

# Academic Requirements

## General Degree Requirements

The BAcc, BA, BASM, BME, BS, BSN, BM, and BSE degrees require a minimum of 120 hours of credit. The AA and the AS degrees require a minimum 60 hours of credit.

### Requirements for a 2nd Bachelor's Degree

1. **Students with a CMU Degree.** To be eligible for a second bachelor's degree, a student must complete at least 26 hours in addition to those counted for first degree. These hours must be earned in courses approved by the Dean of the University, must be taken at Central Methodist University, and must satisfy all the specific course requirements for the second degree.
2. **Students with a Bachelor's Degree from another institution.** To be eligible for a second bachelor's degree, a student must satisfy all the specific course and degree requirements for the second degree.

### Cumulative GPA

In the work offered as a basis for graduation, a student must have attained a "C" average (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) for all courses and for all courses taken in residence. The BSE, the BME, and Missouri teacher certification require a minimum 2.75 cumulative and cumulative residential grade point average, 3.0 GPA in the content area, and a 3.0 over-all GPA in the professional education sequence, and no grade lower than a "C" in the professional education sequence. Additional grade point and other standards are stated for individual programs.

### Upper-Level (Junior and Senior) Courses

Courses numbered 100-299 are designed primarily for Freshmen and Sophomores. Courses numbered 300-499 are for Juniors and Seniors; Freshmen should not enroll in these courses.

For bachelor's degrees, at least 30 hours must be in 300-level courses or higher. These are offered primarily for Juniors and Seniors and generally require advanced knowledge. At least 15 hours at the 300-400 level must be in the major field. These may be counted in the 30 upper college hours. Courses taken at the lower divisional level from either a two year or four year institution may meet content requirements to enroll for an upper-division course, but do not count as upper-division credit toward the required 30 hours of 300-level coursework.

### Academic Majors and Minors/Secondary Field of Study

All students must have a major field of study and a may elect a secondary field of study (either a second major, a minor, or the alternative to the minor). Requirements for the major and minor in each academic field are described in this catalog on each discipline's pages; academic disciplines are listed alphabetically.

**Academic Majors.** Central Methodist University believes that every person with a college education should have one or more areas of both in-depth and extensive knowledge. The academic major insures that all graduates have one or more widely recognized fields of study in which they can function at a sophisticated, advanced level. Students choose a degree program, and within it they choose an academic major. Within the major field, students again have both some freedom of course selection as well as a structure of requirements to fulfill.

All BA and BS degrees require the completion of one of the following: (a) a major and a minor, (b) a double major, or (c) a major and at least 17 hours outside of the department of their major and in addition to the General Education Common Core requirements.

For the BA and BS degrees, majors require at least 27 hours, and they may not require more than 40 hours in the discipline named as the major. Students may, however, elect courses beyond the 40 hours required in the major field. All undergraduate degrees other than the BA and BS require a major with at least 27 hours, but the major is not limited to 40 hours.

If selecting a double major, students must complete degree plans for both programs and must complete all requirements for each major. At least 27 hours of coursework in each major must be distinct from the other major. That is, at least 27 semester hours in each major cannot be counted in the courses which satisfy the other major.

**Academic Minors/Secondary Field of Study.** Students should decide on the coursework to build their degree in consultation with their advisors. If students do not choose to add a secondary field of study, they must still fulfill the general requirements to earn a

degree, including at least 36 hours of 300- or 400- level credit. Degree programs may include a significant secondary field of study in addition to the major and the General Education Common Core program. Students selecting a secondary field of study have the following two options:

1. Select a second major (see “double major” above).
2. Select an academic minor from a number of fields on the basis of further support for the major or personal interest. Minors require at least 17 hours. Students must submit at least 44 distinct credit hours in the major and minor combined.

## Electives - As Provided By Each Degree Program

As a part of every college education, students should explore areas of interest beyond what is required of them. These interests, formally pursued in college courses, may form the basis for continued learning throughout life. Formal college education should support and encourage such continued, informal learning.

## Limitations

A maximum of 14 hours in any combination of applied Music courses which have been approved by the faculty may be applied toward the BA degree. No more than three (3) activity courses in Physical Education may be applied toward any degree.

## Residence

Candidates for a baccalaureate degree must complete at least 30 of the last 36 hours of credit in residence at Central Methodist University. Exceptions to this residence requirement may be made in the case of military veterans whose programs of study have been approved by the Dean of the University. For extraordinary circumstances, students may petition the Faculty Committee on Academic

c Standards and Admissions. A candidate for the associate degree must earn the last 24 hours of credit in residence at Central Methodist University. Students enrolled in Cooperative Programs are not required to meet the residence rule.

## Assessment

Central Methodist University is committed to providing quality education and to assuring that students gain the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful after they graduate. In order to assure the continuing improvement of its educational programs, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has a "Program to Assess Student Academic Achievement." All students and faculty are involved in this program through various tests, class assignments, surveys, etc. conducted throughout the undergraduate program. This program seeks to measure student learning in general education and the major fields of study. The results of this ongoing study of student learning are used for continuing improvement of the curriculum and instruction.

