

GE Environmental Scan

General Takeaways

- Outside of Swarthmore, all of these are “closed” GEs, although they vary in their specificity
- Max GE coursework (with no overlaps) is as follows:
 - Swarthmore: 10 courses
 - Occidental: 12 courses
 - Pomona: 10 courses (with 3 competencies that overlay)
 - Houghton: 17 courses
 - Gordon: 16 courses
 - Wheaton: 20 courses
 - Westmont: 22 courses
- PE courses: Occidental 0; Houghton and Wheaton 1; Swarthmore and Pomona 2; Gordon 3; Westmont 4

Liberal Arts Colleges

Swarthmore: 5 classes outside of major department; minimum of 3 courses in each college division, 2 of which need to come from different subjects (humanities, natural science, social science); complete 3 writing courses or seminars; complete 1 science lab course; 2 PE courses in first two years

Occidental: 2 classes in writing/comp; 2 classes in foreign language; 2 classes in science, one must be lab; 1 class in math (or can sub with an additional science course); 1 class in fine arts; 1 class that covers the pre-industrial era (before 1800); 3 classes in cultural studies that focus on global sites or diversity within the U.S.

Pomona: First year seminar on critical inquiry; 1 class from each of the 6 Breadth areas, can only double dip once (Human Imagination, Social Institutions/Human Behavior, History & Cultural Studies, Phys/Bio Sciences, Math/Formal Reasoning, Creation/Performance of Arts & Literature); 2 PE courses, Foreign language requirement; Overlay requirements can be combined with Breadth (e.g. Writing Intensive, Speaking Intensive, Analyzing Difference)

Faith-Based Liberal Arts Colleges

Houghton: 3 Bible Studies courses; 1 Math course (choice of 7); 2 Science courses (set courses); 3 Humanities courses (set courses); 2 Social Science courses (open selection); 2 Writing courses (1 set course/1 open course); 1 Art/Music course (open selection); 1 Wellness course (open selection); 2 Changing World classes (open selection with modifiers, essentially foreign language and culture)

Gordon: First year seminar requirement in Great Conversations; 5 required courses (OT, NT, Theology, Historical Perspectives, Scientific Enterprise); 1 class in philosophy (choice of 7 options); 2 classes in foreign language; 1 Natural Science class; 1 Social Science class; 1 Fine Arts class; 1 Literature class; 3 PE classes (1 “Discovery” in first year)

Wheaton: First year seminar requirement on Enduring Questions; 5 required courses (OT, NT, Christian Thought, Advanced Integrative Seminar, Capstone Experience—can be 2 units); 1 Wellness course; 1 writing course; 1 oral communication course; 1 foreign language course; 10 classes from each theme, can have multiple theme courses (Quant Reasoning, Diversity in U.S., Global Perspectives, Historical Perspectives, Literary Explorations, Philosophical Investigations, Scientific Perspectives, Scientific Practice, Social Inquiry, Visual/Performing Arts)—3 of these can also satisfy major credit