

# THE HABITS OF MIND EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Plymouth State University measures its excellence, not by the quality of students who enter its doors, but by the quality it adds to those who graduate. The University holds to this commitment by requiring every undergraduate student engage with learning experiences that help them to develop strong Habits of Mind. The Habits of Mind Experience (HoME) Program gives students a broad perspective on ideas, an awareness of diverse human experiences and cultures, and the opportunity to develop the skills, confidence, and ways of engaging with the world that will allow them to succeed both occupationally and personally, while making a difference in the spirit of *Ut Prosim*.

Habits of Mind are usual ways of thinking or ways of engaging with others. Based in part on work promoted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, Plymouth State has developed a curriculum that focuses its general education elements on four Habits of Mind that will equip students well for life and work after college. The curriculum helps students develop the dispositions and abilities necessary for academic success and lifelong learning, an understanding of the various ways scholars consider and comprehend human experience, an appreciation of the process by which different approaches to scholarship can be brought to bear on the same problem, and practice an action-oriented engagement with the world.

The Program's components cover a breadth of knowledge while emphasizing the relevance and utility of specific methods of inquiry and content to students' lives. They utilize the Integrated Cluster model of pedagogy, which emphasizes interdisciplinarity, opens students to constituencies beyond the traditional classroom, and utilizes project-based learning as a method of achieving instructional outcomes. Throughout each of the Program's components, students focus on four specific Habits of Mind.

## Four Habits of Mind

The HoME Program focuses on four Habits of Mind: Purposeful Communication, Problem Solving, Integrative Perspective, and Self-Regulated Learning.

**Purposeful Communication** is a Habit of Mind characterized by the construction of meaning through interactions with texts and people and the creation of new messages. "Text" refers broadly to any communicative message including, but not limited to, messages that are spoken or written, read or listened to, nonverbal, and/or delivered through any form of media (digital, social, artistic, print, etc.). Construction of meaning and creation of messages are influenced by individuals' prior experiences as well as cultural and historical contexts. Creation of messages involves the development and purposeful expression of ideas and is designed to increase knowledge, foster understanding, and/or promote change in others' attitudes, values, beliefs, or behaviors. To be effective, messages must engage the perspectives of others and foster dialog among individuals and the community.

**Problem Solving** is a Habit of Mind that involves an iterative process of identifying, explaining, and exploring problems, describing challenges, envisioning possible solutions and their implication, and make decisions about how to proceed based on all of these considerations. Problem solving encompasses a broad array of activities and approaches. Problems range widely in scale and scope—small to large, local to global, well-defined to ambiguous, simulated to real-world—and problem

solving may be undertaken individually or in collaboration with others. In all cases, engaging in problem solving requires the ability to think creatively, adapt and extend one's thinking, acknowledge different contexts and incorporate different perspectives, embrace flexibility, consider potential implication, determine courses of action, persist and adapt despite failure, and reflect on the results. While the types of problems encountered and the strategies used to grapple with problems vary across disciplines, the problem solving Habit of Mind is relevant to all disciplines.

**Integrated Perspective** is a Habit of Mind characterized by the recognition that individual beliefs, ideas, and values are influenced by personal experience as well as multiple contextual factors—cultural, historical, political, etc. All human beings are interconnected through their participation in natural and social systems. An integrated perspective recognizes that individual decisions impact the self, the community, and the environment. Students will acknowledge the limitations of singular points of view and recognize the benefits of engaging with and learning from others in order to integrate multiple perspectives for effective communication, problem-solving, and collaboration.

**Self-Regulated Learning** is a Habit of Mind that encompasses the desire to learn, the ability to set personal goals for learning, and the capacity to engage in a self-monitored learning process. Self-regulated learners demonstrate strong commitment to the process of learning and take responsibility for their own learning. They take intellectual risks, persist in the face of challenges, and learn from their mistakes. They are able to organize and reorganize information, interpret information in new ways, and generate their own ideas. Self-regulated learners demonstrate metacognitive awareness (an understanding of the factors that influence their own learning) and cultivate the skills and confidence they need in order to be effective learners.

These four Habits of Mind are introduced, practiced, and mastered through curricular components which begin in the first year and build progressively towards a culminating capstone course.

## Components of the HoME Program

There are several components to the University's HoME Program. Initially, students take three First-Year Experience courses. All three lay a foundation, but one serves as the cornerstone: IS 1115 Tackling a Wicked Problem. This introduces the four Habits of Mind through project-based learning. The Habits of Mind are practiced and refined through two types of classes: Directions and Connections. The Program concludes with a project-based class that bookends the journey begun in Tackling a Wicked Problem: an "In-Cap," or Integrated Capstone, IS 4220 Signature Project.

### Components: An Overview

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Year Experience</b>		
IS 1115	Tackling a Wicked Problem	4
EN 1400	Composition	4
MA 1500 (or higher)	Mathematics Foundations <sup>1</sup>	3-4
<b>Directions <sup>2</sup></b>		
CTDI	Creative Thought	4
PPDI	Past and Present	4
SIDI	Scientific Inquiry	4
SSDI	Self and Society	4

<b>Connections<sup>3</sup></b>		
DICO	Diversity	3-4
GACO	Global Awareness	3-4
WECO	Wellness	3-4
QRCO, TECO, WRCO	Major Connections <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Integrated Capstone (INCP)</b>		
IS 4220	Signature Project (INCO,INCP)	4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>40-44</b>

<sup>1</sup> HoME's Mathematics Foundations is a course in Math numbered 1500 or higher, or its Math equivalency; it may not be used also to satisfy a major's QRCO requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Directions may not count in a major and must total 16 credits, even if a major has a waiver of one Direction type.

