

## GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULA COMPARISON

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM) Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs examined 28 of the member institutions of the NWF. For this analysis, 20 institutions offering semester credits were compared with the UHM since the UHM similarly offers semester credits.

[NWF: Northwest Academic Forum, a regional higher education organization representing institutions that offer doctoral and master’s degrees.]

| Institutions                   | Total Sem. Credits Req. for Graduation | General Ed. Sem. Credits                                                  | Written Communication                                                  | Symbolic Reasoning                                                         | Global & Multicultural Perspectives                    | Arts, Humanities, Literature                       | Biological, Physical, and Lab Sciences                                 | Social Sciences                                    |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Univ. of Hawai‘i, Manoa</b> | 120 credits                            | 31 plus 8 courses for graduation requirements and second lang. competence | 3 credits plus 5 writing intensive courses for graduation requirements | 3 credits                                                                  | 6 credits                                              | 6 credits                                          | 7 credits, includes lab                                                | 6 credits                                          |
| <b>NWF</b>                     | 120 - 128 credits                      | Required of all institutions<br><br>28 – 57 credits                       | Required of all institutions<br><br>3-9 credits                        | Required of all institutions<br><br>3-5 credits or evidence of proficiency | 6 institutions had no requirement<br><br>3 – 9 credits | Required of all institutions<br><br>3 - 21 credits | Required of all institutions<br><br>4 – 12 credits. Most include labs. | Required of all institutions<br><br>3 – 12 credits |

| Institutions                   | Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues        | Contemporary Ethical Issues                                   | Oral Communication                                       | Writing Intensive                                                                     | Second Language                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Univ. of Hawai‘i, Manoa</b> | One course                                 | One course                                                    | One course                                               | Five courses                                                                          | Competence at 202 level                                                                                                             |
| <b>NWF</b>                     | All other institutions have no requirement | Required by only one other institution.<br><br>3 or 6 credits | 6 institutions had no requirement<br><br>Up to 3 credits | Required by only 3 other institutions.<br>One to three courses or portfolio required. | 10 institutions (50%) had no requirement.<br><br>Requirements ranged from 1 yr. of high school language to second year proficiency. |

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**Comments**

- At least six institutions required wellness or fitness courses.
- All institutions had general education requirements. All institutions required courses in written communication; symbolic reasoning; arts, humanities and literature; biological, physical, and lab sciences; and social sciences.
- Few institutions required courses in contemporary ethical issues, and writing intensive courses.
- No other institution had a requirement for courses in Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific issues.
- The general education requirements comprised between 28 and 57 credits (approximately one-fourth to one-half of the total credits required for graduation).