

GATEWAY General Education Advisement Guidelines

The Gateway General Education (GE) Program includes four stages: Cornerstone Stage, Gateway Stage, Keystone Stage, and Capstone Stage. Each of these four stages offer distinct course labels, specific to each stage. Begun in Fall 2026, the Gateway GE program supports the development of the following program learning outcomes (PLOs) to extend the depth of study accomplished in the major, minor, and certificate programs:

1. Apply writing skills to write effectively for diverse audiences.
2. Apply oral communication skills to present effectively to diverse audiences.
3. Make connections in their learning across the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences.
4. Apply critical thinking skills — including problem-solving, quantitative & scientific reasoning — to the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of civic and social responsibility.
6. Create meaningful connections across diverse cultural contexts.
7. Identify, assess, select, and use technology effectively and responsibly to accomplish a task or solve a problem.
8. Demonstrate lifelong healthy behaviors in any dimension of wellbeing (emotional, environmental, financial, physical, social, spiritual, and vocational).

Gateway GE General Guidelines

As advisors and students work together to plan courses of study, they should apply the following guidelines:

- Courses required in the primary major will only count towards the major, except for a major-based capstone that has been approved for the GE capstone as well.
- Courses taken in a minor or in a secondary major will also count as general education requirements if the courses were approved in a Gateway stage label.
- Directed general education courses will count as general education requirements if the courses were approved in a Gateway stage label.
- Students may not select more than three courses from any one subject code in the Gateway stage.
- Students may not select more than four courses from any one subject code within the full GE 45 credits.
- No course may carry labels from more than one stage in the Gateway GE Program.
- Other Gateway GE guidelines may be found on page 2, as they relate to the each of four stages.

Advisement Guidelines:

- You and your advisor will use this Gateway GE advisement guide, the catalog curriculum guide for your major(s) and minor(s), and your MarAUDIT to plan an efficient sequence to graduation. Become familiar with your specific degree requirements and how Gateway GE is integrated with them.
- Cornerstone stage courses are foundational to student success across programs. Priority should be given to completing these four requirements in the first year, if possible.
- Gateway, Keystone, and Capstone stage courses may factor in major programs as directed general education. Make sure you know where these courses fit in the GE as you plan efficient program progressions.

CORNERSTONE Stage: 4 required courses, in the first year (at least 12 credits)

- Three of the labels of Cornerstone feature a single course which satisfies each requirement.
- For Quantitative Literacy, students will select a 3-4 credit course based on their academic major or program and results of math placement testing to satisfy this requirement.

Required Label	Course
○ FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE (FYEX):	FYEX 100
○ INTRODUCTORY WRITING (IW):	ENGL 110
○ ORAL COMMUNICATION (OC):	COMM 100
○ QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (QL)	Various approved courses

GATEWAY Stage: 8 courses selected from seven required labels (at least 24 credits)

- Students will choose one course in each of required labels.
- Students will choose an eighth Gateway course in any Gateway labels.

Required Label	Course
○ CREATIVE EXPLORATIONS (CE)	
○ ETHICAL ACTION AND CITIZENSHIP (EAC)	
○ INFORMATION LITERACIES (IL)	
○ INVESTIGATIONS IN SCIENTIFIC REASONING (SCI)	
○ PERSONAL WELLNESS (PWEL)	
○ PROBLEM-SOLVING (PS)	
○ TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETENCE (TC)	
○ GATEWAY ELECTIVE	

KEYSTONE Stage: 2 courses (300 level or above) selected from two labels (6 credits)

- Students will choose one class in each of the two required labels after completion of the Gateway stage or after 54 credits.

Required Label	Course
○ ADVANCED WRITING (AW)	
○ DIVERSE CULTURAL CONTEXTS (DCC)	

CAPSTONE Stage: 1 course (300 level or above), in the final year (3 to 4.5 credits)

Capstone courses may be required in your academic major or program. If this major-required course has received a GE CAP label, this course from the major will also count in the Gateway General Education sequence. If the major does not have a major- or program-based capstone, students will select a final course with a general education capstone label to satisfy this requirement.

Required Label	Course
○ CAPSTONE (CAP)	

OPTIONAL GATEWAY GENERAL ED CERTIFICATES: 12-17 credits

Work with your advisor is essential in adding a certificate efficiently to your curricular pathway. Find more information on specific certificate opportunities @millersville.edu/gened.