<sup>3</sup> The three HoME Connections may be double counted with a major or minor.

<sup>4</sup> These Major Connections are three or four-credit experiences that add no credits to the HoME Program. They are created and maintained by majors that choose to denote them.

Taught by expert scholars in the various academic disciplines, all HoME courses are designed to excite students about learning and to give them breadth of knowledge and experience with different approaches to learning. Students take coursework in each of four Directions categories, unless one is waived by a major. Three HoME Connections courses help students connect their learning to some other aspect of their lives, including their major. The Integrated Capstone course is a culminating experience in which students from a variety of disciplines come together to demonstrate their development of the Habits of Mind while working on a collaborative project that has a real-world impact.

## Components: Descriptions

### First Year Experience

Plymouth State University places special emphasis on success in the first year. PSU is one of only 12 United States state institutions to hold the title of founding member of the Foundations of Excellence in the First College Year™. To achieve this honor, the University participated in a two-year study in order to develop a nationally recognized model based on a process of action: revision framed by aspiration and renewal. PSU continually improves the student experience by repeatedly refining its approach to the first-year, conducting assessments and paying special attention to the individual needs of students, student engagement, diversity, and the roles and purposes of education. Recent results of this approach have included expanding student choice: in themed Cluster-inspired Composition sections that connect writing to student activities outside the traditional classroom; in foundational mathematics sections specifically designed for majors such as those across the Humanities; and in selecting topically themed sections of Tackling a Wicked Problem, the course PSU developed as a Cluster-embracing reinvention of the traditional Freshman seminar.

Far from being merely introductory academic hurdles, the mastery of Plymouth's First Year Experience is a predictive barometer of students' ability to make the transition from high school-level thinking (characterized by the elementary skills of merely absorbing and regurgitating facts) to college-level thinking (characterized by the ability to take ownership over and become fully engaged in one's own learning). Only when students embrace and persevere in the Habits of Mind will they have made the transition from high school to college; only then

will they have taken the most important first steps toward becoming educated.

The First-Year Experience is comprised of three courses which connect students to life in an academic community and introduce them to the Habits of Mind in meaningful contexts. As the foundation of the General Education program, they begin to instill the hallmarks of a truly educated person in PSU students. All three (Tackling a Wicked Problem, Composition, and Mathematics Foundations) are to be taken in a student's initial two semesters.

### Tackling a Wicked Problem (4 credits)

All new students who transfer in fewer than 24 credits take IS 1115 Tackling a Wicked Problem. It is the HoME Program's cornerstone course, through which students begin to build the repertoire of intellectual skills needed for university-level work, utilizing all four Habits of Mind. These skills are not taught in isolation but rather in the context of the problem of the course, a problem that varies by section.

Each section of the course is focused on a wicked problem, a societal issue that is impossible to solve and typically results in the creation of new problems by those who attempt a solution. A few examples of sections that have been offered recently, include: human trafficking, homelessness, food insecurity, ocean plastics, and climate change. Through working on wicked problems, students are introduced to Plymouth State University's Integrated Cluster model of education by collaboratively creating class projects that reach beyond the walls of the classroom in some way, to make a difference.

### Composition (4 credits)

The Composition requirement is satisfied by the course Composition (EN 1400) or its equivalency. In Plymouth's Composition classes students learn to read comprehensively and effectively, in order to relate ideas and arguments to their writing and thinking. They are expected to summarize different kinds of texts, paraphrase the ideas of someone else, analyze others' arguments and positions, compare and contrast ideas, and generate their own thoughts and ideas following research and observation. Students are required to engage in library research and to write papers based on their research.

The course helps students become responsible writers who can take charge of their own writing process. Students learn how to draft, respond to feedback from peers and instructor, revise, and edit successful college prose. By the end of the course, they should be able to write essays that are unified by a central thesis, well-developed in carefully organized paragraphs with vivid details, and grammatically appropriate with effective sentence structure and correct mechanics. To these ends, student choose from a range of Composition sections that embrace Plymouth's Integrated Cluster pedagogy by allowing them to connect real-world interests and concerns to their academic journey, inside and outside the traditional classroom. Recent Composition sections have included: Pottery, Paddle-boarding, Skiing, Pets, and even the phenomenon of Taylor Swift.

### Mathematics Foundations (3-4 credits)

Through the Mathematics Foundations requirement, students become aware of the importance of mathematics and its application to fields as diverse as art, music, and science. It enables students to make connections between mathematics and their own lives and to explore the roles of mathematics in society, culture, and politics. It is satisfied by a mathematics course numbered 1500 or higher, such as Mathematics and the Humanities (MA 1500), or by a mathematics course that is its equivalent, including credit-by-exam as explained below.

Mathematics Foundations courses focus on problem solving using the language of mathematics and on developing students' ability to reason quantitatively in diverse contexts. Students learn to reduce complex problems to their fundamentals using algebra and geometry. Students may demonstrate proficiency in mathematics by recording under the credit-by-examination policy, credits for a satisfactory performance on an AP, CLEP, DSST, or IB examination (see Transferring Credits (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/university-policies-procedures/undergraduate-academic-policies/>)). Mathematics coursework for which equivalent AP, CLEP, DSST, or IB credit has been received will not be granted credit.

Transfer students may demonstrate proficiency in mathematics by recording mathematics transfer credits that are equivalent to Plymouth State University courses. In cases where there is no equivalent course, the transfer credits must be deemed to be at a level equivalent to Mathematics and the Humanities (MA 1500) or higher by the transfer and articulation specialist and the mathematics faculty. Mathematics course work at PSU for which equivalent transfer credit has been recorded will not be granted credit.

Note that the Mathematics Foundations requirement must be fulfilled by a different course than that used to fulfill a major's Quantitative Reasoning in the Disciplines element.

