



GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FAQ

How is this program different from the previous program?

The program is different in *five* ways.

1 12 COURSE PROGRAM

The previous program allowed you to choose courses to satisfy requirements. For example, you chose one course to satisfy the college's Cultural Literacy Elective requirement. The new program has 12-courses, and all students take the same pre-determined, 12 courses. Having students take the same courses allows the college to better control the student experience in ways described below.

2 "READY FOR THE WORLD" CLUSTERS

The courses are grouped in thematic clusters (The Citizen, The Professional, The Globalist, The Leader) in which you have the chance to explore how these themes apply to you. The themes relate to the college's mission to develop students who are "Ready for the World," which means at the conclusion of your time at Kendall College you will be ready to be a global leader in your chosen profession. Each cluster contains three courses, and the three courses work together to develop the cluster's theme and lead you to achieve the cluster's academic goal. From a curriculum standpoint, the three courses in the cluster each addresses a different broad disciplines and the academic skill areas into context of the cluster's theme.

- The first course in each cluster addresses humanities and arts (broad knowledge) and written and oral communication and information literacy (academic skill).
- The second course in each cluster addresses either science or math (broad knowledge) and technological literacy and problem solving (academic skill).
- The third course in each cluster addresses social science (broad knowledge) and collaboration (academic skill).

3 SEQUENCED CLASSES

In the new program, the 12-courses are sequenced, meaning you take the courses in a pre-determined order. This allows the college to better sequence the learning in each course so the learning builds and repeats skill areas (with increasing rigor) as you take more courses.

4 INTEGRATION WITH MAJOR COURSES

The new program attempts to better integrate with your major courses, so you can better recognize the ways General Education compliments and enhances your major. In fact, in almost every course, you will be able to complete assignments that are relevant to your major. For example, culinary arts students may complete assignments on topics related to the food industry.

5 CUSTOMIZED FOR KENDALL STUDENTS

Kendall College's approach to General Education is unique and on the cutting edge of General Education teaching and learning. You will not find these courses at any other college or university. They have been tailored to engage, develop, and support the Kendall College student.



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I TOOK SOME GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES AT KENDALL OR AT ANOTHER COLLEGE, WILL THE NEW COURSES BE THE SAME?

For the most part—yes, the courses will be similar. For one, the courses will be offered as online and on-campus courses. However, these courses take a slightly different (a more contemporary or progressive) approach to teaching and learning than a traditional college course. For one, there will be less traditional “lectures.” Instructors will spend less time standing in front of the class, delivering a lecture while you take notes. Rather, the “lectures” will often be online, meaning you will be expected to complete online activities (like watching videos or engaging with interactive texts) that deliver the course content. Often this will be the homework for the course. During on-campus meetings, you will engage in activities and projects that will ask you to apply the content from the online “lectures.” Essentially, you will be completing what’s traditionally thought of as “homework” during class time with the support of your instructor and other students and completing the lecture—content delivery part of the class—at “home” on your own. This approach to teaching and learning is called “flipped classroom,” and it’s designed to make learning more efficient and effective.

DO THE ONLINE SECTIONS OF THE NEW GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES TAKE A “FLIPPED CLASSROOM” APPROACH?

The flipped classroom approach is more difficult in an online course. That being said, the heart of the flipped classroom approach is active learning, meaning you, the student, are an active participant in the class rather than a passive receiver of information. The online classes will require you to be active participants. Students enrolled in online sections will complete the same online activities as students enrolled in on-campus sections; however, students enrolled in online courses will have activities that are better suited to online course work to engage and support their application of the content and skills.

WHEN WILL I LEARN SKILLS LIKE READING, WRITING, MATH, AND COMMUNICATION? WHICH CLASS WILL THAT BE TAUGHT IN?

The new program takes a more integrative and interdisciplinary approach to developing the knowledge and skills traditionally taught in General Education Programs. All General Education Programs develop broad knowledge content, which exposes students to topics that are outside of the student’s major, and academic skills, cross-cutting skills—those skills, like writing, research, and problem solving—that are required to be successful in every profession or academic pursuit. In the new program, you will be learning written and oral communication and information literacy (the ability to conduct research and use that research to develop an argument or point of view on a topic) in the first course of each cluster (KCC 101, KCC 104, KCC 207, and KCC 310). The second course of each cluster (KCC 102, KCC 105, KCC 208, and KCC 311) will develop math or science (there are two math classes and two science classes) and problem solving skills (like identifying the root cause of a problem and decision making, to name two). The third and final course of each cluster (KCC 103, KCC 106, KCC 209, and KCC 312) will develop your ability to collaborate and work with others on teams and in groups.



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HOW DO THESE CLASSES ENHANCE MY CULINARY/HOSPITALITY/BUSINESS/EDUCATION DEGREE?


The new General Education Program was designed to better, more directly enhance and complement the college's four programs of study. For one, the themes of the clusters (The Citizen, The Professional, The Globalist, and The Leader) provide context for the courses, and as stated previously, the cluster themes relate to the college's mission to develop graduates who are "Ready for the World." Secondly, students will be able to choose assignments and projects that directly relate to their program of study and their future careers. Last, and probably most importantly, given the cluster themes, the course content is intended to engage you both personally and professionally. When conceptualizing the courses, members of the General Education faculty and the Dean of General Education conducted focus groups with current Kendall College students to determine what students want from a General Education course. Overwhelmingly students wanted two things: 1) for the course to challenge the way they think about themselves and the world and 2) for the course to relate to their future career. Furthermore, the General Education Team also conducted focus groups and interviews with employers who hire Kendall College graduates and alumni to determine what employers want Kendall College graduates to know and be able to do upon graduation. When designing the program and each course, the General Education Team has used the results of this research to create engaging and relevant courses.

DO I NEED TO PURCHASE TEXT BOOKS FOR THE NEW GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES?

No. You will not be asked to purchase any traditional text books for General Education courses. Rather, all the information you will need to successfully complete the course will be provided to you as articles, essays, interactive texts, videos, and other media modes in Blackboard. You might be asked to purchase a novel or rent a movie on AppleTV or Netflix or some other web platform, or pay admission to a museum during a field trip, but there will be no required text books.

HOW WILL THE NEW PROGRAM AFFECT MY TRANSFER CREDIT?

Kendall College accepts transfer credit from other colleges and universities to satisfy its general education course requirement. The college's Admissions Department will audit a student's transcript and appropriately award transfer credit as applicable. Furthermore, there are some basic transfer guidelines, which are detailed on page 55 of the Academic Catalog, under the heading Transfer Guidelines. In regards to transferring the credits for these courses to another college or university, transfer credit is awarded by each college and university, and their admission or enrollment team will determine whether or not they accept the credit. The courses are designed, however, to be transferred to other institutions, and Kendall College will work with other institutions to help them understand the courses so the institution can make an informed decision whether or not to accept transfer credit for the course.

If you have any additional questions about the new General Education Program, please contact Academic Advising  advising@kendall.edu.