American Institutions

Required Units: 6 | 3 units each area

US History
Upon completing this requirement, students will be able to:
- explain significant events covering a time span of at least 100 years of US history, including the relationships of US regions and relationships with foreign nations
- analyze the roles of major ethnic and social groups in the significant events above, and the contexts in which those events have occurred
- explain how these events illustrate both the continuity of "the American experience" and its derivation from other cultures by considering at least three of the following: politics, economics, social movements, and geography.

Area D6:
- HIST 110 US History to 1877
- HIST 111 US History from 1877
- ECON 323 Economic History of the US
- NAS 200 Indigenous Peoples in US History

US & California Government
Upon completing this requirement, students will be able to:
- distinguish the key philosophies of the framers of the US Constitution
- demonstrate an understanding of the nature and operation of major US political institutions and processes
- identify the liberties, rights, and responsibilities of citizens under the political system established by the US Constitution
- demonstrate an understanding of the California Constitution and state and local government within the framework of evolving Federal-State relations.

Area D8:
- PSCI 110 American Government
- PSCI 210 United States Politics
- PSCI 359 California Government
- PSCI 410 American Constitutional Law

There are three options:
1. Complete one US history course and one US & California government course; or
2. Pass the qualifying exams in US history, American constitutional government, and California state and local government; or
3. Complete a combination of courses and exams.

To satisfy the requirement by examination, students must pass in three areas: [1] US history, [2] US government and constitution, and [3] California state and local government. These three exams may be taken separately. The California state and local exam is provided separately so that students may challenge this portion separately when their previous coursework does not specifically address this requirement (e.g., out of state coursework). The department offering the exam sets limits on repeating the exam(s). To exercise this option, contact the Testing Center for study information and exam dates. These are competency exams and do not result in credit or grades.

Though the American Institutions requirement is separate from general education, one of the eight courses listed above can count in Lower Division GE Area D. Regardless of whether a lower or upper division American Institutions course is applied to GE, it will count for lower division GE, not upper division GE.