



SELECTING TRANSFERABLE GE COURSES

General Education courses at PLNU tend to focus on the broad, survey aspect of a subject area. Although it is possible for a course to be too broad, more often the courses in question are much too narrow in scope. It is essential to match the transfer course descriptions with PLNU course descriptions. Please consult the [PLNU catalog](#) to review the GE course titles and descriptions before selecting a transfer course. Then search your institution's website or catalog to find comparable course descriptions. Please keep in mind that some majors may require you to choose a specific GE course from our list. Be sure to look up your intended major in the [PLNU catalog](#) to determine which GE courses may be required for your major as well. *Prospective students are not required to complete all GE courses before transferring to PLNU – please consult your PLNU Admissions Counselor for specific transfer policies.*

There are four main areas in PLNU's General Education program and twelve categories. Below each category, we have listed key concepts, terms, and common wording to help prospective students select the most appropriate transferable courses.

I. Responding to the Sacred

A. BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS [2 COURSES; 5 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
BIB 101	Old Testament History and Religion	2
BIB 102	New Testament History and Religion	3

B. THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION [3-6 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
THE 306	The Life of Holiness OR	3
CHU 395	The Christian Tradition OR	3
CHU 484	Ancient and Medieval Christianity AND	3
CHU 485	Modern Christianity	3

BIB/THE/CHU –

It is recommended that transfer students take their GE religion courses at PLNU. Students transferring to the University for the first time with 48 or more units, none of which are in religion, take only five units in this category (three of which must be upper-division).

II. Developing Cognitive Abilities

A. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT [1 COURSE; 3-4 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
PSY 101	Psychology of Personal Development	4

**Required of all first-time freshman and transfer students with fewer than 24 units.
All others take:**

PSY103	General Psychology	3
	Required of transfer students with a minimum of 24 units.	

PSY –

Look for “Intro” or “General” psychology. Most colleges offer a basic psychology survey course.

B. CRITICAL THINKING AND COMMUNICATION [2 COURSES; 6-8 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
WRI 110	College Composition OR	5
WRI 115&116	College Composition	3, 2
COM 100	Principles of Human Communication	3

WRI – (or listed as ENGL)

Look for “Freshman or College Composition”. This 5 unit PLNU course is often split into two 3 unit courses. Although it is listed as “WRI” at PLNU, other colleges may list it under the “ENGL” section of their catalog. At least one of the courses needs to include a “research” paper. Key words are “writing process”, “essay”, “expository”, “college writing”. Courses that will NOT transfer include the words pre-college, basic sentence structure, remedial, or reading.

COM – (or listed as SPE)

Look for a survey communication course with “public speaking” and “oral speech methods” included. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are small group or interpersonal communication.

C. PROBLEM SOLVING [1 COURSE; 3-4 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
MTH303	Problem Solving OR	3
MTH144	Calculus with Applications OR	4
MTH164	Calculus I	4

MTH –

Look for “Calculus I” or “Calculus with Analytic Geometry” with a minimum of “4 units”. There is no equivalent to MTH303 at other institutions. If your major doesn’t specifically require calculus, you have the option to wait until your junior year and take Problem Solving at PLNU to complete the GE math requirement.

III. Exploring an Interdependent World

A. THE NATURAL WORLD [2 COURSES; ONE FROM EACH GROUP, AND AT LEAST ONE WITH A LAB; 8-9 UNITS]

Biological Science [1 course from this group]

Course	Title	Units
BIO 101	Human Biology and Bioethics	4
BIO 102	Environmental Biology	4
BIO 103	Introduction to Biology	4
BIO 104	Biotechnology and Society	4
BIO 105	Ecology and Conservation	4
BIO 130	Human Anatomy and Physiology	4
BIO 210	Cell Biology and Bio-Chemistry	4

Physical Science [1 course from this group]

Course	Title	Units
CHE 101	Chemistry and Society	4
CHE 103	Intro to General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry	5
CHE 152	General Chemistry I	4
PHY 103	Earth Science	4
PHY 141	General Physics I	4
PHY 241	University Physics I	4
PSC 110	Physical Science	4

BIO –

Look for “general”, “human” or “environmental” biology. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are too specific like oceanography or marine biology. First-time transfer students have the option of completing 7 units of science total. At least one of the two science courses needs a lab. This exception does not apply to students who have attended in the past or who are currently attending PLNU. These students need at least 8 units of science to complete the GE requirement.

CHE/PHY/PSC – (or listed as PHYS, EARTH, GEOL, ASTR)

Look for “intro”, “general”, or “fundamentals” chemistry. Physical science or general physics transfer easily. Some “earth sciences” such as “geology” or “astronomy” will transfer as well. Courses that will NOT transfer are physical geography, meteorology, or oceanography. First-time transfer students have the option of completing 7 units of science total. One of the two science courses needs to include a lab. All other PLNU students need 8 units of science.

