

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR BOptom STUDENTS

All students enrolled at UNSW must complete 12 units of credit of approved General Education (GE). The only exception to this is for students who are enrolled in a combined degree or have been granted transfer of credit for GE.

It is advisable to complete all GE units before entering Stage 4 of the BOptom. This is because it is difficult to find a suitably timetabled GE course that will fit in with the Stage 4 timetable. GE courses are available during session 1 and 2 as well as summer and winter session.

Further information regarding GE, including the objectives may be found in the UNSW Undergraduate Handbook. An index of GE courses can be found under the Virtual Handbook at <http://www.unsw.edu.au/handbook/brGeneral.jsp>

Each Faculty has its own rules for GE. For the Faculty of Science, these are summarised below. A breach of the rules governing GE will delay your graduation and optometric registration, so it is extremely important that you are familiar with the rules and strictly adhere to them. If you are in doubt as to what courses you may count towards your GE requirement, you should consult the School Office.

You must not enrol in GE courses that clash with any of the core timetabled BOptom courses.

- No more than 6 units of credit of GE may be taken from any one Faculty.
- A maximum of 6 units of credit of “mainstream” courses from another Faculty may be substituted for 2 x 3 units of credit of GE but only with prior approval from the Associate Dean – Student Affairs. For example, you may take one of the language courses offered by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, such as KORE1000. This means the remaining 6 units of credit of GE cannot be from the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (i.e. GENT####). You must have permission for this before enrolling.
- You may do a maximum of 3 units of credit of GE from your “home” Faculty (i.e. GENS####). However, if any exemptions from GE are granted (e.g. because of courses completed at another institution) such that a student is left to do 9 units of credit (or less) of GE at UNSW, that student will not be permitted to enrol in ANY GE from his/her “home” Faculty.

GE courses that are surplus to program requirements (12 units of credit) will attract a voluntary course fee.

GE for the Faculty of Science is overseen by the Science Student Office (SSO). In some cases, permission/advice may need to be sought from the SSO.