USM Core Curriculum Regulations Fall 2011 and beyond

1. **College Readiness**: All students must demonstrate college readiness as defined by University Policy.
   a. **Writing**: SAT writing score of 500 or better student takes ENG 100; SAT writing score below 500, student takes ENG 104. For students whose first language is not English an SAT of 550 or TOEFL of 79 demonstrates proficiency. If proficiency not met, students take ESL 104.
   b. **Mathematics**: SAT mathematics score of 550 or better indicates proficiency; MAT 101 grade of C minus or better indicates proficiency.

2. **Pass-Fail/Audit**: Courses taken to satisfy Core Curriculum requirements may not be taken on a pass-fail basis or audited.

3. **Passing Grades**: 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**: Only one cluster course may overlap with a student’s major requirements. 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.
   - **Minor in lieu of a cluster**: Only 1/3 of the credits in the student’s minor may be courses that can be applied toward the student’s major.
   - **Double Major in lieu of a cluster**: At least 15 credits of the second major must be from outside the first major.
   - **Other overlaps**: no restrictions.

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. Students must complete two distinct courses to satisfy their diversity and international 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 and substitutions** regarding USM Core curriculum requirements should be sought from the Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Programs and Core Curriculum at smcwilms@usm.maine.edu.

8. **Transfer**: Students may satisfy most Core requirements through appropriate transfer credit. Students transferring 24 or more credits do not have to complete the EYE requirement. Students transferring 84 or more credits are eligible to have a transfer course satisfy the Ethical Inquiry, Social Responsibility, and Citizenship requirement. This course must be at the intermediate level or above. Submissions should be sent to smcwilms@usm.maine.edu. Transfer credit may also be applied to the clusters.

9. **Prior degree**: Students who have already earned one baccalaureate degree and are undertaking work for a second baccalaureate degree are not required to satisfy Core curriculum requirements.