

Current Policy for UF Core Courses

In the 2012 catalog year, UF required students to take HUM2305, What Is the Good Life (course number IUF1000 effective summer 2015). This course is considered part of General Education as a Humanities course. Students with an articulated AA do not have to take this course. Coursework from other institutions cannot be used to substitute for this course.

The following exceptions currently exist:

- (1) Students whose catalog year is required to change upon reaching upper division do not have to take the course if their previous catalog year was before 2012.
- (2) Many students in the Innovation Academy do not have to take this course, unless the college specifically requires them to.
- (3) Students in online programs did not have to take the course prior to its regular offering online
- (4) Other unique situations occasionally arise whereby academic advisers can request waiver of the requirement. For instance, former student with a UF AA degree who decides to resume studies several years later.
- (5) Petitions are handled by the college administrative staff or advisers emailing Toby Shorey, who consults with Dr. Mair on waiving this university requirement

What Has Changed

The implementation of UF Online has presented unique situations that we did not encounter in prior years. This includes the potential increase in upper division, out of state or private institution transfer students. According to Admissions, we received 2009 applications for admission by such students for the 2014 academic year. Of those 354 were admitted, and 229 actually registered. But this figure is expected to grow as new UF Online programs come into being.

These student may have met the equivalent of General Education at their institutions. The addition of The Good Life in addition to their upper division requirements will impose additional burdens in completing degrees in a timely and affordable manner.

This situation will be further exacerbated by the implementation of additional UF Core requirements. The introduction of an additional UF Specific Social and Behavioral Science and Physical/Biological Science (in addition to The Good Life) would potentially cause upper division transfer to take 9 additional hours that in state transfer students would not be required to take, at substantially increased financial cost and time to degree.

Proposed Policy Guidance for Working with this Population of Students

As a reasonable compromise to accommodate these students, while stressing the importance of UF Core coursework, the following proposal is put forward:

Out-of-state or private institution upper division transfers (i.e. transferring in 60 or more credits) who have completed, or will complete Humanities, Social and Behavioral Science, or Physical/Biological Science General Education requirements with transfer or major coursework can request waiver of the UF Core course that corresponds to completed General Education categories. However, should these courses still be required after advisers accommodate transfer credit on the degree audit, the UF Core courses must be taken by the student to fulfill the General Education Requirement. Advisers who have students that meet these conditions can contact the Director of Curriculum Monitoring and Analysis, who can remove the relevant requirement after reviewing the audit.

Lower division transfer students are required to complete the UF Core General Education requirement.