

University Honors College Parent and Family Connection

Core Education

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Highlights of CORE EDUCATION

- Launched in *Summer of 2025 for students starting at OSU summer 25 and beyond*
- Replaced the Bacc Core (est. in 1990)
- Reduction in credit requirements from the Bacc Core (~12 credits)
- **Return on Investment** - communicates the value and purpose of general education related to students' future careers.
- **Transfer friendly** - embeds the Core Transfer Map to the Foundational Core
- Designed for **twenty-first-century learners and graduates**
- Unique **Signature Core Curriculum** that aligns with OSU's Strategic Plan, *Prosperity Widely Shared*, and promotes **equitable learning** opportunities and outcomes through embedded high-impact practices.



CORE EDUCATION

Core Education at Oregon State University is a shared experience where students gain knowledge and develop skills to pursue their future. Alongside their major, Core Education prepares students to be adaptive, proactive members of society who are ready to take on any challenge, solve any problem, advance in their chosen career and help build a better world. Oregon State delivers Core Education through the **Foundational Core** and **Signature Core**.

Through the **Foundational Core**, students develop fundamental skills and a breadth of knowledge that promote lifelong learning and creative problem-solving. Students begin to explore and address complex topics, which will serve them well in any academic or professional endeavor.

Through OSU's unique **Signature Core**, students apply their critical thinking skills to seek solutions and take action to make a positive impact in their chosen field and in society. Students will further develop the skills necessary for navigating a complex and interconnected world.



CORE EDUCATION

FOUNDATIONAL CORE	
Writing Foundations *	4 credits
Quantitative Literacy and Analysis *	4 credits
Art and Humanities – General *	3-4 credits
Art and Humanities – Global *	3-4 credits
Communication, Media, and Society *	3 credits
Social Science *	3-4 credits
Scientific Inquiry and Analysis (Natural Science with lab)* - 2 courses	8 credits
Difference, Power, and Oppression: Foundations *	3-4 credits
OSU SIGNATURE CORE	
Transitions*	2 credits
Beyond OSU Career Integration	Credits counted in major
Writing Elevation *	3 credits
Advanced Difference, Power, and Oppression *	3-4 credits, Major-specific
Seeking Solutions *	3-4 credits
Writing Intensive Curriculum *	Credits counted in major
Total credits	42–48

*categories with approved Honor course sections. Encourage your student to talk with their academic advisor to identify courses.



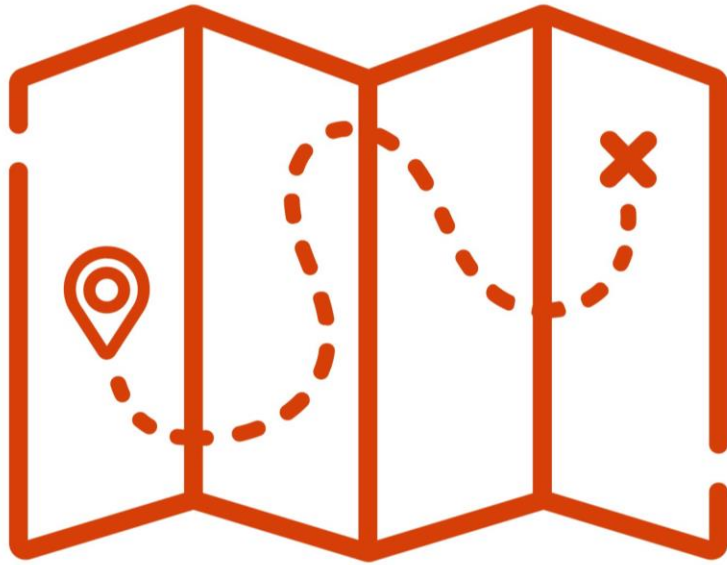
TRANSITIONS

- OSU's brand new first-year experience course
- Support students' formulation of academic, personal, and professional goals
- Familiarizes students with OSU tools and resources for student success
- Introduces values that guide OSU's undergraduate education.



Writing Elevation

Provides students with quality intermediate-level writing instruction, practice, and feedback within their chosen field.



Beyond OSU Career Integration

- Focuses on career preparation activities for post-graduation goals.
- Help students connect their academic and co-curricular experiences to the career readiness and career advancement skills both employers and universities have deemed necessary to succeed in the working world.
- OSU is a national leader in implementing career development into its general education curriculum and is one of only two R1 universities taking this step.
- OSU is the only university in Oregon and the only public university in the Pacific Northwest explicitly embedding career readiness into its core curriculum.

Difference, Power, and Oppression

- Goal to develop necessary critical thinking skills and the ability to engage in dialogue and disagreement.
- Engages students in critical reflection on the complexity of the structures, institutions, and ideologies
- Connected to majors to prepare students to recognize and disrupt these systems in their career fields.





Seeking Solutions

- Transdisciplinary teamwork-based course designed to help students wrestle with complex, multifaceted problems and evaluate potential solutions from multiple points of view.
- Students care and they want to work to find solutions to the toughest, most complex problems faced by our planet and society today.