Language, Culture and Meaning

2022-2023 Exploratory Pathway Guide

The Language, Culture and Meaning pathway provides students with the opportunity to explore the many ways in which humans communicate with one another, create unique cultures together, and formally document their life histories. Through a critical examination of languages, communication, history and culture, students will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse ways in which the human condition is experienced, communicated and expressed.

Related Key Industries: Creative Industries; Tourism and Outdoor Recreation; Health and Wellness

Pathway Majors and Concentrations

- Africana Studies
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Anthropology
- Art (BA)
- Art (BFA)
- Art Education (K-12 Teaching Licensure)
- Art History, Theory and Criticism
- Chicano Studies
  - Secondary Education - Social Studies Licensure
- Communication Studies
  - Rhetoric and Public Culture
- Dance
- Dual Language in French (plus Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese)
- Dual Language in Spanish (plus French, German, Italian, or Japanese)
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education (1-6)
- English
  - Writing
- Literature, Film and Media Studies
- Secondary Education - English Licensure
- Foreign Language (K-12 Teaching Licensure)
- French
- History
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Individualized Degree Program
- Journalism
- Linguistics
- Music Education (K-12 Teaching Licensure)
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Special Education
- Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences
- Theatre (BA)
- Theatre (BFA)
  - Applied Theatre Technology and Design
  - Musical Theatre

Exercise: Identifying Interest Areas

Using the list of majors and concentrations above try to identify 3 to 5 majors you’d like to explore:
- Circle the majors in this pathway that (at first glance) sound the most appealing to you.
- Cross out the majors that you have no interest in at all.
- Are there any majors or concentrations that you haven’t circled or crossed out? Are there any majors that you’d like to learn more about in order to make a decision? Put a star next to those and let your Exploratory Advisor know about these majors.
## General Studies in this Pathway

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### Foundational Skills ...

- **Written Communication**
  - CO 1 and CO 2 or CO 2 and CO 3  
  - 6

- **Oral Communication**  
  - COMM 1010 Presentational Speaking  
  - COMM 1100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication  
  - ASL 1020 American Sign Language II  
  - CHI 1010 Elementary Chinese I  
  - FRE 1010 Elementary French I  
  - GER 1010 Elementary German I  
  - ITA 1010 Elementary Italian I  
  - JPS 1010 Elementary Japanese I  
  - SPA 1010 Elementary Spanish I  
  - 3

### Quantitative Literacy

- MTH 1080 Math for Liberal Arts or MTH 1081/1082 Math for Liberal Arts with Lab  
  - MTH 1210 Introduction to Statistics  
  - 3

### Discover Ideas (breadth) ...

- **Historical**  
  - 3

- **Arts and Humanities**  
  - 6

- **Social and Behavioral Sciences**  
  - 6

- **Natural and Physical Sciences**  
  - 6

### Expand your Views ...

- **Global Diversity**  
  - 0 - 3

- **Multicultural Graduation Requirement**  
  - 0 - 3

### English and Math Placement +

Math and English placement at MSU Denver depend on a variety of factors. Work with your Exploratory Advisor to determine which courses for the Written Communication and Quantitative Literacy requirements are appropriate for you or to determine if you will need additional assessments to place you in the right sequence of courses.

More information on our Math and English Placement policies can be found on the [Office of Testing Services](https://testing.services) website.

### Using General Studies to Explore

General studies coursework is one way (of many) to explore your options for a major (and even a minor!). In some cases, majors may have specific general studies “supporting” course requirements which limit the ability to fully explore your options using just general studies requirements. Working with an Exploratory Advisor can help you with developing a strategy for using these requirements to explore your options in a way that is meaningful to you while keeping you on track to graduate within a reasonable time frame.

Check out the [General Studies website](https://www.msu.edu/academics/undergraduate/academicprograms/generalstudies) for a complete list of General Studies options. Be sure to consult with your advisor before registering for classes!

### Multicultural and Global Diversity Requirements++

The Global Diversity (GD) and Multicultural (MC) Graduation requirements can be satisfied through the general studies breadth requirements. Courses listed on the General Studies sheet with a (GD) or (MC) notation next to the course title will satisfy one of these two requirements in addition to the general studies category the class is listed under.

