

General Education – The Seven Core Competencies

Core Curriculum Background

In the 2013-2014 academic year, Schreiner University adopted a new outcomes-based core curriculum, which serves as the general education program for all undergraduate degrees. The competency areas are derived from Schreiner University's mission and values and include: 1) analytical abilities, 2) personal and social responsibility, 3) communication, 4) global perspective, 5) engagement, 6) aesthetic appreciation, and 7) skill and resource use. Descriptions for each competency area are detailed below in Table 1.

Core Curriculum Competencies

Aesthetic Appreciation: creative appreciation, reflection
Our graduates articulate critical responses to works in fine arts, literature, nature, music, and/or culture. This ability also contributes to global knowledge through the exposure and reactions to works from various cultures.
Analytical Abilities: critical thinking, problem solving
Our graduates examine, analyze, and integrate ideas, and combine them with experience and content knowledge to solve problems and make decisions. This enables our students to appropriately apply questioning and reasoning skills to solve problems.
Communication: verbal, auditory, written, technical, interpersonal, and collaborative
Our graduates make meaningful connections between themselves and others and communicate effectively via multiple communication modes, including speaking, reading, writing, graphics, listening effectively, and technologies in social, academic and professional contexts. By doing so, our students are able to make effective presentations of ideas using a variety of media, interpret messages and to communicate effectively with others to solve problems.
Engagement: community and professional involvement
Our graduates engage in activities that reflect a sense of responsibility to the various communities in which they live. By doing so, graduates develop the ability to contribute to broader communities throughout their lifetime.
Global perspective: valuing diversity, cultural competency
Our graduates understand multiculturalism, international interdependence, local/global intersections, and utilize diverse resources to address a variety of problems. This ability contributes to problem solving while helping our students better understand global issues through the increased knowledge of multi-faceted, complex social issues.

Personal and Social Responsibility: ethical agency

Our graduates demonstrate responsibility for positive and negative outcomes and articulate the value of physical, social, spiritual, and emotional health. In addition, students clearly articulate their sense of purpose and vocation. This ability contributes to the acceptance of the worth of all individuals and promotes commitment to personal excellence and integrity.

Skill and Resource Use: content knowledge, technical knowledge, identifying and making use of available resources

Our graduates employ discipline-specific knowledge, technologies, and resources to address personal, professional and social issues. This ability helps our students use discipline-specific theories, methods and knowledge to understand the context and how to address problems and crises.

The core curriculum consists of 33 credit hours distributed across the seven competency areas. Students are free to select any combination of courses from the respective areas. Course options and credit hour requirements for each competency area are detailed below.

Schreiner University’s Core Curriculum

Analytical Abilities (6 hours from)	Global Perspective(6 hours from)
BIOL 1300, 1301, 1305	HIST 1350, 1351
BSAD 2331	IDST 4340
CHEM 1301, 1303	POLS 2303
IDST 2305	RELI 1320
MATH 1310, 1311, 1321, 2422, 2423	Any foreign language
PHYS 1300, 1301, 2325	An approved course with study abroad
3 credits must be from math or science	
Communication (6 hours from)	Engagement (6 hours from)
COMM 2301	HIST 1301, 1302
ENGL 1301, 1302	POLS 2301
Personal and Social Responsibility (6 hours from)	Aesthetic Appreciation (6 hours from)
FIN 2301	ART 1340, 1350, 2340, 2341, 2371
PHIL 1301, 1310, 2311, 2312	DESN 1303
PSYC 1300, 1301	ENGL 2340, 2341, 2350
RELI 2311	IDST 3360
SOCI 1301	MUSC 1303
	THRE 1301
Skill and Resource Use(3 hours)	
IDST 1301	