Policies & Requirements

Admissions

Freshman Applicants

When students apply to the College of Arts and Sciences from high school, they may enter the college as "Open Option" (unsure of major), or they may select one of the more than 50 majors available in the college. To ensure that students graduate in a timely manner, Open Option majors are required to enter a specific degree program by the time they have completed 60 credit hours. Students must declare and enter a degree-granting major by the start of the second semester (or earlier for certain majors) to maintain eligibility for the four-year guarantee.

Specific admission requirements are detailed in the Admissions (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions) section of this catalog. Contact the campus Admissions Office (http://www.colorado.edu/admissions) for more information.

Transfer Students

Students desiring to transfer (https://www.colorado.edu/artsandsciences/student-resources/transfer-students) from other accredited collegiate institutions are considered for admission on an individual basis. All transfer students must complete at least 45 credit hours at CU and at least 30 upper-division credit hours in the College of Arts and Sciences. Admission criteria for students at other CU campuses are the same as for other transfer students.

Intra-University Transfer (IUT)

Students who wish to transfer into the College of Arts and Sciences from another school or college on the CU Boulder campus must have at least a 2.000 cumulative GPA. Students should contact the Academic Advising Center for additional information.

Readmission

If a student has not been active at CU Boulder for 3 or more semesters, they may need to apply for readmission to the University of Colorado Boulder through the Admissions Office. Students are encouraged to submit readmit requests well in advance of the semester for which they plan to return.

Minimum Academic Preparation Standards (MAPS)

All students entering the University of Colorado who finished high school in the spring of 1988 or after must meet minimum academic preparation standards (MAPS) specified by each school or college. The College of Arts and Sciences has adopted the following standards for students. These standards are defined in high school units; a unit is one full year of high school course work:

- **English:** 4 (includes 2 of composition)
- **Mathematics:** 4 (includes at least 2 of algebra, 1 of geometry and 1 of college preparatory math such as trigonometry, analytic geometry or elementary functions)
- **Natural science:** 3 (includes 2 of lab science, 1 of which must be either chemistry or physics)
- **Social science:** 3 (includes 1 of U.S. or world history and 1 of geography; if U.S. history is used to meet the history requirement, the geography requirement may be met with 1/2 unit of geography and 1/2 unit of world history)
- **Single foreign language:** 3

- **Total credit units:** 17

For additional information, see the Admissions (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions) and MAPS (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/minimum-academic-preparation-standards) sections of this catalog.

Credit by Examination

Advanced Placement Program

CU Boulder participates in the Advanced Placement program of the College Board. More than one-third of Boulder’s entering freshmen submit Advanced Placement (AP) test scores each year. General college credit is granted for scores of 3 or higher on most AP exams, but credit for specific CU Boulder courses usually requires a score of 4 or in a few cases a score of 5. Official scores must be sent to the admissions office directly from the College Board for both first-year students and transfer students. See Undergraduate Admission (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions) for more info and the Advanced Placement Table (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/credit-examination) for specific equivalencies.

International Baccalaureate

Any student admitted to a University of Colorado campus after June 30, 2003, who has graduated from high school having successfully completed an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma, program will be granted 24 credit hours of college credit. No tuition will be charged for these credits. These credits will be granted, however, only if the student receives a score of 4 or better on an examination administered as part of the IB diploma program. Students admitted to the College of Arts and Sciences for the fall 2018 semester or thereafter with an IB diploma will be waived from the Lower-Division Written Communication portion of the college’s General Education Skills Requirement.

In addition, college credit is granted for International Baccalaureate examinations at the higher level with a score of 4 or better and for some exams at the standard level with a score of 4. For specific equivalencies see the International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit Table (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/credit-examination/internationalbaccalaureateibcredittext).

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College of Arts and Sciences accepts a limited number of hours of CLEP credit from subject (not general) examinations toward its bachelor’s degree programs (see Undergraduate Admission for subjects accepted). In addition, certain CLEP examinations may be used to meet the minimum academic preparation standards (MAPS) for admission to the university. No more than 30 total credit hours of CLEP will apply, nor may CLEP credit be used in the final 30 credit hours presented for a degree. CLEP tests are administered through Career Services, 303-492-5854.

Transfer Credit Policies

Transfer of credit from other institutions of higher education

Work from another accredited institution of higher education that has been completed with a grade of C- (1.70) or better may be transferred to the University of Colorado. Categories of transfer course work not accepted by the university are described in the undergraduate Transfer of College-Level Credit (https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/transfer-college-level-credit) section.

All courses transferred from junior and community colleges carry lower-division credit. Courses transferred from four-year institutions carry credits at the level at which they were taught at the previous institution, but, if the level at the sending is institution is unclear, courses will be
reviewed on a course-by-course basis. Upper-division courses from another four-year institution sometimes will transfer to CU Boulder as lower-division credit while lower-division courses will always carry lower-division credit even if they are allowed to fill a requirement usually filled by an upper-division course at CU Boulder.

**Colorado Student Bill of Rights**

In the interests of promoting timely graduation and facilitating the transfer of students among the institutions of higher education in the state of Colorado, the College of Arts and Sciences and the University of Colorado Boulder adhere to the Student Bill of Rights as presented in Colorado Statute 23-1-125.

23-1-125. Commission directive - student bill of rights - degree requirements - implementation of core courses - competency test - prior learning

Student bill of rights. The general assembly hereby finds that students enrolled in public institutions of higher education shall have the following rights:

1. Students should be able to complete their associate of arts and associate of science degree programs in no more than sixty credit hours or their baccalaureate programs in no more than one hundred twenty credit hours unless there are additional degree requirements recognized by the commission;
2. A student can sign a two-year or four-year graduation agreement that formalizes a plan for that student to obtain a degree in two or four years, unless there are additional degree requirements recognized by the commission;
3. Students have a right to clear and concise information concerning which courses must be completed successfully to complete their degrees;
4. Students have a right to know which courses are transferable among the state public two-year and four-year institutions of higher education;
5. Students, upon completion of core general education courses, regardless of the delivery method, should have those courses satisfy the core course requirements of all Colorado public institutions of higher education;
6. Students have a right to know if courses from one or more public higher education institutions satisfy the student’s degree requirements;
7. A student’s credit for the completion of the core requirements and core courses shall not expire for ten years from the date of initial enrollment and shall be transferable.

**Statewide Guaranteed Transfer of General Education Courses**

As of fall 2003, the two-year and four-year transfer articulation agreements among Colorado institutions of higher education were replaced by a statewide guaranteed transfer of approved general education courses taken at any Colorado public institution of higher education. Under the statewide guaranteed transfer program, up to 31-33 credits of successfully (C- or better) completed course work will automatically transfer and apply towards graduation requirements at the receiving institution. The course work must be drawn from the list of approved guaranteed transfer courses and must meet the distribution requirements of the guaranteed transfer program. Further information about the statewide transfer program, including the list of approved courses and distribution requirements, can be found at the website of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, highered.colorado.gov/ Academics/Transfers/Students.html (http://highered.colorado.gov/ Academics/Transfers/Students.html).

As of fall 2018, a student graduating with an associate of arts or an associate of science degree from a Colorado community college and entering the College of Arts and Sciences is exempt from the General Education requirements of the College. Note that students are still subject to the College’s MAPS requirements. Additional information on the evaluation of transfer credit of Colorado community college coursework and its application in select arts and sciences major programs can also be found at the Arts & Sciences Guide for Colorado Community College Students (https://www.colorado.edu/ artsandsciences/student-resources/transfer-students/guide-colorado- community-college-students) webpage. Students are required to follow the graduation requirements listed in this catalog at the time of their initial entry into the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Concurrent college credits earn while in high school**

Students who took college-level courses while enrolled in high school may be able to transfer the credit to CU Boulder. Only courses taken at an accredited college or university of recognized standing with grades of C- or better are accepted for transfer. If a student earned concurrent college credit for a high school course for which the student also earned college credit via an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) exam, the concurrent college credit will be cut back in favor of the credit earned for the score on the AP or IB exam.