**Mathematics Placement Assessment.** The Department of Mathematics offers an online placement assessment. The goal of the placement assessment is to help students enroll in the math course most suited to their background. Students may take the assessment a total of two times. Students are encouraged to study before they take the assessment a second time. The placement level is primarily used to determine placement in the algebra/precalculus/calculus sequence, although not all students are required to take courses in this sequence. Students may also receive a recommendation to complete Elementary Algebra (MA 1200 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%201200>))) before taking any other required Mathematics Foundations course. The mathematics placement assessment is scored at four levels:

- **Level 0:** The mathematics faculty recommends students who score at this level complete Elementary Algebra (MA 1200 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%201200>))) prior to any other math courses. Students may not be prepared for success in their Mathematics Foundations course and should consult with their academic advisor and the mathematics faculty before enrolling. Students do not meet the prerequisites for Precalculus (MA 2130 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%202130>))) and must take College Algebra (MA 1800 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%201800>))) before taking PreCalculus.
- **Level 1:** Students are generally prepared for a variety of Mathematics Foundations courses, including Math and the Humanities (MA 1500), College Algebra (MA 1800), Statistical Literacy in Today's Society (MA 1900), Finite Mathematics (MA 2200), Finite Math with Statistics (MA 2210), or Statistics 1 (MA 2300). Students whose majors require Precalculus (MA 2130) and/or Calculus I (MA 2560) do not yet meet these prerequisites and must register for College Algebra (MA 1800).
- **Level 2:** Students meet the prerequisite for Precalculus (MA 2130 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%202130>))) and all other Mathematics Foundations courses mentioned in level 1.
- **Level 4:** Students meet the prerequisite for Calculus I (MA 2550 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%202550>))) and all other Mathematics Foundations courses mentioned in level 1.

The mathematics placement assessment is available online for all registered students through Canvas.

Note: Elementary Algebra (MA 1200 (<https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/search/?P=MA%201200>))) does not satisfy Mathematics Foundations or any General Education requirement.

## Directions

The Directions component of the General Education program introduces students to different ways of considering and understanding human experience, which they can apply as they seek meaning in their lives. Directions courses challenge students to see how different perspectives shape the ways in which people interpret ideas and experiences to construct meaning. They emphasize moving between the world of ideas and the "real world." And rather than introduce majors to a whole academic discipline, providing content and methodologies that would be required by more advance courses in a major, Directions explore a particular issue or topic of interest (especially one relevant to students' own lives) with an awareness that students cannot use Directions in a major. While Directions may represent different disciplinary approaches to learning, they are intended to further develop the Habits of Mind introduced in the First Year Experience.

Students are encouraged to complete Directions by the end of the second year, as they prepare to take more advanced coursework in their major. Directions courses range from 2-to-4 credits and students are expected to take 4 credits in each each of the four Directions categories; if a student's major has a waiver of one Direction area, the student may choose to take a second course in one of the other three Direction areas. Students must take 16 credits of Directions.

The four Directions are: Creative Thought, Past and Present, Scientific Inquiry, and Self and Society.

## Creative Thought (4 credits)

**People need to be creative in order to thrive in our complex and changing world.** People need to understand the creative processes that lead to the generation of ideas and to engage in new interpretations of existing ideas. Creative Thought courses encourage students to recognize beauty in its many manifestations and to become aware of formal elements of creative expression.

These courses also encourage students to view themselves as creative beings, to appreciate creativity in others, and to regard creativity as an essential component in all areas of human endeavor. In these courses, students develop and value perseverance and a tolerance for ambiguity. Students are challenged to appreciate aesthetic forms, to use their imaginations, and to develop the skills and attitudes that allow creativity to flourish: independence and non-conformity, the ability to organize and reorganize information, and the confidence to think in new ways.

Course	Title	Credits
ARDI 1250	Creativity in Visual Art	4
ARDI 1265	Creativity in Visual Art - Online	4
ARDI 1400	The Art of Sketching	3
ARDI 1405	Art of Sketching - Online	3
ARDI 2311	Table Manners: Functional Pottery	4
CMDI 1030	Creativity and the Digital World	4
CMDI 1105	Creating Games	4
CMDI 1300	The Art of Video Blogging	4
CMDI 2100	The Digital Imagination	3
CSDI 1200	Web Expressions	3

DNDI 2105	Movement for Community	4
ENDI 1402	Writing and the Creative Process	4
ENDI 2205	The Art of Film	4
ENDI 2235	Creating Arguments	4
ENDI 2400	The Manifesto: Changing Our World	4
GEDI 2400	Mapping Our World: Creating Realities	4
LIDI 2455	Creating Language	4
MUDI 1355	American Popular Music: History and Creation	4
PODI 1061	Politics and Art	4
PTDI 2200	The Art of Photography	3
PTDI 2450	Digital Photography	3
PYDI 2420	Creative Solving of Ethical Problems	4
THDI 1300	The Theatrical Experience	3

### Past and Present (4 credits)

**In order to comprehend the present and envision the future, we must understand the past.** Cultures and societies discern time and construct chronologies of significant events to explain the past, comprehend the present, and envision the future. By examining issues and events that are currently impacting students' lives, Past and Present courses explore how people interpret causes and effects within events.

These courses encourage students to realize that different times shape different views of the world. For students to realize that all fields of knowledge are subject to change, they need to study the changes that have taken place within those fields. They also need to understand the dialectic movement between the past and present: just as the past shapes the present, so does the present shape our understanding of the past.

