The USM Core is a coherent, integrative, and rigorous liberal education that allows our graduates to be world-minded, intentional, life-long learners. Learning outcomes across the requirements are sequenced to help students develop increasingly sophisticated knowledge and skills. Courses throughout the curriculum involve close reading and oral and written communication.

Complete 3 courses in an approved cluster from two subject areas with only one major overlap; OR complete a minor, second major, academic certificate or upper level electives with no major overlaps.

**Five Goals of General Education**

1. Informed understandings of interrelationships between human cultures and the natural world;
2. Analytical, contextual, and integrative thinking about complex issues;
3. Effective communication using multiple forms of expression;
4. Critical reflection upon, and informed action in, their roles as participants in multiple communities; and
5. Ethical action to contribute to the social and environmental welfare of local and global communities.

Students may apply transfer credits throughout the Core. See your transfer credit report in main Street.