**Requirements**

Students are subject to the general degree requirements in effect at the time they first enter the College of Arts and Sciences at CU Boulder and are subject to the major requirements in force at the time they declare the major. All degrees offered by the College of Arts and Science require the completion of a specific number of credits, a major, and the General Education (Gen Ed) curriculum.

Students must complete a degree within 10 years. If it has been more than 10 years since matriculation into the College of Arts and Sciences and no degree has been completed, students may be subject to new curricula in place at the time of re-enrollment.

Students may contact the Academic Advising Center for further assistance.

**Graduation Requirements**

Arts and sciences students must fulfill the following requirements for graduation:

1. Pass a total of 120 credit hours.
2. Maintain a 2.00 (C) GPA in all University of Colorado course work and a 2.00 (C) in all course work attempted for the major. (Some majors may require a higher minimum GPA.)
3. Pass 45 credit hours of upper-division work (courses numbered in the 3000s and 4000s).
4. Arts and sciences students must complete a minimum of 45 credit hours in University of Colorado courses on the Boulder campus. Of these 45 credit hours, a minimum of 30 credit hours must be in arts and sciences upper-division courses. A maximum of 6 credit hours taken at other University of Colorado campuses (CU Denver and UCCS) can be counted toward the minimum 45 credit hours required on the Boulder campus but cannot be counted toward the 30 upper-division credit hours in arts and sciences. Courses taken while on CU
Boulder study abroad programs or through CU Boulder Continuing Education are considered to be in residence.

5. For the Bachelor of Arts degree, students must complete a minimum of 75 credit hours outside their major department. Students who complete designated departmental honors courses in their major department and/or in honors thesis credit can reduce the 75 credit hours required outside the major department by a corresponding number of credits, up to a maximum of 6.

6. For the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, students must complete a minimum of 53 credit hours outside of their major.

7. Students must complete a major offered by the College of Arts and Sciences. Students are subject to the major requirements in force when they declare the major.

8. Complete the General Education (Gen Ed) and MAPS requirements with the following limitations:

   • Students may not use a course to fulfill any area of the Gen Ed Skills requirement and also use this course to fulfill part of the Gen Ed Distribution or Diversity requirements. This restriction applies to first- and second-semester foreign language courses taken as prerequisites to a third-semester language course that satisfies the Foreign Language area of this requirement.
   • Students may not use thesis hours, independent study, internship, or practicum courses to satisfy any of the Gen Ed or MAPS requirements.
   • A single course may be used to meet both MAPS and Gen Ed requirements as long as the course is applicable to both requirements. For example, a student admitted with a MAPS deficiency in English composition may take WRTG 1150, to satisfy both the MAPS requirement and the Gen Ed lower-division Written Communication Skills requirement.
   • Students may not use a course taken using the pass/fail option to fulfill any Gen Ed or MAPS requirements.

Credit Limitations

Credit for Foreign Language Courses
Students will not receive credit for a lower level Foreign Language course after credit has been given for a higher level course in the same sequence. For example, students who have passed a 2000-level class will not receive credit for a 1000-level class in the same sequence. This rule applies to the following languages: American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish. Consult each department for specific restrictions, requirements and prerequisites.

Students must receive a grade of C or better to enroll in the next level of a language sequence in Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese and Korean. Students must receive a grade of C- or better to enroll in the next level of a language sequence in American Sign Language, Danish, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

Undergraduate introductory language courses (numbered at the 1000 and 2000 level) are designed for non-native speakers. Fluent speakers of a language are prohibited from enrolling in introductory courses in the language and can be dropped from these courses by the department or by the course instructor. Fluent speakers should consult the department website and this catalog or consult with the course instructor or department language coordinator about eligibility to enroll in upper-division language courses (numbered at the 3000 and 4000 level) before enrolling in such courses. Departments can exclude fluent speakers from upper-division language courses based on course content and/or instructional resources. Speakers who have not formally studied the language but have spoken the language in their home should consult with the associate chair of the language department or the department language coordinator about appropriate placement before enrolling in a language course.

Credit taken in CU Online Courses
A maximum of 30 credit hours of online course work offered by CU Boulder may count toward the degree.

Credit taken outside the College of Arts and Sciences
Students may apply 30 credit hours from the other colleges and schools at CU Boulder as well as specified ROTC and President’s Leadership Class courses toward the fulfillment of requirements for the BA and BFA degrees. Within these 30 total credit hours, up to 8 credit hours in activities courses (applied music and ensembles) may be used. Transferred courses that were taught by departments considered to be outside the College of Arts and Sciences are counted as part of the allowed 30 credit hours. If a course has been approved to meet a General Education requirement and the course is taught outside the College of Arts and Sciences, the credit for this course will not be included as part of the 30-semester hour limitation.

Independent Study Credit
With departmental approval, students may register for independent study during the normal registration periods for each semester. Students may not register for more than 6 credit hours of independent study credit during any term. No more than 8 credit hours of independent study taken in a single department or program can be applied toward the total credit hours needed for graduation. A maximum of 16 credit hours of independent study may count toward the degree. The minimum expectation for each hour of credit is 25 hours of work.

A student may not use independent study credit to fulfill the college’s General Education requirements. Some departments further restrict the use of independent study hours toward meeting major requirements.

Internship Credit
Students in the College of Arts and Sciences may receive up to nine credit hours for a department-sponsored internship. A maximum of six of the nine internship credits can be taken in the same department. Each internship project must be approved by the chair or associate chair of the department awarding the credit before the student enrolls in the course in order for the student to receive credit. Students are encouraged to contact their major department office or Career Services for information regarding the possibility of enrolling in an internship in their major. Many internships are graded on a pass/fail basis only. Participation in an internship with mandatory pass/fail grading does not affect the total credit hours of pass/fail a student may apply toward a degree.

A student may not use internship credit to fulfill the college’s General Education requirements. Some departments further restrict the use of internship credit toward meeting major requirements.

Pass/Fail Credit
Students in the College of Arts and Sciences count a maximum of 6 credit hours of pass/fail course work to 120 credits required to graduate. Courses offered on a mandatory pass/fail basis are excluded from the
maximum allowed. The pass/fail option may be used only for elective credit only.

Students may not use the pass/fail option for courses taken to fulfill General Education requirements, courses used to fulfill the Minimum Academic Preparation Standards (MAPS), courses used to complete minor requirements or courses used to complete the minimum requirements for the major. A grade of F when earned in a course taken pass/fail will calculate into the GPA as a failing grade.

Repetition of Courses
If a student takes a course for credit more than once, all grades are calculated into the grade point average. However, the course credit hours only count toward graduation once, unless a course description specifically states that it can be taken more than once for credit.

Required Credit Hours Outside the Major
To complete the BA degree, students are required to complete a minimum of 75 credit hours outside their major department. Exceptions are:

- Students who complete designated departmental honors courses in their major and/or in honors thesis credit can reduce the 75 credit hours required outside the major department by a corresponding number of credits, up to a maximum of six.
- Students completing the bachelor of fine arts degree must complete a minimum of 53 credit hours outside of their major department.
- Courses that are cross-listed in two or more departments are credited in the department in which the student has the most credit hours, irrespective of the department in which the student formally enrolled for the course.