Course	Title	Credits
BIDI 1400	Plagues and Peoples	3
BUDI 2600	Recent History of Economics: Gold Standard to Today	4
CJDI 2020	Cons, Frauds, and Scammers	4
CMDI 2025	Sex and Cinema in the 20th Century (and Beyond)	4
ENDI 1355	Twice-Told Tales	4
GEDI 1400	Globalization and Diversity	3
GEDI 1500	Globalization & Local Diversity	4
HIDI 1201	War in US History	4
HIDI 1212	The American West	4
HIDI 1213	Creating a Nation: America 1600-1877	4
HIDI 1214	Developing the Modern Nation: US History Since 1865	4
HIDI 1215	US Society in the Vietnam Era	4
HIDI 1330	Treating "Madness": Mental Illness and Therapy in History	4
HIDI 1340	Facing Beasts: Animals in the Middle Ages and Beyond	4
HIDI 1355	Medieval Me: Your Life in the Past	4
HIDI 1410	The Deep Roots of Black Lives Matter: Exploring African American History	4
HIDI 1420	Magic, Then and Now	4
HIDI 1455	Roots of Current Global Conflicts	4
HIDI 1610	(Re)Considering the Holocaust in a Polarized Society	4

LIDI 2505	The History of the English Language	4
MUDI 1005	Jazz Styles: Past and Present	4
MUDI 1310	Exploring Music	3
PODI 1045	Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	4
PODI 1056	Humanitarianism: Working in the Global Community	4
PYDI 1305	Religious Practices and Beliefs	4
SPDI 2260	Latino Culture in the US	4
SPDI 2270	Spanish Cinema	4
WSDI 2505	The F Word: Feminism in the United States	3
WSDI 2510	The F Word: Feminism in the United States	4

### Scientific Inquiry (4 credits)

**The methods of science are powerful tools with which we can attain a clearer understanding of the world.** In the modern world, science has real application to all people's lives. Scientific literacy helps people to make sense of the explosion of information they encounter every day. Scientific Inquiry courses use scientific methodologies to examine relationships between events in the natural world and make students aware that science occurs in a social, cultural, political, and ethical context.

Use of scientific methods in laboratory or field settings is an integral part of these courses. As students plan investigations, collect, analyze, and interpret data, and develop their ability to propose answers, offer explanations, and make predictions, they come to see both the power and the limitations of science. Students investigate the distinctions between rational thinking and anecdotal argumentation and develop an understanding that answers are never final, but always subject to revision.

Course	Title	Credits
ANDI 1205	Artifacts, Customs & Fossils: Studying Humans through Anthropological Perspectives	4
ANDI 2205	The Science of Archaeology	4
BIDI 1090	Curiosity and the Nature of New Hampshire	4
BIDI 1240	Biology of the Northern Woods	4
BIDI 2010	Human Biology I	4
CHDI 1600	The Science of Crime-Solving	4
CJDI 1500	Profiling Criminal Behavior	4
CMDI 2200	The Science of Animation Programming	4
CSDI 2200	Exploring Innovation and Engineering	3
CSDI 2930	Robotics For Everybody	4
ESDI 1100	Resource Management - an Earth Systems Science (ESS) Approach	4
ESDI 2500	Environmental Science	4
ESDI 2610	Earth Systems Science: The Hazardous Earth	4
GEDI 1200	Environmental Geography	3
LIDI 2850	Forensic Linguistics: Using Language to Solve Crimes	4
LIDI 2955	Language Acquisition	4
MTDI 1200	Weather and Climate	3
MTDI 1250	Weather and Climate	4
MTDI 1500	Severe and Hazardous Weather	3
PHDI 2200	Introductory Astronomy	4
PSDI 2035	Mind, Brain, and Evolution	4



PSDI 2195	Quack Remedies, False Prophets, and Unwarranted Claims	4
PYDI 2715	Science or Pseudo-Science	4

### Self and Society (4 credits)

**A rich and productive life encompasses an understanding of one's self and one's relationship to the world.** An educated person must grapple with a question that has interested human beings for centuries: the relationship between self and society. To understand one's self, one must understand and acknowledge the impact of society on the development of identity and the formation of beliefs. The needs of the individual sometimes conflict with the needs of society. Cultures differ in the relative value they give to the individual and to the group.

Using issues that impact on students' lives, Self and Society courses explore questions of these sorts. They encourage students to inquire into multiple dimensions of self including the social, physical, emotional, and cognitive, and to investigate the interactions between individuals and the spatial, temporal, political, economic, and technological aspects of the social environment.

Course	Title	Credits
AHDI 2000	Fashion Statements	4
ARDI 1300	Myths, Masks, and Identity	3
BIDI 1500	Insects and Society	3
BIDI 2050	Plants and Society	3
BUDI 2350	Personal Financial Planning	4
BUDI 2400	Personal Financial Planning	4
BUDI 2840	Career Exploration	4
CJDI 1030	The Individual and the Law	4
CMDI 2015	"Deviants" in Film and Society	4
CSDI 1500	Computers: Fact, Fiction, Fantasy, and Film	3
ENDI 1320	Murder, Mayhem, and Madness: Reflections of the Self and Society in Literature	4
ENDI 1440	Social Justice and American Literature	4
ENDI 1455	The Outsider	4
ENDI 1555	Wilderness Literature	4
ENDI 2105	The Story	4
HIDI 1306	Childhood in American History	4
HIDI 1320	Cultural Contact in World History	4
HIDI 1361	Beyond Mockingbird: Reading Race, Class, & Identity in 20th-Century US History	4
HIDI 1430	Making Sense of "Madness." Diagnoses and Data	4
ISDI 2025	Global Cinema	4
ISDI 2100	Issues in Sustainability	3
ISDI 2200	Play and Society	4
LIDI 2025	Queer Language, Culture, and Identity	4
LIDI 2750	Language & Identity	4
MUDI 2050	Your Unique Voice	4
PODI 1051	Global Problems, Power and Politics	4
PODI 1110	Conspiracies v.s. Conspiracy Theories	4
PODI 1600	Being an American	4
PYDI 1030	Thinking for Yourself	3
PYDI 1135	Ethics in Everyday Lives	4
SODI 2205	Exploring Social Life	4

SPDI 2200	Latin American Literature in English Translation	3
SPDI 2250	The Latino Boom: A Survey of US-Latino Literature	3

### Connections

The Connections component allows the HoME Program to further develop the practice of the Habits of Mind at a more advanced level than Directions or within specific academic contexts. They help students develop into educated people and can tie into the curriculum of majors and minors. Typically, they are taken after a student's initial year, unless they are connected to a major, minor, or foreign language.

