multi-Cultural Psychology; **Religious Studies** 210 Yoga and Meditation, 220 Introduction to World Religions, 352 Islamic Civilization; Social Work 210 Human Diversity; **Sociology** 210 Human Diversity; **Spanish** 130 Spanish III, 180 Civilization of Spain, 220 Conversation and Composition: Spain; **Theatre** 270 Women Playwrights.

International Understanding (GAI)

To become familiar with the contemporary world by exploring the interrelationships of several countries or by comparing two or more countries outside of the United States.

Each student is required to complete successfully a three or four credit course from the list below. The list of courses approved for satisfying the requirement in each area changes every year.

Business 308 International Business, 371 International Finance; Communications 403 Global and International Communication; English 268 Modern World Literature; **Economics** 113 Comparative Economic Systems; **French** 221 Conversation and Composition: Francophone World; **General Science** 202 Physical and Cultural Geography; **German** 181 Civilization of the German-Speaking World; 221 Conversation and Composition: The German-Speaking World; **History** 210 The Age of Extremes: The Twentieth-Century World, 230 Dilemmas of Diversity, Democracy, and Nationhood in the Twentieth-Century World; **Interdisciplinary Studies** 202 World Energy Resources, 203 International Terrorism; 211 Women in the World; **Political Science** 111 Comparative Politics, 112 International Politics, 211 Women in the World; 253 Nature and International Society; Religious Studies 244 Hinduism and Buddhism, 260 Religion and Food; Spanish 181 Civilization of Latin America; 221 Conversation and Composition: Latin America