ROTC Credit
The ROTC courses listed below have been certified as acceptable college-level course work by the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences or by other colleges and schools on the Boulder campus. These courses are counted as elective credit toward the degree, subject to the 30-credit-hour limitation on course work taken outside the college for students in the BA and BFA programs. Courses not included on this list do not count toward any degree requirements. Transfer ROTC course work must be evaluated as equivalent to course work on this list to count toward degree requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIRR 3010</td>
<td>Air Force Leadership Studies I</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; AIRR 3020</td>
<td>and Air Force Leadership Studies II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIRR 4010</td>
<td>National Security Affairs/Preparation for Active</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; AIRR 4020</td>
<td>Duty and National Security Forces in Contemporary</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Society 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILR 1011</td>
<td>Adventures in Leadership 1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; MILR 1021</td>
<td>and Adventures in Leadership 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILR 2031</td>
<td>Methods of Leadership and Management 1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; MILR 2041</td>
<td>and Methods of Leadership and Management 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MILR 4072</td>
<td>Leadership 1: Adaptive Leadership</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; MILR 4082</td>
<td>and Leadership 2: Leadership in a Complex World</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAVR 2020</td>
<td>Seapower and Maritime Affairs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVR 3030</td>
<td>Naval Engineering Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVR 3040</td>
<td>Weapons and Systems Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVR 3101</td>
<td>Evolution of Warfare</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAVR 4010</td>
<td>Leadership and Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; NAVR 4020</td>
<td>and Leadership and Ethics</td>
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<td>NAVR 4030</td>
<td>Navigation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Major, Minors, and Certificates

Majors
All Arts and Sciences students pursuing a bachelor's degree must enter a degree-granting major by the end of their sophomore year (i.e., the semester in which they will complete 60 credit hours of work, including transfer work).

Arts and sciences students have 10 years to complete the requirements for a declared major. If the 10-year limit is exceeded, the student may be required to satisfy current major requirements. Students pursuing a major degree program identified for discontinuation by decision of the Board of Regents and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education have four years from the formal announcement of discontinuation to complete the degree program and graduate.

Minimum Major Requirements
The following minimum requirements are specified by the college. In many cases departmental requirements may be higher than the minimums listed here.

1. A minimum of 30 credit hours in the major area (for the BFA, a minimum of 50 credit hours).
2. Thirty credit hours in the major area, all with grades of C- (1.70) or higher (no pass/fail credits can be applied to the major).
3. Eighteen credit hours of upper-division courses in the major, all with grades of C- (1.70) or higher.
4. Twelve credit hours of upper-division course work in the major on the CU Boulder campus.
5. A 2.00 (C) overall GPA in all major work attempted.
6. Special requirements as stipulated by the major department.
7. No more than 8 credit hours of independent study.

Double Majors
Students pursuing a BA or BFA degree in the College of Arts and Sciences may graduate with more than one major within the degree from CU Boulder (i.e., Economics and French or Dance and Art Practices). Students must complete all requirements for both majors. A minimum of 120 total credit hours is required for double majors within the college.

Minors
Most but not all departments and programs in the College of Arts and Sciences offer minor programs. Participation in a minor program is optional for students pursuing a bachelor's degree. Course work applied to a minor also may be applied toward General Education or major requirements. Students may not earn a major and a minor in the same program of study. All requirements for the minor must be completed by the time the BA or BFA is conferred, and a minor cannot be converted into a major in the same program of study after graduation.

Although the structure of specific minor programs may differ, all minors offered in the College of Arts of Sciences must have the following restrictions or minimum requirements:

1. A minimum of 18 credit hours must be taken in the minor area, including a minimum of 9 upper-division credit hours.
2. All course work applied to the minor must be completed with a grade of C- or better (no pass/fail work may be applied). The GPA...
for all course work taken in the minor department must be equal to 2.00 (C) or higher.
3. Students pursuing a major in distributed studies or an individually structured major are not eligible to earn a minor.
4. Students are allowed to apply no more than 9 credit hours, including 6 upper-division credit hours, of transfer work toward a minor.
5. Students must complete all requirements for a minor by the time they graduate.

Certificates
The college also sponsors undergraduate certificates in a number of fields of study. Although similar to minors in the required number of credit hours, certificates have a substantially different focus and purpose from a minor in that they are interdisciplinary in nature and thus require the completion of courses in multiple departments instead of just one. Students interested in a certificate should contact the director of the appropriate certificate.

Although the structure of specific certificates may differ, all certificates offered in the College of Arts and Sciences must have the following restrictions or minimum requirements:

1. A certificate cannot be a subset of existing major or minor requirements in the same way a student cannot earn a minor within the same department as their major.
2. A minimum of 18 credit hours of specified course work within the College of Arts and Sciences.
3. A minimum of 9 of the 18 credit hours must be completed at the upper-division level.
4. A minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken on the CU Boulder campus.
5. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours from other institutions will be accepted.

Multiple Degrees
Dual Degrees
Students may earn multiple degrees from CU Boulder from different schools or colleges. This includes students pursuing a BA and BFA from the College of Arts and Sciences. The following conditions must be fulfilled:

- The student meets the residency requirements of, and is enrolled in, both the College of Arts and Sciences and the college or school granting the second degree.
- The student completes a minimum of 145 credit hours when both degrees are offered within the College of Arts and Sciences.
- The student completes all requirements for both degrees when the degrees are offered by two different colleges.
- The student has completed all MAPS, General Education, and major requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Both degrees must be awarded at the same time.

Second Baccalaureate Degrees
A student who has been awarded a baccalaureate degree, either from this college or elsewhere, may be granted a second baccalaureate degree provided the following conditions have been fulfilled:

1. All general requirements for the degree to be awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences have been met. (Students are subject to the general degree requirements in effect the semester they enter the second baccalaureate degree program.)
2. The major is different from the major or minor in the first degree earned.
3. Arts and sciences students must complete a minimum of 45 credit hours in University of Colorado courses on the Boulder campus toward the second degree after admission to the second undergraduate degree program. Of these 45 credits, a minimum of 30 credits must be in arts and sciences upper-division credit hours completed as a matriculated student in the second degree in the College of Arts and Sciences and at least 12 of these upper-division credit hours must be in the major. Courses taken as a non-degree student or as part of a graduate degree program do not count in these minimum requirements.

Applying for Graduation
Arts and Sciences students who have earned 90 or more credit hours and wish to walk in a commencement ceremony and/or graduate at the close of a term must submit an online application to graduate via the MyCUInfo (https://mycuinfo.colorado.edu) student portal, meeting all appropriate application deadlines published by the Office of the Registrar.

Students who intend to complete their degree in summer (August) and want their name to appear in the spring (May) commencement program should apply online for the summer graduation term, submitting their application prior to the published spring commencement program deadline. Summer applicants who apply prior to the spring program deadline will automatically be included in the spring commencement program.

Students who apply to graduate but fail to fulfill all degree requirements by the deadline for that term/year must submit a new online graduation application for a future term/year in order for the college to confer the degree once all remaining requirements are complete. To be certified as having completed all degree and major/minor requirements, all credit hours and grades (including transfer course work and Continuing Education credit hours and grades) must be posted to the student records system by the deadline for reporting degrees for that term/year.

Four-Year Graduation
CU Boulder guarantees that if the scheduling of essential courses is found to have prevented a student in the College of Arts and Sciences from completing all course work necessary for a BA or BFA degree from the university by the end of the student’s eighth consecutive fall and spring semester, the college will provide tuition plus any course fees for all courses required for completion of the degree requirements.

The College of Arts and Sciences has adopted a set of guidelines to define the conditions under which a student should expect to graduate in four years. More information is available through the Academic Advising Center (https://www.colorado.edu/advising) and major program and departmental offices. This guarantee extends to all students who enrolled the summer of 1994 or after into the College of Arts and Sciences as first-semester freshmen without MAPS deficiencies and who satisfy all the requirements described below. This guarantee cannot be extended to include completion of a second major, a double degree, a minor, a teaching certificate or other certificate program. Some CU Boulder study abroad programs may not provide a sufficient range of courses to allow students to meet the requirements and thus students who participate in study abroad are not included in this guarantee.