## English Usage

Each student must demonstrate proficiency in written and spoken English before receiving a degree. This may be accomplished by receiving a passing grade in either EN305 or EN306. Those who have successfully completed six hours in composition before entering CMU will receive credit for EN110/EN111 and must still take and pass EN305 or EN306. For spoken English, students must either successfully complete a proficiency examination, or CT101 (Public Speaking) or transfer in an equivalent course.

## Foreign Language Requirement

The BA degree requires six to eight hours of a single foreign language. Students whose native language is other than English who seek a degree requiring foreign language have the following options:

1. fulfill the foreign language degree requirement stated by the degree;
2. take six (6) hours of 300-level literature in their native language if that language is offered at CMU; or
3. take six (6) hours in oral and written communications in addition to the general education requirements of EN110/111 or EN 120; EN222; EN305 or 306; and CT 101.

## University Policy for Math Placement

**ACT**

**Course**

**(Math Subscore)**

< 20	MA090 - Computer-Assisted Pre-Algebra 3 hr course
20-21	MA103I - College Algebra (Intensive) - 5 hr course or MA109I Quantitative Reasoning (Intensive) 5 hr course
> 21	MA103 - College Algebra - 3 hr course or MA109 - Quantitative Reasoning 3 hr course

## General Education Hours: All Degrees

The university learning principles and outcomes were adopted in Spring 2016. Six of the 9 ULOs will be used to assess the general education common core (31-32 hours). The ULOs are intentionally broad statements that guide a culture of learning and allow for a holistic approach to assessment. The ULOs can be assessed through a selection of courses, standardized measures, and student experiences analyzed together, to build a truer picture of student life and learning. The University understands education to be concerned with the formation of the self, not merely with providing information to an individual who is unchanged by it. Liberal education is formative as well as informative.

The educational program described in the following pages is intended to fulfill the mission of CMU by providing a curriculum that enables students to embody the mission of CMU through acquiring habits of mind, habits of heart, and habits of action that embody the university learning principles and outcomes. The development of such habits requires both knowledge and mental discipline in many fields of study. Our curriculum is designed to help students make responsible life choices with deep concern for the common good. CMU graduates should be able to place themselves firmly in the statements of “I am, I can, I will,” built into the university wide assessment process, commonly known as the Wheel.

The implementation process for the new competencies will be developed fully during the 2016/17 academic year. The information below does apply, but is by no means inclusive. General Education Competencies and Requirements: Additional Information

1. The 6 ULOs designated as General Education competencies are for the Common Core.
2. All baccalaureate degrees will be required to have the same 31.5-32 hour Common Core competencies and requirements.
3. Courses in the major will not count in the Common Core.
4. Each course taught as part of General Education meet the General Education competencies. Competencies met by each course will be listed on the course syllabus.

General Education Transfer Policies: Transfer credit will be accepted for courses generally equivalent to those in the General Education Program. Depending on hours transferred, students may be able to have some general education requirements waived. See the academic catalog for additional details.

All baccalaureate degrees will be required to satisfy the same Common Core competencies and requirements. Also, courses in the major will not count in the Common Core.

## General Education Competencies

### Communication (articulate, multimodal)

1. Students are articulate, able to speak and write clearly and effectively.
2. Students are multimodal, able to interpret and express ideas through multiple modes of communication

### Curiosity (discover, analyze)

1. Students can discover, explore, and seek solutions based on accumulated knowledge and current research.
2. Students can analyze, evaluate, interpret, and summarize data.

### Community (serve, respect)

1. Students will serve others and be ethical and informed citizens.
2. Students will understand and respect diversity, including other’s viewpoints, positions, and beliefs

All baccalaureate degrees will be required to satisfy the same competencies and requirements. Also, courses in the major will not count toward general education. Note: Prerequisite coursework may increase the total hours, depending on student placement in courses.

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Common Core</b>	<b>Additional Gen. Ed. Requirements</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Total hours - General Education</b>
AA	29.5-33	15-16		44.5-49
AS	28.5-29			28.5-29
BA	31.5-32			52.5-56
BAcc	31.5-32	12	Students applying to graduate school or for certification usually have 130 to 150 hours at graduation, including 6-15 additional hours of General Education.	43.5-44
BASM	31.5-32	21-22		53.5-56
BME	31.5-32	11		42.5-43
BM-Piano/Organ	31.5-32	11		42.5-43
BM-Vocal	31.5-32	11		42.5-43
BS	31.5-32	21-22		52.5-56
BSAT	31.5-32	19-20		50.5-52
BSE-Early Childhood	31.5-32	18		49.5-50
BSE-Elementary, Special Ed., & Middle School	31.5-32	18	Students in BSE-Elementary will continue in the core subjects they will teach (e.g. Mathematics, Geography)	49.5-50
BSE-Physical Ed. & Health	31.5-32	5		36.5-37
BSN	31.5-32	29		60.5-61

\*\*\*Additional hours will be required if MA090 and MA103I or MA109I are required.