Achieve OHIO General Education Common Goal learning outcomes

2. Communicate the intent and value of general education to stakeholders

3. Align with HLC and ODHE expectations for teaching, learning, and assessment

4. Align curriculum and intentions for deeper learning

5. Update a 40-year-old program to capture revisions and initiatives adequately

HLC = Higher Learning Commission
ODHE = Ohio Department of Higher Education
**Bridge**

- At OHIO, the general education curriculum enables students to **build bridges**, making connections between themselves and others through teamwork and experiential learning opportunities.

**Reason**

- Through participation in the general education curriculum, OHIO students learn to **reason** critically, ethically, and logically.

**Integrate**

- Students will **integrate** learning across and within disciplines, co-curricular experiences, and community engagement activities.

**Communicate**

- OHIO students learn to **communicate** effectively with others by developing their written and oral communication skills through focused coursework.

**Know**

- The general education curriculum at OHIO helps students obtain breadth and depth of **knowledge** as well as get to **know themselves and others** through coursework that enhances ones’ intercultural knowledge and competence.

**Synthesize**

- Through capstone experiences, students have the opportunity to **synthesize** knowledge they have acquired over the course of their time at OHIO.
# OHIO BRICKS: Model 1 (Integrated)

## Model Components (≈ 40 credit hours)

### Gateways (min= 9 hrs)
- English Composition* (3)
- Advanced Writing* (3)
- Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic* (3)

### Directions (min= 9 hrs)
- Thinking & Creating through Arts & Humanities* (3)
- Thinking & Creating through Natural Science* (3)
- Thinking & Creating through Social Sciences* (3)

### Bridges (min= 9 hrs)
- The OHIO Community (1)
- Speaking Together* (2)
- Culture & Difference* (3)
- Systems & Creative Thinking* (3)

### Pathways (min= 10 hrs)
- Problem-based, multi-disciplinary clusters of coursework that includes at least 3 credit hours from each of three knowledge domains (A&H*, SS*, and NS*) and 1 credit hour of experiential learning

### Capstone (min= 3 hrs)
- Capstone or Culminating Experience (3)

## Common Goals

### Learning Goals
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Written Communication

### Learning Goals
- A&H Knowledge / Methods
- NS Knowledge / Methods
- SS Knowledge / Methods

### Learning Goals
- Ethical Reasoning
- Critical Thinking
- Intercultural Knowledge & Competence
- Oral Communication
- Teamwork

### Learning Goals
- Critical Thinking
- Integrative Learning
- Teamwork

### Learning Goals
- Critical Thinking
- Integrative Learning

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**Advanced Writing**: Options may include a continuation of English Composition (such as a second of two first-year composition courses), an intermediate course in written exposition, or a writing-intensive course aligned with a specific discipline or major.

**Bridges Courses**: Speaking Together should meet ODHE requirements for Oral Communication. Culture & Differences and Systems & Creative Thinking should meet ODHE area of distribution requirements as either A&H, NS, or SS.

**Pathways**: These are bodies of course work drawn from all three knowledge domains to explore a historical or current issue. Courses may be separate, multi-disciplinary, or interdisciplinary.

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## Key Advantages

- Addresses ODHE general education requirements
- Maps to the OHIO Common Goals
- Integrates multiple high-impact educational practices
- Focuses all components on learning outcomes (rather than course topic)
- Includes some stand-alone, disciplinary coursework
- Requires exploration of a historical or current challenge through a multi-disciplinary perspective
- Allows for the possibility of double-counting courses as both major and general education
- Reflects evidence-based learning practices
- Provides a unique positioning and potential competitive advantage

## Limitations

- Will require faculty to reimagine existing courses or create new courses to fit into the program
- Will require faculty to coordinate with others to develop multi-disciplinary clusters of coursework
- May involve atypical course scheduling for courses with less than three credit hours
- May dramatically limit transferability of courses into and from OHIO given the uniqueness of requirements

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*Meets requirements of Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) OTM.*
**OHIO BRICKS: Model 2 (Blended)**

**Model Components** (≈ 40 credit hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundations (min = 12 hrs)</th>
<th>Pillars (min = 12 hrs)</th>
<th>Arches (min = 12 hrs)</th>
<th>Convergence (min = 4 hrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• English Composition* (3)</td>
<td>• Humanities &amp; Literature* (3)</td>
<td>• Topic-based, 12-hour, multi-disciplinary (at least three credit hours from each: AHL*, SS*, and NS*) general education certificate</td>
<td>• Experiential Learning (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Advanced Writing* (3)</td>
<td>• The Arts* (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Capstone (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mathematics, Stats, and Logic* (3)</td>
<td>• Natural Sciences* (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Dialogues* (min=3)</td>
<td>• Social Sciences* (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transitions (1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Diverse Peoples (1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ethical Reasoning (1)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Meets requirements of Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) OTM.