Four-Year Guarantee Requirements
1. Students should enroll in University of Colorado Boulder course work for eight consecutive fall and spring semesters.
2. No fewer than 60 credit hours of applicable course work should be completed with passing grades by the end of the second year (24 calendar months), 90 credit hours by the end of the third year (36 calendar months) and 120 credit hours by the end of the fourth year. Students should enroll in and pass an average of 15 credit hours each semester.

3. A minimum of 30 credit hours of college General Education courses should be completed by the end of the second year, including General Education courses that also meet major requirements. All remaining college General Education requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the eighth semester.

4. Students should complete 45 upper-division credit hours by the end of the eighth semester of study.

5. A GPA of at least 2.00 must be earned each semester.

6. Grades of C- or better in all course work required for the major should be earned, and students should have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 in all major course work attempted.

7. A recommended plan of study must be started toward the major no later than the start of the second semester of study and thereafter students must make adequate progress toward completing the major (defined by each major). A statement of adequate progress is available from the major or departmental office at the time the major is declared.

8. The major must be declared no later than the start of the second semester of study, and students must remain in that major until graduation.

9. Students should meet with their assigned primary advisor each semester.

10. Students must register each semester within one week of the assigned registration time.

11. Students should avoid taking courses that are in conflict with the advice of their assigned primary advisor.

12. Students should adhere to the Graduation Requirements listed above.

13. Courses in conflict with major or college General Education requirements should be avoided.

14. The student should apply online to graduate no later than the beginning of the seventh semester of study (see Graduation Deadlines section).

15. Documentation should be kept proving that these requirements were satisfied (e.g., records of advising meetings attended, advising records and instructions, etc.).

**Academic Advising**

Students are advised by professional academic advisors located in the Academic Advising Center (https://www.colorado.edu/advising) and faculty mentors from their respective major department/program, typically at least once a semester. Students use MyCUHub (http://www.colorado.edu/mycuhub) to communicate with advisors, schedule appointments, explore majors, etc. Academic advisors are responsible for advising students and also for certifying the completion of those students’ programs for graduation.

Students in the college are expected to assume responsibility for planning their academic program in conjunction with their academic advisor in accordance with college rules and policies and with departmental major requirements. Any questions concerning these provisions are to be directed to the student’s academic advisor or to the Academic Advising Center.

**General Education & Core Requirements**

**General Education**

NOTE: All students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in the College of Arts and Science who enter the college in fall 2018 or thereafter must complete the General Education requirements. Students who entered the college before fall 2018 have the option to complete either the General Education requirements or the old Core Curriculum (see below).

**Mission Statement**

The College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) General Education (Gen Ed) requirements are the heart of a liberal arts education at CU Boulder. This set of requirements allows students to pursue their passions while also ensuring that they venture into diverse areas of learning. The flexibility of the Gen Ed requirements enables students to explore areas of particular interest in depth, and in so doing facilitates the addition of minors or second majors. The Gen Ed requirements are straightforward, streamlined, rigorous and timeless; as society changes and technology advances, the courses of study that comprise these requirements will evolve naturally within the Gen Ed framework. These requirements reflect the A&S identity and learning goals.

**Identity Statement**

The College of Arts and Sciences at CU Boulder consists of teachers, scholars, researchers and artists who strive to understand, and find meaning in, the natural world, social structures, history, art, morals and the human experience. The college comprises a wide range of departments and programs, but woven throughout are the college’s fundamental values: academic excellence, intellectual honesty, creative freedom, open inquiry and the pursuit of knowledge. We are dedicated to a pedagogy that recognizes our responsibility in developing a diverse community of students and scholars. Our students can expect to have their critical thinking skills honed, their understanding of themselves deepened, their vision of the natural world and its peoples expanded, and their ability to communicate enhanced. As a result, our graduates leave the college as well-rounded adults, prepared to participate productively as citizens in a democracy and to flourish in their careers.

**Learning Goals**

1: Develop the skills of communication, expression, and reasoning. Students hone their communication skills through writing and speaking for various purposes (informing, instructing, persuading) and audiences (academic, civic, professional). They learn to design their message ethically and effectively using appropriate evidence and technologies, which may include alphabetic, visual, and aural elements. Students explore the breadth of human experience through diverse expressive forms. To develop problem-solving and analytical skills, students exercise various forms of reasoning—logical, computational, and mathematical.

2: Understand our world, in all its dimensions, through critical inquiry. Students apply humanistic and scientific principles and methods to investigate local and global issues. Through exposure to multiple viewpoints, intellectual frameworks, and cultural contexts, students prepare to respond ethically, creatively, and collaboratively to open-ended questions.

**Overview**

The new A&S General Education curriculum consists of 45 credits in three basic categories of requirements: Skills, Distribution and Diversity.

**Skills Requirement**

- 9 credits (6 Written Communication, 3 Quantitative Reasoning and Mathematical Skills, plus foreign language proficiency)
Courses taken to fulfill this requirement may not also count toward the Distribution or Diversity Requirements.

**Distribution Requirement**
- 36 credits (12 Arts & Humanities, 12 Social Sciences, 12 Natural Sciences)

**Diversity Requirement**
- 0–6 credits

Courses taken to fulfill this requirement may also count toward the Distribution Requirement.

**Policies**
Students who take approved CU Boulder course work to fulfill their Gen Ed requirements must take those courses for a letter grade and receive a grade of D- or higher. Students may not use thesis hours, independent study, internship or practicum courses to fill any of the Gen Ed requirements. All courses approved to fulfill specific A&S Gen Ed requirements are identified as such in this catalog and are searchable in the CU Boulder Class Search tool.

**Skills Requirement**
This requirement is designed to assure that each student has attained a minimum level of competency in foreign language, quantitative reasoning & mathematical skills, and written communication. Students may not use a course to fulfill any area of the Skills requirement and also use this course to fulfill part of the Distribution or Diversity requirements. This restriction applies to first- and second-semester foreign language courses taken as prerequisites to a third-semester language course that is satisfying the Foreign Language area of this requirement.

1. **Foreign Language (third-level proficiency)**
All students are required to demonstrate, while in high school, third-level proficiency in a single modern or classical foreign language. Students who have not met this requirement at the time of matriculation will have a MAPS deficiency. They may make up the deficiency only by passing an appropriate third-semester college course that is part of a three-course sequence of at least 12 semester credit hours or by passing a CU Boulder approved proficiency examination.

The goal of the language requirement is to encourage students to examine the formal and semantic structure of another language, significant and difficult works in that language, and one or more aspects of the culture lived in that language. This enables students to understand their own language and culture better, analyze texts more clearly and effectively, and appreciate more vividly the dangers and limitations of using a translated document. The language requirement concentrates on reading, although in some languages other abilities may be emphasized as well. Understanding what it means to read a significant text in its original language is essential for a liberal education according to the standards of this university.

Students who are subject to the General Education requirements, but not subject to MAPS, must complete the Foreign Language Gen Ed Skills requirement to meet degree requirements.

2. **Quantitative Reasoning and Mathematical Skills (QRMS) (3–6 credit hours)**
This requirement has two principal objectives. The first is to provide students with the analytical tools used in core curriculum courses and in their major areas of study. The second is to help students acquire the reasoning skills necessary to assess adequately the data that will confront them in their daily lives. Students completing this requirement should be able to: construct a logical argument based on the rules of inference; analyze, present, and interpret numerical data; estimate orders of magnitude as well as obtain exact results when appropriate; and apply mathematical methods to solve problems in their university work and in their daily lives.

