The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum & General Education (MnTC)

The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) is a collaborative effort among all two-year and four-year public colleges and universities in Minnesota to help students transfer their coursework in general education between institutions. Students who complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) and then transfer to any other Minnesota public baccalaureate degree-granting university will have fulfilled all lower division general education requirements.

There are ten goals within the 40 required credits. One course may fulfill a maximum of two goals; however, credits will only be counted once in the total. A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 is required to complete the entire Minnesota Transfer Curriculum. The MnTC grade point average will be calculated using grades of A-D (passing grades) earned in all MnTC courses, including both Minnesota West and transfer grades.

Minnesota West Community & Technical College adheres to the General Education definition embedded in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum guide. Its mission and goals resonate to those ideals.

Area 1. Communication

Goal: To develop writers and speakers who use the English language effectively and who read, write, speak, and listen critically. As a base, all students should complete introductory communication requirements early in their collegiate studies. Writing competency is an ongoing process to be reinforced through writing-intensive courses and writing across the curriculum. Speaking and listening skills need reinforcement through multiple opportunities for interpersonal communication, public speaking, and discussion. **Student Requirements:** Students will fulfill this area by completing:
1. ENGL 1101 Composition I (3)
2. Choose one of the following:
   - ENGL 1102 Composition II (3)
   - OR ENGL 2243 Creative Writing (3)
   - OR ENGL 2276 Technical Writing (3)
3. SPCH 1101 Introduction to Speech (3)
4. OR SPCH 1103 Interpersonal Communications (3)

Area 2. Critical Thinking

Goal: To develop thinkers who are able to unify factual, creative, rational, and value-sensitive modes of thought. Critical thinking skills will be taught and used throughout the general education curriculum in order to develop students' awareness of their own thinking and problem-solving procedures. To integrate new skills into their customary ways of thinking, students must be actively engaged in practicing thinking skills and applying them to open-ended problems. **Student Requirements:** Students will fulfill this area by:

Most courses teach one or more of the critical thinking student competency areas. Any student who completes 40 credits of general education will have completed the student requirements for Critical Thinking.

Area 3. Natural Sciences

Goal: To improve students' understanding of natural science principles and of the methods of scientific inquiry, i.e., the ways in which scientists investigate natural science phenomena. As a basis for lifelong learning, students need to know the vocabulary of science and to realize that while a set of principles has been developed through the work of previous scientists, ongoing scientific inquiry and new knowledge will bring changes in some of the ways scientists view the world. By studying the problems that engage today's scientists, students learn to appreciate the importance of science in their lives and to understand the value of a scientific perspective. Students should be encouraged to study both the biological and physical sciences. **Student Requirements:** Students will fulfill this area by completing a minimum of two lab science courses.

1. One course must be from Biology:
   - BIOL 1100 Survey of Biology (3)
   - BIOL 1110 Principles of Biology (4)
   - BIOL 1155 Human Biology (3)
   - BIOL 2100 Ecology (3)
   - BIOL 2201 Human Anatomy (4)
   - BIOL 2202 Human Physiology (4)
   - BIOL 2220 Animal Biology (4)
   - BIOL 2230 Plant Biology (4)
   - BIOL 2240 Genetics (3)
   - BIOL 2270 Microbiology (4)
2. One course must be from Chemistry or Physics:
   - CHEM 1100 Introduction to Chemistry (3)
   - CHEM 1100 General Inorganic Chemistry I (4)
   - CHEM 1150 Survey of Chemistry (4)
   - PHYS 1100 Survey of Physics (3)
   - PHYS 1150 Survey of Astronomy (3)
   - PHYS 1201 Fundamentals of Physics I (4)
   - PHYS 1202 Fundamentals of Physics II (4)
   - PHYS 2121 General Physics I (5)

Area 4. Mathematical/Logical Reasoning

Goal: To increase students' knowledge about mathematical and logical modes of thinking. This will enable students to appreciate the breadth of applications of mathematics, evaluate arguments, and detect fallacious reasoning. Students will learn to apply mathematics, logic, and/or statistics to help them make decisions in their lives and careers. Minnesota’s public higher education systems have agreed that developmental mathematics includes the first three years of a high school mathematics sequence through intermediate algebra. **Student Requirements:** Students will complete any one of the listed courses:

1. Any 3-5 credit Math course numbered MATH 1105 or higher:
   - MATH 1105 Introduction to Probability and Statistics (4)
   - MATH 1107 Concepts in Math (3)
   - MATH 1111 College Algebra (3)
2. PHIL 1200 Logic (3)
3. MATH 1113 Pre-Calculus (4)
4. MATH 1118 Applied Calculus (4)
5. MATH 1121 Calculus (4)

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Area 5. History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Goal: To increase students’ knowledge of how historians, social, and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill this area by completing a minimum of 9 credits from three of the following areas:

