

USM Core Curriculum Regulations

1. The **student has primary responsibility** for ensuring that she or he completes the minimum college readiness requirements in writing and mathematics and the USM Core curriculum requirements. Undeclared majors should seek advice from the Student Success Centers. Students in the Go program are expected to complete their college readiness requirements as outlined in their academic support plan. Declared majors should consult their college, school, or department advisors.
2. **Courses** taken to satisfy the Core curriculum requirements may not be taken on a pass-fail basis or audited.
3. **Satisfying a core curriculum requirement** involves passing (with a grade of D minus or better) an approved course in that requirement area.
4. **Overlaps between Core and Major requirements:**
Thematic Cluster: Satisfying the thematic cluster requirement involves successfully completing any three courses in the cluster, from at least two different prefixes. Only one of these courses may overlap with the student's major requirements. For a **minor** to substitute for the cluster requirement, only 1/3 of the credits in the student's minor may be courses that can be applied to the student's major. Students taking a **double major** for which they have to earn at least 15 credits outside their first major will, by completing both majors, fulfill their Thematic Cluster requirement.

There are no other restrictions on overlaps between core and major requirements except those that may be imposed by the major. See the section of the Undergraduate Catalog corresponding to your major for additional information.

5. **Overlaps between Core requirements:** Overlaps are permitted between the diversity requirement and other core requirements, and between the international requirement and other core requirements. No other overlaps between Core requirements are permitted.
6. **Repeating courses** to satisfy Core requirements: A failing grade in an EYE course may be replaced by a passing grade in any EYE course. All other failing grades may only be replaced by a passing grade in the same course. See Academic Policies section of the Undergraduate Catalog for additional information on repeating courses.
7. **Waivers** of USM Core curriculum requirements should be sought from the Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Programs and Core Curriculum at smcwilms@usm.maine.edu.

Transfer Credits and The USM Core

Students may meet any of their USM Core requirements through transfer, with the exception of the Ethical Inquiry, Social Responsibility, and Citizenship requirement, and the Capstone.

Students transferring 24 or more credits do not have to complete the EYE requirement.

Students transferring 84 or more credits may submit for consideration a course that they regard as equivalent to the Ethical Inquiry, Social Responsibility, and Citizenship requirement.

This course must be at the intermediate level or above. Submissions should be sent to the Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Programs and Core Curriculum at smcwilms@usm.maine.edu.

Students with Catalog Year Prior To 2011

Students whose catalog year (requirement term in Maine Street) is **prior to 2011** may complete the core curriculum requirements consistent with their catalog year, or they may opt to complete the USM Core. To change catalog year students must complete a Change of Catalog form available at the Registrar's Office. **Students whose catalog year (requirement term) is fall 2011 or later must complete the USM Core requirements as outlined here.**