

General Education Course Descriptions

English and Speech <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/engl/>

ENGL 110. College Composition I. 3 Credits.

A course which introduces students to college-level reading, writing, rhetoric, and critical thinking skills.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring. **Prerequisite:** ACT English score of 18 or higher, ACT English score of 14-17 with corequisite of ASC 88, or ASC 87.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2a

ENGL 120. College Composition II. 3 Credits.

A course which continues the development of ENGL 110 skills with emphasis on research writing and documentation. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Prerequisite: [ENGL 110](#) with a grade of C or better or an ACT English score of 23 or higher.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2a

OR

ENGL 125. Introduction to Professional Writing. 3 Credits.

A course which introduces the writing and research skills needed in business and technology fields. Topics include technical organizational patterns, document design, readability of text, research methods, research reporting and collaborative writing. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Prerequisite: [ENGL 110](#) with a grade of C or better or an ACT English score of 23 or higher.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2a

COMM 110. Fundamentals of Public Speaking. 3 Credits.

A basic speech course designed to introduce the student to the principles of oral communication, including the content, organization, and delivery of public address. This course is an introduction to interpersonal and group communication concepts. Emphasis is placed on extemporaneous speaking, effective listening, and critical evaluation. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2a

Math

<http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/math/>

MATH 103. College Algebra. 3 Credits.

Relations and functions, equations and inequalities, complex numbers; polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions and systems of equations. **Typically Offered:** On sufficient demand.

Prerequisite: [ASC 93](#) with a grade of C or better, ACT Math score of 21 or higher, or qualifying math placement score.

OR

MATH 104. Finite Mathematics. 3 Credits.

An extension of basic algebra to areas that have applications in the economic, behavior, social, and life sciences. Topics include systems of linear equations and inequalities, matrices, linear programming, mathematics of finance, elementary probability and descriptive statistics. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2c

Science

Biology: <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/biol/>

BIOL 111. Concepts of Biology. 4 Credits.

An introductory level non-majors transferable class designed to meet the requirements of a lab science. This class is an introduction to the major concepts of modern biology through lecture and laboratory work on the structure, function, diversity, and interrelationships of living organisms, with emphasis on areas of human concern. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement for 1 Life Science (Biology) course

State Standard(s): 50015.2b

Geology: <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/geol/>

GEOL 100. Introduction to Earth Science. 4 Credits.

A broad, non-quantitative survey of topics in geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. This course is a prerequisite for many upper division courses and includes laboratory work. Cross-referenced with GEOG 100. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement for 1 Earth and Space Science (Geology) course

State Standard(s): 50015.2b

STEM ED: <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/stemed/>

STEM ED 160. Integrative Physical Science for Elementary. 4 Credits.

A conceptual physical science course intended for elementary education majors. Topics include the study of the structure and properties of matter, interactions and energy, interactions and forces, interactions and systems (electricity and magnetism), and the study of waves (including light and sound). **Typically Offered:** Fall.

OR

Chemistry options: (typically CHEM 115) <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/chem/>

OR

Physics options: (typically PHYS 100 or PHYS 110) <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/phys/>

Role: Elementary Education Requirement for 1 Chemistry, Physics, or STEM ED course

State Standard(s): 50015.2b

History <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/hist/>

HIST 103. United States to 1877. 3 Credits.

A survey of U.S. History from the pre-Columbian era through 1877. The course examines causes of European exploration and colonization, the American Revolution, and the Civil War. Topics include abolitionism, political, social, and economic development of the new nation, Manifest Destiny, and Reconstruction. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

OR

HIST 104. United States to Present. 3 Credits.

A survey of U.S. History from Reconstruction through the last decade. Attention is given to social, economic and political history as well as the role of minorities and women in the development of modern American society. Topics addressed include segregation, immigration, major political movements, U.S. foreign policy, and civil rights. **Typically Offered:** Spring.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2d

Psychology <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/psyc/>

PSYC 111. Introduction to Psychology. 3 Credits.

A survey of the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.1a

Technology <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/cis/>

CIS 170. Introduction to Computer Information Systems. 3 Credits.

An introduction to word processing, spreadsheet, database, and operating system software. Additional topics include the history, ethics, and uses of computers in society, and emerging applications for computers.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.

Role: Technology

State Standard(s): Cross-cutting theme for technology

Wellness <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/hper/>

HPER 100. Concepts of Fitness and Wellness. 2 Credits.

A course designed for students of all ages that teaches the facts about exercise and physical fitness. This general education course combines lecture about the theory of exercise and health issues with laboratory, activity, and technology experiences to introduce the student to concepts of holistic living.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2f

Humanities <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/hum/>

HUM 201. Civilization, Thought, and Literary Heritage. 3 Credits.

An introductory course designed to provide a chronological framework for the exploration of Western culture within a global context, emphasizing a humanistic approach to history, religion, philosophy, and literature.

Typically Offered: Spring.

HUM 202. Fine Arts and Aesthetics. 3 Credits.

An introductory course designed to acquaint the student with the development of music and the visual arts within the context of world civilization and to nurture aesthetic responsiveness. **Typically Offered:** Fall.

Role: General Education requirement – various course options exist for the humanities expectations

Geography <http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/courses/geog/>

GEOG 111. Survey of Geography. 3 Credits.

A survey of human, regional, political, physical, religious, and social geography of the world. This course will look at the ever-changing relationship between human activity and its impact on the geographical landscape. The course will also look at spatial interaction and mapping, the use of natural resources, and socioeconomic development. **Typically Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

Role: General Education and Elementary Education Requirement

State Standard(s): 50015.2d