To fulfill the QRMS Gen Ed Skills requirement,

- students must pass one of the approved QRMS courses or sequences of courses
- pass any 3 credits of mathematics courses numbered MATH 1300 or higher or applied mathematics courses numbered APPM 1350 or higher
- pass the CU Boulder QRMS proficiency exam.

3. **Written Communication (3 lower-division and 3 upper-division credit hours)**
Writing is a skill that is fundamental to all intellectual endeavors. In fulfilling this requirement, students hone their communication skills by writing for various purposes (informing, instructing, persuading) and audiences (academic, civic, professional). They learn to design their message ethically and effectively using appropriate evidence and technologies.

Lower-division Written Communication courses focus on the central rhetorical elements of purpose, audience, and context to help students craft effective writing in a variety of situations. They emphasize the relationships among these elements, including a writer’s choices of content, style, and format. In addition, courses in this area develop students’ analytical reading skills and introduce them to principles and practices of information literacy.

By the end of a lower-division Written Communication course, students will:

- demonstrate their rhetorical knowledge through their writing choices
- construct effective and ethical arguments
- analyze texts in a variety of genres
- refine and reflect on their writing process
- practice information literacy
- apply appropriate language conventions, including grammar, spelling, punctuation and format.

In upper-division Written Communication courses, students apply the rhetorical elements of purpose, audience, and context to investigate and practice writing using disciplinary language, forms, and genres. These courses emphasize the application of students’ disciplinary knowledge to a variety of writing situations, adjusting content, format, style and language conventions to accomplish specific purposes and communicate with specific audiences.

By the end of an upper-division Written Communication course, students will:

- demonstrate specialized rhetorical knowledge through composing texts in a variety of disciplinary forms and genres for specific audiences and purposes
- argue persuasively and with evidence, using discipline-specific forms and genres to present ideas and information
- demonstrate enhanced critical reading skills
- refine and reflect on their writing process
- demonstrate specialized information literacy through applying research to disciplinary questions/issues
To fulfill the lower-division part of the Written Communication Gen Ed Skills requirement, students must pass or receive placement credit (as determined, for example, by scores on AP or IB exams) for a 3-credit course approved as Skills - Lower-Division Written Communication, or earn an International Baccalaureate diploma. To fulfill the upper-division part of this requirement, students must pass a 3-credit course approved as Skills - Upper-Division Written Communication, or pass a Written Communication proficiency exam.

Distribution Requirement
For the Distribution requirement, students must pass a minimum of 12 credits in each of the three Arts & Sciences divisions (Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences). At least four different course prefixes must be represented in a student’s distribution requirement course work. No more than two lower-division (1000- and 2000-level) courses with the same course prefix may count toward the distribution requirement.

As part of, or in addition to, the 12 credits in the Natural Sciences division, students must meet the Natural Sciences lab requirement. (1- and 2-credit NS lab courses are excepted from the restriction to two lower-division courses with the same course prefix counting toward the Distribution requirement.)

4. Arts & Humanities (12 credits)
Courses in the Arts and the Humanities explore the variety of human creative and intellectual experiences, as well as the history and foundations of culture, through the examination of human languages, literatures, and other artistic, material, social, cultural, and political products, the forms they have taken in different places and eras, and the way these have changed over time. As a result, these courses cultivate perspectives and intellectual skills necessary to comprehend and respond adeptly to the world in which we live, offering frameworks for thinking critically about the universe and the smaller societies we inhabit. In particular, these courses help students develop the ability to appreciate and evaluate human efforts to explain, translate, and transform their diverse experiences of the world, as these efforts take shape in language, literature, philosophical systems, historical contexts, religious experience, material culture, images, sounds, and performances.

The Arts & Humanities Gen Ed Distribution requirement is meant to ensure that students:
- study the fundamental intellectual and ethical dimensions of human experience;
- investigate the relations between artistic, humanistic, and scientific inquiry and interpretation;
- understand and are prepared to navigate successfully the complex and ever-changing world in which we live.

To fulfill the Arts & Humanities Gen Ed Distribution Requirement, students must pass a minimum of 12 credits in courses approved as Distribution - Arts & Humanities courses. (Students may apply more than two lower-division courses with the DNCE prefix to this part of the requirement at long as the credit total in such courses is 6 or less.)

5. Natural Sciences (12 credits including a lab)
Natural Science courses examine the physical and biological world, exploring the nature of matter, life, and the universe. They are designed to demonstrate that science is not a static list of facts, but a dynamic process that leads to knowledge. By combining observation, experimentation, and theory, students learn to formulate interpretations and conclusions through unbiased, critical application of scientific principles. Through a combination of lecture courses and laboratory or field experiences, students gain hands-on experience with scientific research. They develop expertise in measurement techniques and data interpretation, and learn the relevance of this expertise to the formation and testing of scientific hypotheses. As a result, Natural Science courses cultivate perspectives and intellectual skills necessary to enhance knowledge of one or more scientific disciplines, and to probe scientific issues in the context of important past discoveries and new developments.

The Natural Sciences Gen Ed Distribution requirement is meant to ensure that students:
- understand the evolving state of knowledge in at least one scientific discipline;
- gain experience in scientific observation and measurement, in organizing and quantifying results, in drawing conclusions from data, and in understanding the uncertainties and limitations of the results;
- learn sufficient general scientific vocabulary and methodology to acquire additional information, evaluate it critically, and make informed decisions.

Laboratory or Field Experience: The Laboratory or Field Experience requirement is satisfied with a stand-alone lab of at least one credit, or another course with a substantial lab component, as approved by the Natural Sciences division. The lab requirement is broadly defined to include different types of hands-on learning, including – but not limited to – bench work, field work, instrumentation, and data analysis.

To fulfill the Natural Sciences Gen Ed Distribution requirement, students must pass a minimum of 12 credits in courses approved as Distribution - Natural Sciences courses, including a laboratory or field experience.

6. Social Sciences (12 credits)
Social Science courses examine the individual, social, ideological, cultural, political, and economic dimensions of human activities and behaviors. They address a broad range of topics through diverse theoretical and empirical approaches. As a result, these courses cultivate perspectives and intellectual skills necessary to apply qualitative and quantitative methods of inquiry to issues of societal significance. Students in social science courses are taught to analyze and interpret data from many different sources, such as fieldwork, interviews, surveys, peer-reviewed literature, published and unpublished repositories, and electronic media. These courses also discuss applications of the social sciences, which range from developing fundamental theories of the social world to solving problems and informing advocacy and activism.

The Social Sciences Gen Ed Distribution requirement is meant to ensure that students:
- explore the development of the institutions and functioning of human society;
- understand the interpersonal relationships of individuals as members of social groups;
- gain experience with social science vocabulary, methods and tools in systematic studies of the social world.

To fulfill the Social Sciences Gen Ed Distribution requirement, students must pass a minimum of 12 credits in courses approved as Distribution – Social Sciences courses.
Diversity Requirement
For the Diversity requirement, students must pass a minimum of 3 credits in each of the two Diversity categories for a total of 6 credits in courses that have been identified as fulfilling diversity learning goals. Students may use the same course to fulfill one of the Diversity categories and part of the Distribution requirement.

The diversity requirement addresses the need to prepare students to navigate the complexities of living and working in a diverse and increasingly interconnected world. Diversity courses are designed to provide students with the necessary understanding and analytical skills to successfully function and lead in a multicultural, multiethnic, transnational, and global society. The courses promote historical and/or contemporary understanding of how social differences shape, and have been shaped by, political, economic, and cross-cultural relationships within the United States and the world. Generally courses will explore the ways in which marginalization has occurred, and the reasons for this marginalization.