Majors have three Connections which are not in the HoME Program because they address discipline-specific skills outside of the Habits of Mind construct. Often these involve prerequisites that are outside the First-Year Experience and Directions components of the HoME Program. The three are noted in catalog course descriptions as, respectively: WRCO (Writing in the Discipline Connection), QRCO (Quantitative Reasoning in the Discipline Connection), and TECO (Technology in the Discipline Connection.) Because these are created and maintained by the majors that choose to denote them as such, they add no credit to the HoME Program requirements.

There are three HoME Connection courses: the Diversity Connection (DICO), the Global Awareness Connection (GACO), and the Wellness Connection (WECO).

### HoME Connection: Diversity<sup>5</sup> (3-4 credits)

Becoming educated involves developing awareness of, sensitivity to, and appreciation for viewpoints other than those to which we have been acculturated. Through such development comes increased respect for those different from oneself. Understanding the diversity of US society ultimately helps students thrive as individuals, both on campus and after they graduate.

Students take a three or four-credit Diversity (DICO) course (either within the major or not) designed to broaden and deepen awareness and appreciation of differences and commonalities of sub-cultural groups in the US society defined by differences in race, ethnicity, ability, social class, religion, politics, gender, or sexual orientation. International courses do not address diversity in US society so DICO credit is omitted from international courses. Diversity courses expose students to the life stories and the voices of members of different groups in the US, and by exploring issues of equity, opportunity, and justice in US society.

Course	Title	Credits
AE 2660	Planning and Pedagogy for a Diverse World	4
AH 3735	Gender, Representation, and the Visual Arts	4
BI 3240	Conservation	3
BUS 1200	Business Law and Ethics	4
CJ 3075	Race, Class, Crime and Justice	4
CJ 3157	Society, Ethics, and the Law	4
CJ 3515	Women and Crime	4
CM 3006	Analyzing Screen Media	4
CN 1026	Fundamentals of Chinese II	4
CS 4520	CyberEthics	3
ED 3000	Identity in a Diverse Society	4
EN 2440	Rethinking Early American Literature	4
EN 2460	Rethinking Modern American Literature	4
ENDI 1440	Social Justice and American Literature	4

ESP 3800	Food Systems: Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts of Modern Agriculture	4
FR 1011	French Language and Culture Studies I	4
FR 1012	French Language and Culture Studies II	4
FR 2023	French Language and Culture Studies III	4
FR 2024	French Language and Culture Studies IV	4
FR 4815	The Diversity of Franco Communities in the United States	3
HI 3145	Antebellum America, 1815-1860	4
HI 3351	Women, Gender, and Sexuality in American History	4
HI 3359	Law and Society in US History	4
HI 3526	The Great Depression in Film, Print, and On Stage: An Interdisciplinary History	4
HI 3535	Home Front, USA: The WWII Era in the United States	4
HI 3571	Interrogating US History	4
IS 4360	Cultural Diversity and American Society	3
LIDI 2025	Queer Language, Culture, and Identity	4
LIDI 2750	Language & Identity	4
MGM 3450	Organizational Behavior & Team Development	4
MU 3250	Global Jazz	3
MU 3460	Music In Context I - Music and Identity in the Americas	3
NR 3020	Introduction to Patient-Centered Care	3
PE 3610	Adapted Physical Education	3
PO 2025	Public Administration	4
PS 3200	Psychology of Women	3
PY 3157	Society, Ethics, and the Law	4
PY 3330	Business Ethics	3
PY 3370	Ethics and Communication	3
PY 3725	Lizzie Borden Took an Axe	4
SL 1953	American Sign Language 1	4
SL 1954	American Sign Language 2	4
SL 2950	American Sign Language I	3
SL 2960	American Sign Language II	3
SO 2225	Foundations of Sociology	4
SO 3185	Sociology of Deviance	4
SO 3375	Sociology of Race and Ethnicity	4
SP 1011	Spanish Language and Culture Studies I	4
SP 1012	Spanish Language and Culture Studies II	4
SP 1013	Conversational Spanish I	4
SU 3112	Social Science Perspectives on Sustainability	4
SW 3430	Diversity and Oppression	3
TE 3305	Foundations of Multilingual Multicultural Studies	4
TH 3430	American Theatre	4
TMP 3050	Cultural and Heritage Tourism	4

### HoME Connection: Global Awareness<sup>5</sup> (3-4 credits)

Educated people are aware that human beings are interdependent members of a world community, that there are both similarities and differences in the societies and cultures of the world, and that the manners in which people live their lives need not be exactly alike.

Students take a three or four-credit Global Awareness (GACO) course (either within the major or not) designed to expose them to the important

societal issues facing the world and to encourage them to develop the ability to appreciate and think about issues from different points of view. Global Awareness courses focus on the forces that have shaped peoples, cultures, nations, and regions of the world. They increase students' understanding of each person's position, participation, obligations, and responsibilities within the world community.