Check out the [General Studies website](https://www.msu.edu/academics/undergraduate/academicprograms/generalstudies) for a complete list of Global Diversity and Multicultural options.

### Exercise: Understanding Requirements

Using the University Catalog’s [Academic Program outlines](https://catalog.msu.edu/) and the general studies outline above, identify any specific general studies requirements that might be required or recommended for the majors you are considering. Record your findings using the strategic planning matrix on page 4.

**Things to think about:** Are there any commonalities? What are the major differences?
Integrating General Studies and Exploratory Courses
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When planning your schedule for this pathway you should consider taking a mix of general studies courses and exploratory courses (commonly referred to as gateway courses). Below is a list of recommended exploratory courses to consider. We normally recommend taking 3 general studies classes and 2 exploratory courses with a 15+ credit schedule, 1 exploratory course if taking a 12-credit schedule. Circle the courses that sound most appealing to you. Detailed course descriptions are available in the online University Catalog.

Recommended Exploratory Pathway Courses

- **General Studies Courses**
  - AAS 1010 Intro to Africana Studies
  - AAS 1130 Survey of African History
  - ANT 1310 Intro to Cultural Anthropology
  - ANT 2330 Cross-Cultural Communication
  - ARTE 2060 The Arts and Creative Thinking*
  - ARTH 1600 World Art I: Prior to 1400*
  - ARTH 1700 World Art II: 1400 to 1900*
  - CHI 1010 Elementary Chinese I
  - CHS 1000 Intro to Chicana/o Studies
  - CHS 2010 Survey of Chicana/o Literature*
  - COMM 1100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication
  - COMM 2400 Introduction to Rhetoric and Popular Culture
  - COMM 3000 Diversity and Communication in the U.S.
  - ENG 2460 Intro to Children’s Literature*
  - ENG 2500 Intro to Creative Writing*
  - ENG 2513 Disability Rhetorics*
  - ENG 2850 International Film
  - FRE 1010 Elementary French I
  - GER 1010 Elementary German I
  - GWS 2400 Women’s Folklore*
  - GWS 3260 Gender, Social Justice, and Personal Narrative*
  - HIS 1040 World History Since 1500
  - HIS 1210 American History to 1865
  - HIS 1220 American History Since 1865
  - HIS 1250 China and East Asia
  - HIS 1300 Introduction to Latin American History
  - ITA 1010 Elementary Italian I
  - JPS 1010 Elementary Japanese I
  - PSC 1010 American National Government
  - PSC 1020 Comparative Politics
  - PSC 1030 Multicultural Politics for Non-Majors
  - PSY 1001 Intro to Psychology
  - PSY 1800 Developmental Educational Psychology
  - SLHS 1500 Intro to Communication Sciences
  - SOC 1010 Introduction to Sociology
  - SPA 1010 Elementary Spanish I
  - THE 2210 Introduction to Theatre*
  - THE 2295 Comedy: In-Print and On-Stage

- **Gateway Courses - these are not general studies courses, but they are great exploratory options for programs in this pathway**
  - ANT 2500 Anthropology of Language
  - ANT 2700 Museum Studies
  - ART 1101 Studio Foundations: 2D
  - ART 1141 Studio Foundations: Drawing
  - ART 1505 The Visual Journal
  - COMM 2030 Intercultural Communication*
  - DANC 1210 Improvisation and Choreography
  - DANC 1120 African Dance and Drumming*
  - ECE 2100 Intro to Early Childhood Education
  - EDU 2111 Becoming an Elementary Teacher*
  - ENG 2000 Introduction to Textual Studies*
  - ENG 2010 Intro to Linguistics*
  - ENG 2010 Intro to Rhetoric and Composition*
  - ENG 2860 Intro to Film and Media Studies*
  - JST 1010 Journalism Fundamentals
  - JST 2200 The Speaking Voice in Performance*
  - MUS 1010 Essential Music Theory Skills
  - PSY 2001 Careers and Professional Development in Psychology*
  - SED 3600 Exceptional Learners in the Classroom
  - SLHS 1610 American Sign Language I
  - SLHS 2990 Intro to Health Communication*
  - THE 2201 The Speaking Voice in Performance*

* Has a required prerequisite class. Check with your Exploratory Advisor for guidance on these courses.

EXPLORE. ENGAGE. ELEVATE.