7. United States Perspective (3 credits)
United States Perspective Diversity courses promote historical and/or contemporary understanding of how social differences have shaped social, political, economic, and cross-cultural relationships within the United States. These courses must substantially address one or more forms of diversity (for example: race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, religion, disability).

To fulfill the U.S. Perspective Gen Ed Diversity requirement, students must pass a minimum of 3 credits in courses approved as Diversity - U.S. Perspective courses.

8. Global perspective (3 credits)
Global Perspective Diversity courses address the need for students to learn and think critically about historical and/or contemporary global forces and transnational connections. These courses might: 1) focus in-depth on a particular country or culture outside the U.S., placing it within transnational and global context; 2) address a problem or phenomenon in the context of two or more countries, cultures, or regions; 3) examine global affairs through a comparative framework; 4) be part of a study abroad experience with a substantial cross-cultural component.

To fulfill the Global Perspective Gen Ed Diversity requirement, students must pass a minimum of 3 credits in courses approved as Diversity - Global Perspective courses.

Core Curriculum
NOTE: All students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in the College of Arts and Sciences who entered the college before fall 2018 have the option to complete either the Core Curriculum or the General Education requirements.

The College of Arts and Sciences Core Curriculum requirements are divided into two parts: skills acquisition and content areas of study. The following sections provide descriptions of the individual requirement areas and their underlying educational philosophies and goals.

Policies and Exemptions
Students may use a course to meet only one Core requirement even if that course has been approved to fulfill more than one requirement. A student may not use independent study projects to fulfill Core requirements. Students who take approved CU Boulder course work to fulfill their Core requirements must take those courses for a letter grade and receive a grade of D- or higher. All courses that have been approved to fulfill specific requirements in the A&S Core Curriculum have that noted in their catalog entries and can be searched for using the CU Boulder Class Search (https://classes.colorado.edu) tool.

Selected majors and the ecology and evolutionary biology minor are exempt from portions of the core curriculum, as core course work is considered equivalent to course work in the major or minor. Students who graduate with more than one exempt major may apply their exemptions cumulatively.

Skills Acquisition
These requirements are designed to assure that each student has attained a minimum level of competency in each of the areas listed: foreign language, quantitative reasoning and mathematical skills and written communication.

1. Foreign Language
All students are required to demonstrate, while in high school, third-level proficiency in a single modern or classical foreign language. Students who have not met this requirement at the time of matriculation will have a MAPS deficiency. They may make up the deficiency only by passing an appropriate third-semester college course or by passing a CU Boulder approved proficiency examination.

The goal of the language requirement is to encourage students to examine the formal and semantic structure of another language, significant and difficult works in that language, and one or more aspects of the culture lived in that language. This enables students to understand their own language and culture better, analyze texts more clearly and effectively, and appreciate more vividly the dangers and limitations of using a translated document. The language requirement concentrates on reading, although in some languages other abilities may be emphasized as well. Understanding what it means to read a significant text in its original language is essential for a liberal education according to the standards of this university.

Questions about placement should be referred to the appropriate foreign language department.

Students who are subject to the Core Curriculum, but not subject to MAPS, must complete the foreign language requirement to meet degree requirements.

2. Quantitative Reasoning and Mathematical Skills (QRMS) (3–6 credit hours)
Liberally educated people should be able to think at a certain level of abstraction and to manipulate symbols. This requirement has two principal objectives. The first is to provide students with the analytical tools used in core curriculum courses and in their major areas of study. The second is to help students acquire the reasoning skills necessary to assess adequately the data which will confront them in their daily lives. Students completing this requirement should be able to: construct a logical argument based on the rules of inference; analyze, present and interpret numerical data; estimate orders of magnitude as well as obtain exact results when appropriate; and apply mathematical methods to solve problems in their university work and in their daily lives.

To fulfill the QRMS Gen Ed Skills requirement,

• students must pass one of the approved QRMS courses or sequences of courses
• pass any 3 credits of mathematics courses numbered MATH 1300 or higher or applied mathematics courses numbered APPM 1350 or higher
• pass the CU Boulder QRMS proficiency exam.

3. Written Communication (3 lower-division and 3 upper-division credit hours)

Writing is a skill fundamental to all intellectual endeavors. While some college courses require more writing than others, good writing is recognized as a necessary means of communication in every scholarly discipline. The core curriculum promotes the principle that ideas do not exist apart from language, and thus content cannot be isolated from style. For ideas to flourish, they must be expressed clearly and gracefully, so that readers take pleasure while taking instruction.

To fulfill the lower-division part of the Written Communication Core requirement, students must pass or receive placement credit (as determined, for example, by scores on AP or IB exams) for a 3-credit course approved for Lower-Division Written Communication or earn an International Baccalaureate diploma. To fulfill the upper-division part of this requirement, students must pass a 3-credit course approved for Upper-Division Written Communication or pass a Written Communication proficiency exam.

Content Areas of Study

The Content Areas of Study are designed to assure that all students acquire a broad liberal education.

4. Historical Context (3 credit hours)

Courses that fulfill this requirement enable students to study historical problems or issues and to develop an understanding of earlier ideas, institutions and cultures.

Courses explore the times and circumstances in which social, intellectual, artistic or other developments occurred. The purpose of this exploration is to analyze subjects in their context, that is, to investigate both the processes and the meanings of change. Among the educational aims of these courses are the following: to contribute to historical perspectives that may help to clarify issues that arise today or will arise tomorrow, to arouse the curiosity of students concerning historical conditions that may be relevant to subjects studied in other courses and to expand the imagination by generating an awareness of the diverse ways in which our common humanity has expressed itself.

To fulfill the Historical Context Core requirement, students must pass one of the 3-credit courses that has been approved to fulfill Historical Context.

5. Human Diversity (3 credit hours)

Courses fulfilling this requirement increase the student's understanding of the world's diversity and pluralism through the study of two broad and interrelated areas: (1) the nature and meaning of diversity and the experience of marginalized groups; and (2) cultures other than those of Europe and the United States. This requirement explicitly identifies an awareness and understanding of pluralism as essential to a liberal education.

Gender, Ethnic and Social Diversity

Courses in this area are designed to expand the range of each student's understanding of the experience of individuals and groups who, because of such fundamental components of identity as race, ethnicity, gender or other characteristics, have been historically marginalized by society and placed outside of the mainstream. Generally courses will explore the ways in which marginalization has occurred and the reasons for this marginalization. The intent is to expand understanding of these social groups with the goal of identifying the way social categories shape human thought and experience.

Non-Western Cultures

These courses are designed to expand the range of the student's understanding of cultures that are not derived principally from the western experience. A comparative perspective introduces students to the commonality and diversity of cultural responses to universal human problems. Each course seeks to cultivate insight into and respect for diversity by requiring students to explore a cultural world quite different from their own.

Courses satisfying this requirement are intended to portray culture in the most integrated sense, including aspects of material adaptation, social pattern, ideas and values and aesthetic achievement.

To fulfill the Human Diversity Core requirement, students must pass one of the 3-credit courses that has been approved to fulfill Human Diversity.

Students who graduate with a major in ethnic studies are exempt from completing the Human Diversity requirement.

6. United States Context (3 credit hours)

Courses fulfilling the United States Context requirement explore important aspects of culture and society in the United States. They stimulate critical thinking and an awareness of the place of the United States in the world by promoting an understanding of the world views that the environment, culture, history and values of the United States have fostered. They are required to include some discussion of the realities and issues related to matters of ethnic and racial diversity that characterize the nation's ongoing experience. These courses familiarize students with the United States and enable them to evaluate it critically.

These courses teach an appreciation of United States culture while inviting students to ask probing questions about values and ideals that are understood to be an integral part of the United States. Some of the questions that might be addressed in these courses are: How have citizens and other residents of the United States derived a sense of identity from geography, language, politics and the arts? How do people in the United States view and influence the world beyond the nation's borders? How have the rights and responsibilities of citizenship changed over time? How have U.S. citizens and residents in the United States dealt with opposing values? Completing this requirement, students will develop both a better understanding of the United States, present and past, and a considerable interest in the nation's future.