Course	Title	Credits
AH 1150	Art History Foundations: Prehistory to 1400	4
AH 3000	Contemporary Art Since 1940	4
AHS 3305	Epidemiology and Evidence Based Medicine	4
AN 2100	Foundations of Anthropology	4
AN 3005	Great Archaeological Discoveries	4
AN 3120	Anthropology of Migration	4
AN 3405	Anthropology of Sub-Saharan Africa	4
BI 3240	Conservation	3
BUS 1400	Principles of Economics	4
CJ 3515	Women and Crime	4
CM 3485	Global Perspectives in the Media	4
CN 1015	Fundamentals of Chinese I	3
CN 1016	Fundamentals of Chinese I	4
EN 3515	Currents in Global Literature	4
ESP 3325	Climate, Risk, and Adaptation	3
ESP 3326	Climate, Risk, and Adaptation	3
ESP 3900	Oceanography	3
FR 1011	French Language and Culture Studies I	4
FR 1012	French Language and Culture Studies II	4
FR 2023	French Language and Culture Studies III	4
FR 2024	French Language and Culture Studies IV	4
FR 3035	French Popular Culture and Technology	4
HI 2006	Ancient and Medieval Civilizations	4
HI 2011	Modern World History, 1500 to Present	4
HI 3210	History of China	4
HI 3220	Sex, Slavery, and Empire in Global History	4
HI 3230	Topics in European History	4
HI 3465	The British Empire in World History	4
HI 3485	The French Revolution and Napoleonic Era, 1789-1815	4
HI 3590	Religious Conflict in Early Modern Europe	4
HI 3775	Islamic Empires	4
HI 3825	Topics in World History	4
MT 2000	Fundamentals of Meteorology and Climatology	3
MU 3250	Global Jazz	3
MU 3470	Music In Context II - Philosophy and Music	3
NR 4020	Global Health and Population-Based Health Care	3
PO 1035	World Politics	4
PO 3005	Politics and Conflict in the Middle East	4
PO 3085	Model United Nations	4
PO 3255	Model United Nations	4
PO 3305	Latin American Politics	4
PO 3505	Politics and Conflict in the Middle East	4
PY 1010	Ultimate Questions	3
PY 3345	Military Ethics	3
PY 3560	Philosophical Perspectives on War and Peace	3

PY 3825	Understanding Existentialism	4
SP 1011	Spanish Language and Culture Studies I	4
SP 1012	Spanish Language and Culture Studies II	4
SP 1013	Conversational Spanish I	4
SP 1014	Conversational Spanish II	4
SP 2025	Intermediate Spanish	4
SP 3030	Advanced Spanish	3
SP 3500	Advanced Spanish	4
SU 3112	Social Science Perspectives on Sustainability	4
SU 3115	Economic and Ecological Sustainability	4
SW 3300	Mental Health and Society	3
SW 3500	Health and Society	3
TMP 2010	Introduction to Travel and Tourism	4

### HoME Connection: Wellness<sup>5</sup> (3-4 credits)

To be fully educated, people need respect for and understanding of how health, physical activity, and wellness contribute to mental acuity and emotional well-being. Awareness of and attention to the physical can enhance the cognitive and emotional aspects of life.

Students take a three or four-credit Wellness (WECO) course (either within the major or not) designed to increase their understanding of the connection between mind and body.

These courses expose students to the theory and practice of life-span wellness and fitness activity, and to the knowledge, attitudes, habits, and skills needed to live well. Their goal is to help students cultivate life skills, which will promote mental, physical, and emotional well-being.

Course	Title	Credits
AN 3510	Illness, Wellness, and Healing	4
AR 3221	Multi-Media: Ceramic Concepts	4
BI 2270	Integrative Biology	4
BIDI 2010	Human Biology I	4
BU 3720	Career Development	3
BUDI 2400	Personal Financial Planning	4
CJ 3370	Wellness for Criminal Justice	4
CM 3515	Communication, Media, and Wellness	4
DN 3071	Moving Intelligence and Body Design	4
ED 2400	Child and Youth Development in Context	4
EN 1555	Adolescent Development and Teaching Humanities	3
ER 2155	Play and Learning in Early Childhood	4
ESP 3550	Environment and Health	3
ESP 3700	Medical Geology	4
ESP 3800	Food Systems: Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts of Modern Agriculture	4
HE 2900	Disease, Safety, and Environment	3
HE 3110	Eating Disorders and Disordered Eating	3
HE 3200	Stress Management	3
HE 3210	Mental Health Issues	3
HE 3670	CPR/AED & First Aid; Basic and Instructor Training	3
HE 3700	Drug Behavior	3
HE 3730	Sex and Family Living	3
HE 4100	Women's Health Issues	3
HI 3355	Health and Illness in American History	4

MUDI 2050	Your Unique Voice	4
NR 3070	Health and Wellness of Older Adults	3
PE 2860	Adventure Programming for Physical Educators	3
PE 2880	Adventures in Wellness	3
PEHE 2000	Wellness Choices for Healthy Living	3
PY 3310	Environmental Ethics	3
PY 3325	Medical Ethics	3
PY 3365	Ethics and Psychology	4
SO 3510	Illness, Wellness, and Healing	4
SO 3605	Sustainability in Practice	4
SSE 1550	Adolescent Development and Teaching Humanities	3
SW 2510	Substance Use Disorders	4
SW 3050	Perspectives on Aging	3
SW 3500	Health and Society	3
TH 2820	Acting I	3
TMP 2303	Stay Work Play : Wellness in Hospitality Management	4

### Major Connection: Quantitative Reasoning in the Disciplines<sup>6</sup> (3-4 credits within the major)

Mathematics finds application in all fields of scholarship. All disciplines make use of quantitative reasoning in some way and to some extent.