B. PHYSICAL FITNESS AND NUTRITION [2 COURSES; 2-4 UNITS]

Any activity course numbered Physical Education 102-184 and one of the following:

Course	Title	Units
PED100	Fitness Through Movement	1
PED300	Optimal Health	2
FCS315	Personal, Family and Community Health	3

PED – (or listed as PHYE, EXSC, KIN)

Look for a course that combines a wellness lecture and physical fitness. This can be hard to find at another institution, so we recommend taking PED100 at PLNU.

The second part of this requirement is to also take a PE activity. Look for a fitness “activity” that is at least “one unit”, such as “golf”, “aerobics”, or “varsity soccer”. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are nutrition or stretching.

C. THE SOCIAL WORLD [1 COURSE; 3-4 UNITS]

One of the following:

Course	Title	Units
ECO 101	Principles of Economics I	3
ECO 102	Principles of Economics II	3
POL 101	Intro to Political Science	3
POL 190	The Politics of Race, Class, and Gender	4
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3
SOC 201	Cultural Anthropology	3

ECO –

Look for either “macroeconomics” or “microeconomics”; combined courses are too broad.

POL -

Look for “intro” to political science; American government will NOT transfer for GE.

SOC – (or listed as ANTH)

Look for “intro” to sociology or “cultural anthropology”.

IV. Seeking Cultural Perspectives**A. THE HISTORY OF WORLD CIVILIZATIONS [2 COURSES; 6 UNITS]**

Course	Title	Units
HIS 110 †	World Civilizations I	3
HIS 111 †	World Civilizations II	3

HIS –

Look for “world” history split into two time periods, the first half and second half. First-time transfer students may substitute U.S. or Western History I and II to complete this requirement. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE focus too narrowly on a specific culture or time period.

B. THE FINE ARTS [2 COURSES FROM DISTINCT AREAS; 4-5 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
ART 100	Intro to Art	2
ART 102	Fundamentals of Art	3
ART 200	History of Art I	3
ART 201	History of Art II	3
MUH 100	Introduction to Music	2
MUH 101	Introduction to Listening	2
TRE 101	Introduction to Theatre	2

ART –

Look for “intro”, “survey”, “orientation”, or “appreciation” to art that includes “history” and/or “visual art”. It must be general enough to cover all aspects of art. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are drawing, painting, or 3-D design.

MUH –

Look for “intro” or “appreciation” to music that includes “listening” and “history” concepts. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are music theory/fundamentals, jazz, voice, or piano.

TRE – (or listed as DRAM)

Look for “intro” to theatre that includes “history” and “appreciation”. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are acting, literature, and film.

C. PHILOSOPHY [1 COURSE; 3 UNITS]

Course	Title	Units
PHL 201	Intro to Philosophy	3
PHL 211	Ethics	3

PHL –

Look for “intro” to philosophy and “ethics” or “values” and “reality and knowledge”. Courses that will not transfer for GE are logic and critical thinking.

D. LITERATURE [2 COURSES; 5-6 UNITS]

Two courses, at least one from Masterpieces.

Masterpieces:

Course	Title	Units
LIT 201	Masterpieces of World Lit I	3
LIT 202	Masterpieces of World Lit II	3
LIT 203	Masterpieces of World Lit III	3

Great Works:

Course	Title	Units
LIT 205	Great Works in a Literary Genre: The Novel	2
LIT 206	Great Works in a Literary Genre: Drama	2

LIT 207	Great Works in a Literary Genre: Poetry	2
LIT 208	Great Works in a Literary Genre: Short Story	2
LIT 325	Children's Literature	3
LIT 460	The Human Challenge	3

LIT – (or listed as ENGL)

Look for at least one “masterpiece” that includes “world” literature broken down into at least 2 “time periods”. The other course can be a “great works” course of a specific “genre” like “short story”, “novel”, “poetry”, or “drama”. Courses that will NOT transfer for GE are too specific like Shakespeare or too focused on creative writing, not reading.

E. FOREIGN LANGUAGE* [2 COURSES; 8-9 UNITS]

One of the following sequences in the same language, all or part of which may be waived by examination:

Course	Title	Units
SPA 101	Elementary Spanish I	4
SPA 102	Elementary Spanish II	4
GER 101	Elementary German I	4
GER 102	Elementary German II	4
FRE 101	Elementary French I	4
FRE 102	Elementary French II	4
BLA 205	Essentials of Hebrew I	4
BLA 206	Essentials of Hebrew II	4
BLA 207	Essentials of Greek I	3
BLA 208	Essentials of Greek II	3
BLA 337	Exegesis of Greek New Testament I	3

SPA/GER/FRE/BLA –

Most colleges don’t cover as much content in foreign language as PLNU. Generally, 3 semesters of a foreign language are required to equal two semesters at PLNU. ASL (American Sign Language) does NOT transfer to PLNU.