

The purpose of General Education at Thomas University is to develop literate, creative, and socially responsible citizens capable of exercising independent critical reasoning. Students at Thomas University are required to complete specific groups of courses from a variety of fields to ensure exposure to different ideas and ways of thinking. The General Education curriculum must be completed during the freshman and sophomore years and include courses designated in the categories of Core Skills, Cultural Foundations, Creativity, and Inquiry as set forth below. Because many of these lower numbered courses must be completed before other courses can be taken, students are advised to complete the General Education courses as early as possible.

<b>General Education Categories</b>	<b>Category Description</b>
<b>Core Skills</b> Sub-categories: Mathematics English Speech University Studies	The courses in this category are intended to develop and refine students' quantitative and communicative skills, as well as their critical and analytical reasoning abilities. Competency in these areas establishes a foundation for lifelong learning and promotes success across disciplines, as well as in meeting the outcomes of all Thomas University programs of study.
<b>Cultural Foundations</b> Sub-categories: Western History Studies of Cultures & Languages	The purpose of the Cultural Foundations category is to prepare students to be informed citizens in a culturally diverse world. Students will develop foundations of culturally literacy and be capable of engaging in appropriate and effective intercultural communication and observation.
<b>Creativity</b> Sub-categories: Creative Comprehension Creative Expression	The goals of this category are to enhance understanding of and appreciation for creative expression in all its forms.
<b>Inquiry</b> Sub-categories: Social, Behavioral, and Philosophical Natural Scientific	The courses in this category are designed to help students develop analytic and reasoning skills that apply to a broad range of human experience, both within and outside of the academic environment. These courses challenge students to reflect on and to critically examine their perspectives, beliefs, and values, and introduce them to concepts, theories, and terminology of different disciplines.

**General Education Learning Outcomes****Aligned General Education Category****Aligned ETS Proficiency Profile Sub-Scale**

Upon completion of the General Education curriculum, students will demonstrate skill in writing and Mathematics appropriate to the level of a college Sophomore as measured by a nationally normed assessment of such skills.

**Core Skills****Mathematics  
Writing**

Upon completion of the General Education curriculum, students will demonstrate reasoning skills in the Social Sciences appropriate to the level of a college Sophomore as measured by a nationally normed assessment of such skills.

**Cultural Foundations  
Inquiry****Social Sciences**

Upon completion of the General Education curriculum, students will demonstrate reasoning skills in the arts and humanities appropriate to the level of a college Sophomore as measured by a nationally normed assessment of such skills.

**Creativity****Humanities**

Upon completion of the General Education curriculum, students will demonstrate reasoning skills in the Natural Sciences appropriate to the level of a college Sophomore as measured by a nationally normed assessment of such skills.

**Inquiry****Social Sciences  
Natural Sciences**

Upon completion of the General Education curriculum, students will demonstrate critical thinking skills appropriate to the level of a college Sophomore as measured by a nationally normed assessment of such skills.

**Core Skills  
Cultural Foundations  
Inquiry  
Creativity****Critical Thinking**

<b>ETS Proficiency Profile Scales</b>	<b>Baseline (First Semester Freshman) Mean Scaled Score</b>	<b>Spring 2020 Sophomore Mean Scaled Score</b>	<b>Change over time</b>	<b>National 50th Percentile</b>	<b>National 75th Percentile</b>
<b>Total Score</b>	420.16	427.67	+7.51	427	434
<b>Critical Thinking</b>	105.93	106.9	+0.97	106	109
<b>Reading</b>	109.1	112.4	+3.3	107	118
<b>Writing</b>	107.93	110.9	+2.97	111	114
<b>Mathematics</b>	108.75	110.47	+1.72	110	113
<b>Humanities</b>	109.33	112.73	+3.4	112	117
<b>Social Sciences</b>	107.05	108.87	+1.82	107	112
<b>Natural Sciences</b>	108.36	110.53	+2.17	111	115