To fulfill the U.S. Context Core requirement, students must pass one of the 3-credit courses that has been approved to fulfill U.S. Context.

7. Literature and the Arts (6 credit hours, 3 of which must be upper-division)

These courses promote a better understanding of fundamental aesthetic and cultural issues. They sharpen critical and analytical abilities so that students may develop a deeper appreciation of works of art. The goal of this requirement is to enhance the student's ability to read critically, to understand the elements of art and to grasp something of the complex relations between artist and public, and between art work and cultural matrix. The emphasis in courses which fulfill this requirement is on works that are generally recognized as central to and significant for one's cultural literacy and thereby enhance the student's understanding of our literary and artistic heritage.

Courses stress literary works as well as the history and criticism of literature and the arts. They may utilize creative projects as a means of arriving at a better understanding of the art form, but students may not use studio or performance classes to satisfy this requirement.
To fulfill the Literature and Arts Core requirement, students must pass 6 credit hours of course work that has been approved to fulfill Literature and the Arts, of which at least 3 credit hours must be upper-division.

Students who graduate with a major dealing in depth with literature and the arts (Chinese, classics, dance, English, fine arts, French, Germanic studies, humanities, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish or theatre), are exempt from this requirement.

8. Natural Science (13 credit hours, including a two-course sequence and a laboratory or field experience)
These courses study the nature of matter, life and the universe. They enhance literacy and knowledge of one or more scientific disciplines, and enhance those reasoning and observing skills that are necessary to evaluate issues with scientific content. Courses are designed to demonstrate that science is not a static list of facts, but a dynamic process that leads to knowledge. This process is one of subtle interplay between observation, experimentation and theory, enabling students to develop a critical view toward the conclusions and interpretations obtained through the scientific process.

Through a combination of lecture courses and laboratory or field experiences, students gain hands-on experience with scientific research. They develop observational skills of measurement and data interpretation and learn the relevance of these skills to the formation and testing of scientific hypotheses.

The goal of this requirement is to enable students to understand the current state of knowledge in at least one scientific discipline, with specific reference to important past discoveries and the directions of current development; to gain experience in scientific observation and measurement, in organizing and quantifying results, in drawing conclusions from data and in understanding the uncertainties and limitations of the results; and to acquire sufficient general scientific vocabulary and methodology to find additional information about scientific issues, to evaluate it critically and to make informed decisions.

To fulfill the Natural Science Core requirement, students must pass 13 credit hours of approved Natural Science course work, which includes one two-semester sequence of courses and at least 1 credit hour of an associated lab or field experience. No more than two lower-division courses may be taken from any single department (1-credit-hour lab/field experience courses are excepted) and the lab/field experience course must be affiliated with a Natural Science lecture course.

Students who graduate with a major in the natural sciences (astrophysical and planetary sciences, biochemistry, chemistry, ecology and evolutionary biology, geology, integrative physiology, molecular, cellular and developmental biology or physics) or students who graduate with a minor in ecology and evolutionary biology are exempt from completing the natural science requirement.

9. Contemporary Societies (3 credit hours)
All individuals function within social frameworks. Courses in contemporary societies introduce students to the study of social groups, including social institutions and processes, the values and beliefs shared by their members and the forces that mold and shape social groups. They prepare students to approach social phenomena of all kinds in an informed and critical way, and to describe, analyze, compare and contrast them. Such study also provides students with new vantage points from which to view their own sociocultural assumptions and traditions.

These courses, which treat contemporary societies, study an individual society or compare several societies. All explicitly attempt to deepen the students’ understanding of the cultural, political, economic or social contexts that shape people’s lives. Their scope may be global or specific, but all courses that fulfill this requirement address social processes, institutions, values, forces and beliefs.

To fulfill the Contemporary Societies Core requirement, students must pass one 3-credit course that has been approved to fulfill Contemporary Societies.

Students who graduate with a major in anthropology, economics, international affairs, political science, psychology or sociology are exempt from the contemporary societies requirement.

10. Ideals and Values (3 credit hours)
Ideals and values have usually been determined by long-standing traditions and fixed social practices. In our modern world, the interaction of different cultures, movement from place to place, electronic media and the rapidity of change, even within a given society, have combined to generate new constellations of ideals and hard choices among values.

Courses meeting the ideals and values requirement inquire into some specific sphere of human value (e.g. moral, religious, intellectual, aesthetic, environmental, etc.). In these courses students are encouraged to reflect upon fundamental ideals and values, their own and others, and the sources from which these value orientations derive. Such inquiry demands the development of the critical skills which help students identifying the assumptions and ramifications of value structures. It also requires consideration of approaches by which value systems are constructed, justified and applied, especially in regard to personal, societal and in some cases cross-cultural contexts.

To fulfill the Ideals and Values Core requirement, students must pass one 3-credit course that has been approved to fulfill Ideals and Values.

Academic Standards
Students in the College of Arts and Sciences must abide by all policies and procedures as outlined in the university catalog and on the college’s advising website (https://www.colorado.edu/advising). Students should refer to these webpages often since policies, procedures and forms may be updated throughout the academic year.

Attendance
Successful work in the College of Arts and Sciences is dependent upon regular attendance in all classes. Students who are unavoidably absent should make arrangements with instructors to make up the work missed. Failure to attend regularly may result in receipt of an F in a course. Students who, for illness or other legitimate reason, miss a final examination must notify the instructor no later than the end of the day on which the examination is given. Failure to do so may result in receipt of an F in the course.

Registration and Enrollment
It is the students’ responsibility to enroll each semester in the requisite number of credit hours in accordance with the students’ individual degree plan. To be considered a full-time student, a minimum of 12 credit hours each fall and spring semester is required. Part-time enrollment (less than 12 credit hours) may impact student’s financial aid and scholarships, health insurance, on-campus housing, and the four-year graduation guarantee. Students must petition to be enrolled in more than 21 credit hours in any given fall or spring semester and more than 16 credit hours in any given summer semester.
Sequence of Courses
Students are expected to follow the curriculum outlined by their major department/program. A student who receives a grade of D+ or lower in a course that is prerequisite to another may not enroll in the succeeding course without approval from the student’s major department/program or the instructor of the succeeding course. Students should check with the major department/program for more stringent requirements on prerequisite course grades.

All courses are not necessarily offered each semester. According to college policy, undergraduate courses having an enrollment of fewer than 20 students may be cancelled. Students can minimize scheduling problems by closely following the curricular sequence outlined by their major department/program.

Add and Drop Policies
See the Office of the Registrar website (http://www.colorado.edu/registrar) for campuswide add and drop policies, and specific deadline dates for a given semester/term.

After the final drop deadline, students must file a detailed college petition to request a late drop, which may be approved under the following conditions:

- After the tenth week of class and before the last day of class in the term, a student may be approved to late drop a course with documentation to verify circumstances beyond their control or a university error.

Students are responsible for being aware of the consequences of a late drop(s), including impacts on financial aid/scholarships, health insurance, on-campus housing eligibility, academic progress towards degree requirements, etc.

Withdrawal
Arts and Sciences students may withdraw from all classes for a term until the last day that classes are taught by requesting withdrawal in the Office of the Registrar. In the event of extenuating circumstances, students may petition for a retroactive withdrawal through the Dean of Students Office. For specific withdrawal procedures and campus-wide policies, see the Withdrawal (https://catalog.colorado.edu/about-cu-registration-enrollment/#withdrawingfromcutext) section.

