

# General Education Requirements (GERs) for Baccalaureate Degrees

## Tier 1: Basic College-Level Skills

The UAA GERs begin with basic college-level skills enhancement in oral communication, quantitative, and written communication skills:

- Courses in oral and written communication develop intellectual and practical skills, building critical reading, thinking, and communication competencies (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) necessary to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and formats needed for personal and professional success.
- Quantitative courses develop abilities to reason mathematically and analyze quantitative and qualitative data to reach sound conclusions for success in undergraduate study and professional life.
- Baccalaureate students are required to complete the 12 credits of basic college-level skills (oral, written and quantitative) before completing 60 total degree applicable credits. Students may select approved basic college-level skills, which may also fulfill requirements in their intended major. Faculty in English, communications and mathematics provide placement criteria (which may require the completion of preparatory coursework).

Tier 1 GERs require appropriate placement scores for course registration. Refer to the Course Placement (<https://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/academicpoliciesprocesses/academicstandardsregulations/courseplacement/>) section of this catalog for placement score requirements.

| Category                     | Credits   |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Oral Communication Skills    | 3         |
| Quantitative Skills          | 3         |
| Written Communication Skills | 6         |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>12</b> |

## Oral Communication Skills

Oral communication skills courses increase the abilities of students to interact appropriately and effectively in a variety of contexts, including interpersonal, small group and public speaking settings.

- Students develop both their message creation and message interpretation skills in order to be more successful communicators.
- Students develop an awareness of the role of communication in a variety of human relationships—personal and professional.
- Students develop and implement effective and appropriate communication skills, including the ability to develop, organize, present and critically evaluate messages.

- Students analyze audiences and adapt to a variety of in-person communication settings.

Courses completed at UAA must be selected from the following Oral Communication courses:

| Code  | Title                              | Credits |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Complete 3 credits of the following:</b> |                                    |         |
| COMM A111                                   | Fundamentals of Oral Communication | 3       |
| COMM A235                                   | Small Group Communication          | 3       |
| COMM A237                                   | Interpersonal Communication        | 3       |
| COMM A241                                   | Public Speaking                    | 3       |

## Quantitative Skills

Quantitative skills courses increase mathematical abilities.

- Students become more adept and competent producers and wiser consumers of the mathematical, statistical and computational analyses which dominate 21st-century decision-making.
- Students develop their algebraic, analytic and numeric skills; use them to solve applied problems; and correctly explain their mathematical reasoning.

Courses completed at UAA must be selected from the following Quantitative Skills courses<sup>1</sup>:

| Code  | Title   | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| <b>Complete 3 credits of the following:</b> |   |         |
| MATH A104                                   | Technical Mathematics                               | 3       |
| MATH A113                                   | Numbers and Society                                 | 3       |
| MATH A115                                   | Art of Mathematics                                  | 3       |
| MATH A121                                   | Applied College Algebra                             | 3       |
| MATH A151                                   | College Algebra for Calculus                        | 4       |
| MATH A152                                   | Trigonometry  | 3       |
| MATH A155                                   | Precalculus   | 5       |
| MATH A221                                   | Applied Calculus for Managerial and Social Sciences | 3       |
| MATH A251                                   | Calculus I  | 4       |
| MATH A251F                                  | F.A.T. Calculus I                                   | 6       |
| MATH A252                                   | Calculus II   | 4       |
| MATH A252F                                  | F.A.T. Calculus II                                  | 6       |
| MATH A253                                   | Calculus III  | 4       |
| STAT A200                                   | Elementary Statistics                               | 3       |
| STAT A253                                   | Applied Statistics for the Sciences                 | 4       |

<sup>1</sup> To determine the appropriate quantitative skills course, students must work with their academic advisor, as degree pathways differ. A minimum grade of C or higher may be required to fulfill prerequisites for the next MATH or STAT course in sequence or a degree requirement.

## Written Communication Skills

Written communication courses emphasize that writing is a recursive and frequently collaborative process of invention, drafting and revising as well as a primary element of active learning in literate cultures.

- Students practice methods for establishing credibility, reasoning critically and appealing to the emotions and values of their audience.
- Students write for a variety of purposes and audiences by employing methods of rhetorical and cultural analysis.
- Students develop the tools to read, think and write analytically about print and nonprint texts and to generate texts that engage their own perceptions while synthesizing the ideas of texts and scholars. Students demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively by selecting form and content that fits the situation; adhering to genre conventions; adapting their voice, tone, and level of formality to that situation; and controlling stylistic features such as sentence variety, syntax, grammar, usage, punctuation and spelling.

Courses completed at UAA must be selected from the following Written Communication courses:

| Code  | Title                       | Credits |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|
| <b>Complete 6 credits of the following:</b> |                             |         |
| WRTG A111                                   | Writing Across Contexts     | 3       |
| WRTG A211                                   | Writing and the Humanities  | 3       |
| WRTG A212                                   | Writing and the Professions | 3       |
| WRTG A213                                   | Writing and the Sciences    | 3       |
| WRTG A214                                   | Arguing Across Contexts     | 3       |