

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must follow the graduation requirements in effect at the time of their enrollment. Students who enroll and subsequently interrupt enrollment (i.e. withdrawal or suspension) for more than two years must complete the requirements in effect at the time of re-entry. While academic advisors, faculty and staff provide significant academic planning and related assistance to students, completion of all degree requirements, and the process of monitoring progress to that end, is ultimately the responsibility of the student.

To earn the Bachelor of Arts degree from Central College:

- 1) **Complete a total of 120 semester hours (s.h.) of course work.** The maximum credit limits that can be included in the 120 credits required for graduation are as follows:
  - no more than 20 s.h. of internship or practicum.
  - no more than 60 s.h. of course work taken in the major discipline counting toward the total 120 s.h. required (for disciplinary/departmental majors only)
- 2) **Complete at least 20 s.h. of course work at the 300-level or above.**
- 3) **Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.000.**
- 4) **Complete all requirements for at least one approved academic major** with a minimum GPA of 2.000 in all courses applied toward the major(s). Students are required to complete the major requirements in effect at the time the major declaration form is submitted to the registrar's office.
- 5) **Complete all Central Core requirements as outlined below.**
- 6) **Satisfy the following residency requirement.** The two semesters (summer not included) just prior to graduation and a minimum of 60 semester hours, including 30 of the last 60 semester hours, must be completed in residence. Students in good academic standing with fewer than 9 semester hours to complete toward the Central College degree may be granted permission to complete their remaining hours at another accredited college or university with the permission of the academic advisor, major department chair, and the registrar. Students approved to participate in any of Central's dual degree programs must complete the two semesters (summer not included) just prior to enrollment at the dual degree granting institution and a minimum of 60 semester hours in residence; 30 of the last 60 semester hours must be completed in residence or at the dual degree granting institution. "In residence" is defined as enrollment at a Central College location (the Pella campus, Central College Abroad sites, Chicago Semester, or The Washington Center).  
Note: The associate dean of academic affairs may grant exceptions to this residency requirement.
- 7) **Application for Graduation.** Students must submit an application for graduation at least two semesters prior to the awarding of the degree. For more information, see "Academic Policies" in the current catalog, or the current academic calendar.

### Central Core Requirements

Complete all of the following core requirements: integrative studies, disciplinary studies, global perspective, global sustainability and writing intensive. Core courses are identified throughout the academic catalog at the end of the course description and on the online searchable schedule.

**Integrative Studies (6 credits).** Complete I and II.

- I. **LAS 110, Intersections (3 credits).** All new, first-year students, and transfer students with fewer than 12 transferrable credits (excluding Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or CLEP) entering in the fall semester will take LAS 110 Intersections. All new first-year students and transfer students with fewer than 12 transferrable credits entering in the spring must take LAS 110 the following fall or one writing-intensive course at Central College other than ENGL 101 Composition, which would count in place of the LAS 110 graduation requirement. Transfer credit may not be used to satisfy this requirement.
- II. **LAS 410, Liberal Arts Seminar (3 credits).** An inquiry-based, interdisciplinary, writing-intensive seminar which stresses the importance of knowledge to human community. All Senior (or advanced Junior) students are required to take this seminar. Must be completed at Central. Transfer credit may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

**Disciplinary Studies (3 credits in each of the following areas; 21 credits total).** Each course may be used toward only one disciplinary designation; however, some courses may also be used to count for the global sustainability, global perspective and writing intensive requirements.

- I. Arts (ART)
- II. Historical Perspective (HP)
- III. Literature and Philosophy (LP)
- IV. Mathematical Reasoning (MR)
- V. Natural Science (NS)
- VI. Religion (REL)
- VII. Social and Behavioral Inquiry (SB)

**Global Sustainability (GS) 3 credits**

**Global Perspective (0-14 credits).** Complete component I and component II as follows:

I. **Second Language (0-8 credits). Choose one of the following:**

- a. Successfully complete two semester-long courses (or the equivalent) of college-level study of a second language. Students may count a one-semester intensive language course (numbered 122 or higher) equivalent to one year (two semesters) of a second language from an approved study abroad program.
- b. Take the placement examination before beginning language course work at Central and earn a placement score beyond the first-year language courses.
- c. Take the placement examination before beginning language course work at Central, earn a placement score in the second semester of the first-year, and then enroll in and successfully complete the second semester course.
- d. Take a proficiency test in a language not taught at Central (including sign languages), and petition the chair of the Modern Languages department to take a proficiency examination or interview in the language. The department chair will arrange for testing; costs involved will be the responsibility of the student.
- e. In appropriate cases, such as international students for whom English is not their first language, proficiency in English may meet this requirement.

*Note: Students who place beyond the first semester, complete additional language course work, and earn a grade of "C" or better are eligible for credit by proficiency (see "Credit by Proficiency" section of this catalog).*

II. **Elective (6 credits).** Complete option a or b as follows\*:

- a. Successfully complete an approved study abroad program.
  - i. All Central College Abroad semester and summer programs (minimum four weeks) satisfy this option.
  - ii. Non-Central College study abroad programs may satisfy this option under the following conditions: 1) the registrar approves courses for transfer; 2) Off Campus Policy Committee recommends the program be approved by Curriculum Committee as satisfying this option; and 3) Curriculum Committee approves the program as satisfying this option.
- b. Complete a minimum of 6 semester hours of coursework. Credit by proficiency and first-year language courses *do not count*.
  - i. Successfully complete a minimum of 3 credits with International Studies designation. (GPN)
  - ii. Successfully complete a minimum of 3 credits with Intercultural Studies designation. (GPC)

*\* Chicago and Washington D.C. programs and faculty-led programs do not satisfy option a. Faculty-led program courses may count as International Studies or Intercultural Studies with permission of the Curriculum Committee.*

**Writing Intensive (WRT) 4 courses.** Complete each of the following:

- I. Successfully complete LAS 110 and LAS 410;
- II. Successfully complete one writing intensive course at the 100-level or above during the first two years;
- III. Successfully complete one writing intensive course at the 200-level or above during the second or third year.

Note: Transfer students who are not required to take LAS 110 must take three writing-intensive courses in addition to LAS 410, Liberal Arts Seminar, which must be completed at Central College. The other writing intensive requirements may be satisfied either by courses at Central or by coursework accepted for transfer. At least one of these courses must be at the 200-level or above. Students who wish to apply transfer credit toward this requirement may need to provide a course syllabus to the registrar.