Students take a three or four-credit Quantitative Reasoning (QRCO) course if it is specified as required for their major. This course may be taught within the major discipline or not. It might teach quantitative techniques used as primary or secondary tools within the discipline, or might be a course in which students of less quantitative disciplines come to deepen their appreciation of the relevance of quantitative reasoning to us all.

Note that any major's Quantitative Reasoning in the Disciplines requirement must be fulfilled by a student taking a course that is not used to fulfill HoME's Mathematics Foundations requirement.

Course	Title	Credits
ACC 4100	Accounting Info Systems and Analytics	4
AG 3800	Publication Design	4
AHS 3305	Epidemiology and Evidence Based Medicine	4
AR 3060	Multi-Media: Design for the Body	4
AR 3160	Multi-Media: Objects and Design	4
BI 4050	Ecology	4
BU 2240	Business Statistics	3
CH 2335	General Chemistry I	4
CJ 3260	Data Analysis for Criminal Justice	4
CM 4655	Communication Research Methods	4
DAT 3000	Intro to Data Analytics	4
EN 1600	Studies in English	4
FIN 3100	Financial Analytics	4
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	4
HI 2223	Methods, Theories, and Careers in History	4
HW 3705	Social Statistics	4
MA 1500	Mathematics and the Humanities	3
MA 1900	Statistical Literacy in Today's Society	3

MA 2120	Mathematics for Grades 4-6 Educators	4
MA 2130	Precalculus	4
MA 2210	Finite Math with Business Statistics	4
MA 2300	Statistics I	3
MA 2550	Calculus I	4
MA 2560	Calculus II	4
MGM 3190	Business Operations Analytics	4
MKT 3120	Marketing Research and Consumer Insights	4
NR 4060	Research Process and Evidence-Based Practice	3
PE 3565	Measurement and Assessment in Physical Education	3
PS 3115	Research Methods and Statistics I	4
PY 2310	Elements of Logic	3
SS 3705	Social Statistics	4
SU 3115	Economic and Ecological Sustainability	4
SW 3705	Social Statistics	4
TH 2500	Stagecraft Fundamentals	3

#### Major Connection: Technology in the Disciplines<sup>6</sup> (3-4 credits within the major)

In the modern world, technology has application to every academic discipline, and educated people must have an understanding of technology that will allow them to adapt to rapid technological change.

Students take a three or four-credit Technology in the Disciplines (TECO) course if it is specified as required for the major. This course may be taught within the major discipline or not. The course will help students examine the role of technology within their own discipline and within a larger societal and cultural context. The TECO course will provide students with hands-on experience using current technologies; with a broad understanding of the concepts underlying current technology; with an understanding of the potential ethical issues involved with the use of technology; and with an understanding of forces, based in the needs and values of our culture, that drive technological innovation.

Course	Title	Credits
ACC 4100	Accounting Info Systems and Analytics	4
AG 2100	Design Software Basics	4
AN 4415	Methods of Social Research	4
AP 3101	Immersion Wilderness Expedition	4
AR 1080	Art Foundations: Digital and New Media	4
BI 1110	Biological Science I	4
BUS 1300	Digital Information Technologies	4
CD 1000	Children and Youth in Schools and Community	3
CH 3550	Instrumental Analysis	4
CJ 3260	Data Analysis for Criminal Justice	4
CJ 3450	Technology in criminal justice	4
CM 2000	Studies in Communication and Media	4
CM 2775	Media and Cultural Studies	4
CM 3095	Technical Communication	4
CM 3675	Journalism in the Digital Age	4
CS 2010	Computing Fundamentals	3
DAT 3000	Intro to Data Analytics	4
ED 2800	Inclusive Education and Technology	4

ED 3350	Classroom Planning, Management, and Organization for Middle School and Secondary Educators	3
EN 2440	Rethinking Early American Literature	4
EN 2490	Rethinking Modern British Literature, 1660-1945	4
ESP 3335	Environmental Geology	4
FIN 3100	Financial Analytics	4
FR 3035	French Popular Culture and Technology	4
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	4
HE 3220	Applied Nutrition for Healthy Living	3
HI 3571	Interrogating US History	4
HI 4455	History Capstone Seminar	4
IP 4500	Interdisciplinary Studies Senior Seminar	4
MA 3355	Introduction to Mathematical Modeling	4
ME 3500	Technology for Music Educators	3
MT 4280	Synoptic Meteorology	4
MT 4405	Numerical Weather Prediction	3
MU 2105	Introduction to Music Technology	4
MU 3240	Technology in Music Performance	4
NR 4600	Leadership, Collaboration & Quality Health Care Systems	3
PBH 2200	Assessment and Communication in Public Health	4
PE 2550	Foundations of Physical Education	3
PO 3065	Political Analysis and Policy	4
PO 3125	Political Parties, Elections, and Interest Groups	4
PS 3115	Research Methods and Statistics I	4
PTDI 2450	Digital Photography	3
PY 3380	Humans and Humanoids: Ethics in Technology	3
PY 3610	Philosophy of Technology	3
SO 4415	Methods of Social Research	4
SP 3030	Advanced Spanish	3
SW 4020	Social Work Research Methods	3
TH 2100	Technology for Theatre Professionals	3

#### Major Connection: Writing in the Disciplines<sup>6</sup> (3-4 credits within the major)

Students take a three or four-credit Writing in the Disciplines (WRCO) course if it is required by the major. The WRCO must be a course in addition to HoME's Composition requirement. A WRCO designated by a major contains significant writing experiences appropriate to the major's discipline or disciplines. These experiences must include Writing Across the Curriculum activities that facilitate student learning and help students become better writers. At a minimum these activities demonstrate three specific aspects:

1. Students in the course do *substantial* writing that enhances learning and demonstrates knowledge of the subject or the discipline. Writing assignments should be an integral part of the course and account for a significant part (approximately 50 percent or more) of the final grade.
2. The course demonstrates an approach to writing as a process where students have the opportunity to submit and receive feedback on multiple drafts of major assignments.
3. Students have the opportunity to write for formal and informal, graded and ungraded occasions throughout the course with an emphasis on the use of writing as a mode of learning.