**Common Goals**

**Learning Goals**
- Ethical Reasoning
- Intercultural K&C
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Teamwork
- Written Communication

**Learning Goals**
- Arts & Humanities Knowledge
- Natural Sciences Knowledge
- Social Sciences Knowledge

**Learning Goals**
- Critical Thinking
- Intercultural K&C
- Teamwork

**Learning Goals**
- Critical Thinking
- Integrative Learning
- Oral Communication

**Advances Writing.** Options may include a continuation of English Composition (such as a second of two first-year composition courses), an intermediate course in written exposition, or a writing-intensive course aligned with a specific discipline or major.

**Dialogues.** Courses focused on specific common goals. Dialogue courses may be standalone courses (1-3 hrs) or coursework taken concurrently with other courses.

**Arches** are bodies of coursework drawn from all three knowledge domains (AHL, SS, and NS) that explore a broad topic from different disciplinary perspectives. Courses are appropriate for general education. Example topics: Creativity, Innovation & Change, Global Connections, Health & Wellness, Learning, Technology & Society, Social Justice & Diversity, and Sustainability

**Key Advantages**
- Addresses ODHE general education requirements
- Maps to the OHIO Common Goals
- Integrates multiple high-impact educational practices
- Includes unique one-credit-hour Dialogue coursework
- Combines learning outcomes with distribution requirements
- Includes some stand-alone, disciplinary coursework
- Allows for exploration of a topic through a multi-disciplinary perspective
- Offers a general education certificate
- Allows for relatively easy transferability of some courses into and from OHIO
- Allows for the possibility of double-counting courses as both major and general education

**Limitations**
- May require faculty to reimagine existing courses or create new courses to fit into the program
- Requires some faculty to coordinate with others to develop multi-disciplinary clusters of coursework
- May involve atypical course scheduling for courses with less than three credit hours
- May limit transferability of some courses into and from OHIO given the uniqueness of requirements
**OHIO BRICKS: Model 3**

**Distributed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Components (≈ 43-67 credit hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Breadth of Knowledge</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(36 credit hours)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- English Composition* (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mathematics, Statistics, and Formal Logic* (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Arts &amp; Humanities* (min= 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Social Sciences* (min= 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Natural Sciences* (min= 6 + 1 lab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Common Goals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24 credit hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Critical Thinking (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Ethical Reasoning (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Intercultural Knowledge &amp; Competence (3)</td>
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<td>- Integrative Learning (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Oral Communication (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Quantitative Literacy (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Teamwork (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Written Communication (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Enrichments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Transitions Learning Community (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Experiential Learning (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Capstone (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Meets requirements of Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) OTM.

**Limitations**

- Significantly adds to general education requirements
- Will likely require significant changes to major programs
- Treats common goal learning outcomes as distinct from the breadth of knowledge learning outcomes
- Is not competitive or innovative as compared to other public universities in the state of Ohio
- Does not reflect best practices for evidence-based learning
- May limit transferability of some courses into and from OHIO given the number of requirements
- Will likely require significant resources to assess and manage general education
- Will likely require modifications to the registration system to tag courses

**Key Advantages**

- Addresses ODHE general education requirements
- Addresses both distribution and OHIO Common Goal learning outcomes
- Integrates some high-impact educational practices
- May easily fit into the existing system of using tags for courses
- Allows for relatively easy transferability of some courses into and from OHIO (i.e., breadth of knowledge)

**Breadth of Knowledge** (36 credit hours)*
- English Composition* (3)
- Mathematics, Statistics, and Formal Logic* (3)
- Arts & Humanities* (min= 6)
- Social Sciences* (min= 6)
- Natural Sciences* (min= 6 + 1 lab)

**Common Goals** (24 credit hours)
- Critical Thinking (3)
- Ethical Reasoning (3)
- Intercultural Knowledge & Competence (3)
- Integrative Learning (3)
- Oral Communication (3)
- Quantitative Literacy (3)
- Teamwork (3)
- Written Communication (3)

**Enrichments** (7 hours)
- Transitions Learning Community (1)
- Experiential Learning (3)
- Capstone (3)

Common goal courses are tagged to achieve all learning outcomes for each common goal. Common goal courses may be major, minor, or certificate courses. Courses may count across multiple categories (i.e., breadth of knowledge, common goal, and enrichment). Courses may not double count within each category.
Ohio University
Timeline for Reimagining General Education

Spring 2014
Resolution for the Endorsement of the General Education Common Goals

Spring 2018
OHIO Common Goal Definitions and Learning Outcomes

Spring 2019
Review of OHIO’s General Education Learning Outcomes

Summer 2019
Intent & Model Options

Fall 2019
Research & Ideation

Spring 2020
Model Selection & Structure

Fall 2020
Policy & Process

Spring 2021
Systems

Fall 2021
OHIO’s Reimagined General Education

September 2019
• Principles for General Education Reform

October 2019
• Proposed General Education Model(s)

November 2019
• Updates & Feedback

December 2019
• General Education Model: First Reading

January 2020
• General Education Model: Second Reading & Vote