- **Criminal Justice**:
  - CJS 1101 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)

- **Economics**:
  - ECON 1101 Introduction to Economics (3)*
  - ECON 2201 Principles of Microeconomics (3)

- **Political Science**:
  - POL 2202 Principles of Microeconomics (3)

- **Psychology**:
  - PSYC 1101 Introduction to Psychology (4)
  - PSYC 1515 Developmental Psychology (3)

- **Sociology**:
  - SOC 1101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
  - SOC 1102 Social Problems (3)

Area 6. The Humanities and Fine Arts

Goal: To expand students’ knowledge of the human condition and cultural histories, especially in relation to behavior, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought. Through study in disciplines such as literature, philosophy, and the fine arts, students will engage in critical analysis, form aesthetic judgments, and develop an appreciation of the arts and humanities as fundamental to the health and survival of any society.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill this area by completing a minimum of 9 credits from three of the following departments (note: a minimum of two credits must be taken from each of the three countable areas):

- **English**:
  - ENGL 1105 Introduction to Literature (3)
  - ENGL 1141 Writing and Reading Poetry (3)
  - ENGL 1143 Writing and Reading Fiction (2)
  - ENGL 2201 American Literature I (3)
  - ENGL 2202 American Literature II (3)
  - ENGL 2203 Midwestern Literature (3)
  - ENGL 2211 British Literature I (3)

- **Art**:
  - ART 1114 Watercolor (1)
  - ART 1115 Beginning Painting (3)
  - ART 1118 Arts and Crafts (3)
  - ART 1120 Art Appreciation (3)
  - ART 1124 Introduction to Ceramics (3)
  - ART 1224 Investigations in Raku (3)
  - ART 2230 Computer Graphics (3)
  - ART 2235 Special Topics (1-3)
  - ART 2240 Art History (3)
  - ART 2245 Art History II (3)

- **Hispanic**:
  - SPAN 1101 Spanish I (4)
  - SPAN 1102 Spanish II (4)
  - SPAN 2201 Spanish III (4)
  - PHIL 1101 Philosophy of Religion (2)
  - PHIL 2202 General Applied Ethics (1) OR PHIL 2205 Business Ethics (2) OR PHIL 2206 Medical Ethics (1)

- **Modern**:
  - MUSC 1105 Enjoying Music (3)
  - MUSC 1106 Introduction to Rock Music (3)
  - MUSC 1113, 1115, 1123, 1125 Pop Singers (3)
  - MUSC 1140, 1141, 2140, 2141 Piano Lessons (1)
  - MUSC 1145, 1146, 2145, 2146 Vocal Lessons (1)

Area 7. Human Diversity

Goal: To increase students’ understanding of individual and group differences (e.g., race, gender, class) and their knowledge of the traditions and values of various groups in the United States. Students should be able to evaluate the United States’ historical and contemporary responses to group differences.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill this area by completing any one of the listed courses (2 credit minimum):

- **History**:
  - HIST 1101 American History I (4)
  - HIST 1102 American History II (4)
  - HIST 1105 Minnesota History (3)

- **Sociology**:
  - SOC 1101 Introduction to Sociology (3)
  - SOC 1102 Social Problems (3)
  - SOC 2210 Marriage and the Family (3)

Area 8. Global Perspective

Goal: To increase students’ understanding of the growing interdependence of nations and peoples and develop their ability to apply a comparative perspective to cross-cultural social, economic and political experiences.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill this area by completing any one of the listed courses for a minimum of 2 credits:

- **History**:
  - HIST 1101 American History I (4)
  - HIST 1102 American History II (3)
  - HIST 2201 World History I (3)

Area 9. Ethical and Civic Responsibility

Goal: To develop students’ capacity to identify, discuss, and reflect upon the ethical dimensions of political, social, and personal life and to understand the ways in which they can exercise responsible and productive citizenship. While there are diverse views of social justice or the common good in a pluralistic society, students should learn that responsible citizenship requires them to develop skills to understand their own and others’ positions, be part of the free exchange of ideas, and function as public-minded citizens.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill this area by completing any one of the listed courses for a minimum of 2 credits:

- **History**:
  - HIST 2201 World History I (3)
  - HIST 2202 World History II (3)

Area 10. People and the Environment

Goal: To improve students’ understanding of today’s complex environmental challenges. Students will examine the interrelatedness of human society and the natural environment. Knowledge of both biophysical principles and sociocultural systems is the foundation for integrative and critical thinking about environmental issues.

Student Requirements: Students will fulfill the area by completing any one of the listed courses (2-credit minimum):

- **History**:
  - PHIL 2201 Ethical Theory & Practice (3)
  - PHIL 2202 General Applied Ethics (1) OR PHIL 2205 Business Ethics (2) OR PHIL 2222 Medical Ethics (1)