Course	Title	Credits
AG 3450	History of Graphic Design	4
AH 3000	Contemporary Art Since 1940	4
AHS 3305	Epidemiology and Evidence Based Medicine	4
AP 3320	Adventure Education Philosophy and Theory	3
BI 4050	Ecology	4
BI 4150	Developmental Biology	4
BI 4170	Ecology and Development	4
BI 4770	Animal Physiology	4
BI 4780	Neurobiology	4
BUS 2300	Business Writing and Presenting	4
CH 3410	Physical Chemistry: Thermodynamics and Kinetics	4
CH 3550	Instrumental Analysis	4
CJ 3225	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	4
CJ 3450	Technology in criminal justice	4
CJ 4805	Criminal Justice Seminar	4
CM 3095	Technical Communication	4
CM 3645	Communication Theory	4
CM 3675	Journalism in the Digital Age	4
CS 4520	CyberEthics	3
ED 2600	Learning and Development	4
EN 1600	Studies in English	4
ESP 2305	Foundations of Environmental Policy	4
ESP 4550	Environmental Science and Policy Seminar	4
EX 4770	Exercise Physiology for Special Populations	3
EX 4840	Research Methods in Exercise Science	3
FR 3135	Advanced French Composition	4
HI 2223	Methods, Theories, and Careers in History	4
IP 4500	Interdisciplinary Studies Senior Seminar	4
MA 2700	Introduction to Mathematical Proof Writing	3
MA 4140	Abstract Algebra	3
MT 4725	Meteorological Remote Sensing	3
MU 3320	History and Literature of Music II	3
MU 3470	Music In Context II - Philosophy and Music	3
NR 4060	Research Process and Evidence-Based Practice	3
PBH 3400	Program Planning for Public Health	4
PE 3565	Measurement and Assessment in Physical Education	3
PO 3060	Political Analysis and Policy	4
PO 3065	Political Analysis and Policy	4
PO 3305	Latin American Politics	4
PS 3125	Research Methods and Statistics II	4
SP 3220	Advanced Spanish Composition	3
SU 3333	Environmental Humanities	4
SW 4550	Social Work Integrative Seminar	3
TH 3430	American Theatre	4
TMP 3050	Cultural and Heritage Tourism	4
TMP 4010	Tourism Development	4

<sup>5</sup> These HoME Connection courses may be double counted with a major or minor.

<sup>6</sup> These courses, when taken as a Major Connection (QRCO, TECO, or WRCO), add no credits to the HoME Program.

## Integrated Capstone - The "In-Cap" (INCP) (4 credits)

The Integrated Capstone (INCP) component of the General Education program provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate their development of the Habits of Mind through a signature project. It is the capstone to the Program and, as such, is separate from any capstone experience in the major. Because it belongs to no single major, it brings together students from different disciplines to work on interdisciplinary, integrated projects that make a difference outside of the classroom.

The INCP is satisfied by the course IS 4220 Signature Project. Each section has a topic assigned to it, allowing students to choose the types of issue or problem their signature project might address. Some recent INCP classes have been titled: Advocating for Play, Rural Storytelling, Responding to Climate Change, Balancing Life & Career, Corporate Social Responsibility, Fashion Futures, Public Lands, and What is Art For?

In IS 4220 Signature Project, students use disciplinary expertise from their major and their mastery of the Habits of Mind, to collaborate on articulating, developing, planning, and implementing a signature project that addresses a significant problem, issue, or question. **A signature project:**

- **Is student-driven:** While faculty, staff, and community partners provide guidance and coaching, **student agency and independence move the project forward.**
- **Is completed collaboratively:** The project is large and complex enough that it requires input and work from more than one person to be successful.
- **Is transdisciplinary:** The project integrates knowledge from multiple disciplines and sources to create something new that could not be created without all of them.
- **Reaches beyond the walls of the classroom:** The work of the project touches the world outside the classroom in some way.
- **Has an external audience for project results:** The results of the project are presented to someone who is outside of the class.
- **Is completed ethically and respectfully:** Work on the project engages internal/external audiences and/or partners with mutual benefit.
- **Requires metacognitive reflection:** Students reflect on what and how they learn and how their learned knowledge, skills, and dispositions might be transferable to other contexts.

## Transfer of General Education Courses

A course, or courses, must fulfill the transfer criteria established by Plymouth State University. When discrepancies occur, the transfer and articulation specialist shall consult with the department chair for clarification on details of course description or the amount of credit to be honored. In cases where a clear decision is not apparent, or where students make a challenge of a decision, it shall become the responsibility of the academic affairs office to make a decision.

Courses that are transferred into Plymouth State University receive a HoME or general education designation in one of the following ways:

- The appropriate department declares the course to be equivalent to a PSU course that carries the General Education designation.

- The transfer and articulation specialist assigns the designation as part of the initial evaluation of transfer credit or as part of the review of the Transfer Credit Approval form.
- The academic affairs office approves a Student Request for such designation (this option provides a mechanism of appeal of the first two).

## **Writing Across the Curriculum**

Plymouth State University believes in Writing Across the Curriculum, activities that engage students in the process of writing in many places throughout the curriculum. As students write to learn, they learn to write.