Consecutive Withdrawal
Students in the College of Arts and Sciences who withdraw two semesters in a row will have a dean’s stop placed on their registration. Summer session is not counted as a regular semester. They will not be permitted to return to CU Boulder before one full academic year has elapsed (not including their semester of withdrawal).

Good Academic Standing
Good academic standing in the college requires a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 (C) or above in all University of Colorado work. Grades earned at another institution are not used in calculating the grade point average at the University of Colorado (this includes courses taken at Metropolitan State University on the Denver campus). However, grades earned in another school or college within the University of Colorado system are used in determining a student’s scholastic standing and progress toward the degree in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Alert – Probation for First-Year Students Only
First-year students who complete their first semester on campus, whether they are a first year or a new transfer student, with a cumulative GPA that is below 2.00 are placed on Academic Alert. If you are placed on Academic Alert, you are not in good academic standing. Students on Academic Alert who earn a semester GPA of 2.00 or higher during their alert semester but do not earn a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher are allowed a second semester on academic probation to achieve the required cumulative GPA of at least a 2.00. Students who earn below a 2.00 semester GPA during their alert semester will be placed on Academic Suspension.

Academic Probation
Continuing students whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.00 are placed on Academic Probation. Those students who enroll in any term in the calendar year, excluding summers, after being placed on probation are expected to raise their cumulative GPA to a 2.00 or above overall by the end of that term. Students are not suspended at the end of the summer term. Students placed on Academic Probation who elect to remain out of school for a full calendar year can return to the university with a two-semesters of Academic Probation to achieve the required cumulative GPA of 2.00 or above.

Academic Suspension
Students who fail to earn a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher after the semester of Academic Probation will be suspended and will not be able to register for University of Colorado main campus courses on any campus during any academic year, August to May. A student on Academic Suspension may choose from the following options:

Enrollment Options
1. Students may take classes through the Division of Continuing Education (Boulder evening or online courses) and apply for reinstatement when they have reached a 2.00 cumulative GPA.
2. Students who choose to enroll in Continuing Education courses to restore their good standing must maintain a 2.50 GPA or above in each term in Continuing Education.
3. Students can take courses at another academic institution. To be reinstated, your cumulative GPA at CU before your suspension plus the grades and credit hours resulting from all work done at other institutions after your suspension must calculate to a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.00. This is referred to as a virtual GPA. These transfer grades are used only for the purpose of reinstatement and do not impact the University of Colorado GPA. If students choose this option and are reinstated based on a virtual GPA, they will be readmitted on academic probation and given two semesters of main campus enrollment to bring their CU cumulative GPA to a 2.00 minimum.
4. Students may choose a combination of 1 and 2.
5. Students on Academic Suspension may enroll in main campus summer classes.

Academic Ethics
The College of Arts and Sciences follows the policies and procedures governing acts of academic dishonesty can be found on the Web at honorcode.colorado.edu (https://honorcode.colorado.edu). A university’s intellectual reputation depends on the maintenance of the highest standards of intellectual honesty. Commitment to those standards is a responsibility of every student and faculty member at the University of Colorado.
Policy on Grade Appeals
The following shall be the official policy of the academic units of the College, unless an academic unit submits an alternative procedure to the Dean for approval.

When a student believes that a grade has been improperly assigned, and discussions between the instructor and the student have not led to any resolution of the problem:

1. The student shall have the option of making a formal written appeal to the Department Chair. The appeal must specify the remedy desired by the student, and it must be submitted within 45 days of the end of the academic term in which the course was taken.
2. The Chair or designee will meet (together or separately) with the student and with the faculty member who taught the course. If the Chair/designee is unable to broker a solution mutually acceptable to both student and instructor, then the Chair shall appoint an ad hoc Grade Appeals Committee, which will review the dispute. This Committee shall consist of at least three impartial faculty members competent in the subject matter of the course in question. The Chair will provide the Committee with the student’s appeal and a written response from the faculty member.
3. Within 45 days, the Committee will submit a report and recommendation to the Chair, and the Chair will recommend to the instructor either (1) that the originally assigned grade stand; or (2) that a new grade be assigned.
4. In cases where a change of grade is recommended and the instructor does not wish to accept the recommendation of his/her colleagues, the Chair shall forward the written materials associated with the appeal to the Dean of the College.

Policy on Incomplete Grades
An I grade is given at the discretion of the course instructor only when a student has satisfactorily completed a substantial portion of a course and, for reasons beyond the student’s control, is prevented from completing all work for the course within the term. Incomplete grades must be requested by the student and should not be awarded by the instructor for non-attendance. (In the case of non-attendance, the instructor should award the student the grade(s) earned.) If an incomplete grade is given, the instructor is required to document the reasons/grounds for the awarding of the incomplete grade, the specific work and conditions for completion of the course and the time frame within which the course work must be completed. The maximum time the instructor can allow for the completion of the course work and subsequent award of a course grade is one year from the end of the term the course was taken. After one year, if no final grade is awarded, the “I” will change to the grade of “F.” A copy of a departmental Incomplete Agreement signed by the student and instructor and accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstances that resulted in the awarding of an incomplete should be filed with the instructor’s department office, and a copy should be given to the student.

Policy on Exceptions to Academic Rules and Policies
The College of Arts and Sciences does not waive degree requirements or excuse students from completing degree requirements. Petitions for exceptions to the academic policies stated in this catalog may be submitted to the Appeals Committee on Academic Rules and Policies. Such petitions will be considered only if they meet all three of the following conditions:

1. The student must document that she/he has made every effort to fulfill the policy or requirement as defined and must demonstrate that no other options exist for fulfilling the requirement as defined in this catalog.
2. The student must document that she/he is prevented from fulfilling the policy or meeting the requirement as defined here for compelling reasons beyond the student’s control.
3. The student must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the faculty committee that she/he has fulfilled or will fulfill the intent of the policy or the requirement through an appropriate alternative.

Students who believe that their circumstances meet the conditions to submit a petition must first consult with their academic advisor. If the advisor offers options for meeting the requirement or policy as defined here, the student must pursue those options and should not submit a petition.

The Appeals Committee on Academic Rules and Policies is located in the Office of Academic and Curricular Affairs.

Academic Excellence

Dean’s List
Students in the College of Arts and Sciences who have completed at least 12 credit hours of CU Boulder course work for a letter grade in any single semester with a term GPA of 3.75 or better are included on the dean’s list and receive a notation on their transcript and a letter from the dean.

Graduation with Honors
The award of Latin honors at graduation—cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude—is determined by the Honors Program of the college and is based on several criteria, including the quality of original scholarly work. Honors are not conferred on a graduate simply by virtue of high grades. Students pursuing multiple majors or multiple degrees must complete their honors program and defend their thesis by the published deadline for the term/year in which their first major or first degree is conferred. Students intending to pursue honors must register with the Honors Program by the deadlines published on the Honors Program (https://www.colorado.edu/honors/graduation) website. Honors requirements must be complete prior to graduation. Students "walking" in May but graduating in August must complete honors requirements, including defending the thesis, by the Honors Program deadline for May graduation. Interested students should consult the Honors Program listing in this catalog or contact the Honors Program (https://www.colorado.edu/honors/graduation) in Norlin Library.

Graduation with Distinction
Students will graduate "With Distinction" if they have at least 30 credit hours completed at the University of Colorado Boulder and have a grade point average of 3.75 or higher for all course work completed at the University of Colorado. The average includes all grades except P.

Phi Beta Kappa
Phi Beta Kappa is the nation’s oldest and most prestigious honor society. The CU Boulder chapter was established in 1904. Upper-division students whose undergraduate academic records fulfill certain requirements are eligible for election to membership in recognition of outstanding scholastic achievement in the liberal arts and sciences. Students are notified by mail of their nomination; students do not apply for Phi Beta Kappa membership.