General Education Proposal
GET’S GE Purpose Statement

The University of Alabama’s General Education program empowers undergraduate students to be socially conscious, ethical, and well-rounded leaders with the knowledge and skills to live productive, responsible, and rewarding lives in a diverse and rapidly-changing world.

The program challenges students to develop their logical and creative capacities by providing transformational and integrative learning experiences that complement the undergraduate major.
Guiding Principles

• Be learner-centered, accessible, inclusive, and equitable
• Span the undergraduate experience
• Focus on shared student learning outcomes
• Include curricular and co-curricular experiences
• Meet accreditation requirements
• Encourage involvement and participation throughout the faculty and staff
• Employ best practices in teaching and learning
• Encourage exploration and student ownership of general education
• Accommodate non-traditional, transfer, and high-credit entry students
Gen Ed Capacities

In completing the requirements of The University of Alabama general education program, all undergraduates should demonstrate the fundamental skills, abilities, and behaviors that readily identify them as:

- Ethical Reasoners
- Problem Solvers
- Critical & Creative Thinkers
- Effective Communicators
- Individually and Socially Responsible Citizens
- Interculturally Competent and Knowledgable Individuals
HOURS

High-Impact Experiences

Transfer Friendly

 Allows for Exploration

Four Year Curriculum

38

HOURS
First-Year Experience
2 credit hours

Possible Module Topics:
UA history, mission, and values
Academic honesty/library resources
Campus resources- BlackBoard
Academic skills and success
Career exploration
Inter-Cultural competence
Well being (stress/drug/alcohol/health)
Financial literacy
Student organizations
Co-Curricular Engagement –Student Life
Academic advising/registration
Community/civic engagement projects

Bama Beginnings

• 1 cr hr in Fall
• 1 cr hr in Spring
Foundations

- English Composition
  6 semester hrs.

- Mathematics / Statistics
  3-4 semester hrs.

- Natural Sciences
  8 semester hrs.
Foundations

- Fine Arts
- Humanities
- Literature
- History
- Social / Behavioral

9 Semester hours

9 Semester hours
Advanced Education

Cultures and Societies
(300-400 Level)
# of semester hrs.
determined by College

Writing Intensive
3 semester hrs.
Must be taken at The University of Alabama
Must be a 300- or 400-level W-designated course

Capstone
3 semester hrs.
Must be taken at The University of Alabama
Must be a 400-level course taken within the major
Advanced Education

Experiential Learning Requirement (select one)

- Option A: Education Abroad Experience
- Option B: Approved Internship or Co-op
- Option C: Undergraduate Research
- Option D: Approved Community Engagement (variable credit hour CE courses will have to be constructed)
Key Differences

- Overall reduction of hours
- Removal/modification of the FL/C requirement – change in admissions
- Addition of a Common UA experience required for all students: Two 1-hour courses required. Transfer students will have a 1-hr UA 301 option.
- Expansion of Math to include Math or Stats
- HU/L/FA and HI/SB overlaps*
- Writing hours required reduced from 6 to 3 hrs.
- Introduction of Capstone requirement (in Advanced Education Requirements)
- General Education may be completed prior to UA enrollment.
Opportunities

• More students will have the ability to double major (especially between colleges).

• Multiple high-impact practices could be embedded in CORE classes and pathways developed on topics such as technology, global, ethics, and environment.

• Currently, The University is ranked 2nd in the country for internship engagement. The Advanced Core proposal will only make the University more competitive nationally.

• Each College will manage the Advanced Education requirement block based on the needs and goals of their student population and curricular or professional demands.

• A new UA Faculty Teaching Academy will be created to support the proposed core.
Implementation Timeline

2022
- Hold Faculty Vote
- Establish Transition Team
- TBD

2023
- Map Courses to Core
- TBD

2024
- Jan 2024 Announce Fall 2025 Launch
- TBD

2025
- Launch New Core Curriculum
- Launch Assessment of New Core