Undergraduate Core Curriculum
2020-2021

Core Curriculum & the Newcomb-Tulane College
Mission & Values

The Newcomb-Tulane College Core Curriculum allows students to explore a wide-range of disciplines and embodies the mission and values of the College by allowing students to have flexibility in their core curriculum courses while exploring a full-range of courses.

Proficiency Requirements

Writing Skills, Formal Reasoning, and Foreign Language proficiency are included in the Proficiency Requirements to ensure the attainment of proficiency in key skills before graduation.

Distribution Requirements

A range of distribution areas from Math and Natural Sciences to Aesthetics and the Creative Arts allow students to experience courses across a wide-range of disciplines to ensure breadth and depth prior to graduation.
AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE CORE

The Core curriculum- which is composed of a minimum of 30 credits- is divided into two parts: proficiency requirements and a distribution of knowledge. To ensure that students experience the breadth of knowledge at the collegiate level, AP and IB courses can be used to satisfy proficiency requirements only in Formal Reasoning and Foreign Language. Courses are designed as satisfying the distribution requirements according to the content and methodology rather than the departmental affiliation of the course.

Proficiency Requirements

Writing Skills (2 courses and 6 credits)

Tulane undergraduates should be able to communicate effectively. Students completing this requirement will produce coherent texts that combine analysis, argument, and research.

- Tier 1: Freshman writing ENGL (1010 or 1011) unless the student is exempt. Students receiving exemption from ENGL 1010/1011 are required to take an approved writing class during their freshman year. At least 1/3rd of the grade based upon writing (excluding in-class exams), but no revision required.

- Tier 2: One additional writing course at the 2000-level or above taken from an approved list. At least 1/3rd of the grade based upon writing (excluding in-class exams), to include revision and re-evaluation by the instructor.

Note: creative writing courses cannot be used to satisfy the writing proficiency requirement.

Formal Reasoning (1 course and 3 credits)

One course in mathematics or symbolic logic (PHIL 1210)

Foreign Language (0-3 courses)

The foreign language proficiency is achieved by a passing grade at the 2030 level, or AP score of 4 or 5, a Higher-Level IB score of a 5 or higher, or an SAT II achievement test of 640 or higher, or a passing grade in a Tulane administered proficiency test. This requirement is waived for students in B.S.E. programs.

Distribution Requirements

Mathematics and the Natural Sciences (2 courses including 1 lab science course and 7 credits)

Tulane undergraduates should understand the methods of scientific inquiry. The mathematics and natural sciences requirement will equip students to understand and assess scientific issues that affect the world today. (Those completing the B.F.A. degree need only complete 1 course with lab.)

Social and Behavioral Sciences (2 courses and 6 credits)

Tulane undergraduates should think critically about human cultures, societies, and behaviors. This requirement acquaints students with the methods of research and inquiry in the social science disciplines.
Textual and Historical Perspectives (2 courses and 6 credits)

Tulane undergraduates should evaluate literary, philosophical, and historical texts. This area of the curriculum exposes students to the methods used to examine and interpret fundamental issues of human experience.

Aesthetics and the Creative Arts (3 credits)

Tulane undergraduate students should be able to understand and appreciate the creative process and various forms of artistic expression.

Additional Core Requirements

The First-Year Seminar

This requirement can be satisfied by a Tulane Interdisciplinary Seminar (TIDES) course or an Honors Colloquium course (COLQ 1010 or 1020).

Public Service

All students will complete two-tiers of public service that are satisfied by service learning courses, an approved internship, or research experience. These courses can also be used to satisfy other areas of the core curriculum.

Race and Inclusion (1 course and 3 credits)

One course that focuses on race and inclusion in the United States. Courses that fulfill this requirement will focus at least 60% of their content on race and inclusion in the United States. These courses may also be used to satisfy other general education curriculum requirements.

Global Perspectives (1 course and 3 credits)

One course that focuses on a global-international context from a perspective outside of the U.S., with at least 60% of content with stated objectives to develop historical, cultural, and societal knowledge of an area beyond the U.S. These courses can also be used to satisfy other areas of general education.
Core Curriculum pre-2018 Matriculating Students

Students who matriculated into the Newcomb-Tulane College prior to 2018 Fall must follow the pre-2018 Core curriculum. In-depth information can be found on-line here:  https://advising.tulane.edu/core-curriculum

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Code of Academic Conduct & Code of Student Conduct

All students matriculating through Newcomb-Tulane College are bound by the Code of Academic Conduct and the Code of Student Conduct, administered by the Newcomb-Tulane College and the Office of Student Affairs, respectively. Copies of the codes are available in the respective offices, in the Academic Advising Center, and on-line.

NTC Advising

Advising is a collaborative partnership that maximizes the individual potential of students by sharing information, tools, and resources that empower students to make informed decision about creating appropriate academic and career plans to achieve their academic, career, and life goals. Meet with your assigned academic advisor by scheduling an appointment on-line:  http://advising.tulane.edu/

Contact Us

The Newcomb-Tulane College Dean’s Office is located in Cudd Hall on the Gibson quadrangle between St. Charles Avenue and Freret Street.  http://college.tulane.edu