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MEDIA STUDIES, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (*Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin*).

Media Effects Option: Media Studies, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 1	4 Foreign Language Level 2	4
ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS) [‡]	3 COMM 100N ^{*1}	3
ECON 102 (GS)	3 PSYCH 100 (GS)*†	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 B.A. Other Cultures	3
COMM 160	1 General Education Course (GN)	3
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 3	4 STAT 200 (GQ) [‡]	4
COMM 118 ^{*1}	3 COMM 110, 150N, 180, 205, 320, 403, or 412*	3
COMM 270 [*]	3 U.S. Cultures (US)	3
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
General Education Course (GA) (Inter-Domain)	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3
	16	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 405 [*]	3 COMM 305 [*]	3
COMM 304*	3 General Education Course (GH) (Inter-Domain)	3
PSYCH 221 or 256*	3 International Cultures (IL)	3
CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C (GWS) [‡]	3 General Education Course (GN)	3

Domain		
	15	15
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 413W [*]	3 COMM 418 [*]	3
COMM 325, 326, 327, or 328*	3 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3
Supporting Research Course*2	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge	3 Elective	3

1.5 General Education Course

3 Elective

Total Credits 120

General Education Course

Domain

(GHW)

Bachelor of Arts Knowledge

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

13.5

- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
- Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 100N or COMM 118 will take those courses at University Park. COMM 100N will be taken the 5th semester to replace CAS 100 taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campuses. COMM 118 will be taken the 6th semester to replace ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D taken the 4th semester at the commonwealth campuses.
- ² Supporting Research Courses (see adviser) ANTH 428, ANTH 458, CAS 204, CAS 411, CAS 415, CAS 450W, EDPSY 406, EDPSY 450, ENGL 200, PLSC 308, PLSC 309, SOC 7, SOC 207, SOC 470, SOC 471, STAT 401, STAT 460, STAT 462, STAT 464, WMNST 401.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

Film and Television Studies Option: Media Studies, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 1	4 Foreign Language Level 2	4
ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS) [‡]	3 General Education Course (GN) (Inter-Domain)	3
ECON 102 (GS)	3 General Education Course (GS)	3
COMM 150N*	3 COMM 100N ^{*1}	3
COMM 160	1 General Education Course (GA)	3
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 3	4 COMM 250 ^{*1}	3
COMM 270 [*]	3 B.A. Other Cultures	3
General Education Course (GH) (Inter-Domain)	3 STAT 200 (GQ) [‡]	4
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain (U.S. Cultures)	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
	16	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 305*	3 COMM 304 [*]	3
COMM 405*	3 COMM 242*1	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3 CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C (GWS) [‡]	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain (International Cultures)	3 COMM 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 495, or 496*	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 413W [*]	3 COMM 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 495, or 496 [*]	3
COMM 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 495, or 496 [*]	3 Supporting Course ²	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3 Elective	3
Elective	3 Elective	3

	13.5	13.5
(GHW)	(GHW)	
General Education Course	1.5 General Education Course	1.5

Total Credits 120

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
- Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 100N, COMM 242 and COMM 250 will take those courses at University Park. COMM 100N will be taken 5th semester in place of ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D which will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus. COMM 150N will be taken 5th semester in place of COMM 250 which will be taken 6th semester in place of a B.A. Knowledge Domain (international cultures). The B.A. Knowledge Domain (international cultures) will be taken 3rd semester at a commonwealth campus in place of COMM 150N. COMM 242 will be taken 6th semester in place of an elective. An elective will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus in place of COMM 242.
- Additional Supporting Course (see adviser) CAS 415, CHNS 121N, CMLIT 153, ENGL 403, FR 138N, FR 487, FR 488, IT 475, JAPNS 453, MUSIC 4, PHIL 5 (Please check language of instruction)

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

International Communications Option (No Study Abroad): Media Studies, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 1	4 Foreign Language Level 2	4
ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS) [‡]	3 COMM 100N*1	3
ECON 102 (GS)	3 General Education Course (GS) (Inter-Domain)	3
General Education Course (GH) (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
COMM 160	1 General Education Course (GN)	3
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 3	4 STAT 200 (GQ) [‡]	4
COMM 110 ^{1*}	3 COMM 118, 150N, 205, 320, or 452 ^{1*}	3
COMM 270*	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 B.A. Other Cultures	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain/Minor	3
	16	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 304*	3 COMM 410 (International Cultures, IL)*	3
COMM 405 [*]	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain/Minor	3
CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C (GWS) [‡]	3 Supporting Courses and Related Areas	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 Non-COMM Elective	3
Supporting Courses and Related Areas	3 Elective/Minor	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 305*	3 COMM 413W*	3
COMM 419 (US Cultures, US)*	3 Supporting Courses and Related Areas	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3 Elective/Minor	3

Non-COMM Elective	3 Elective/Minor	3
General Education Course	1.5 General Education Course	1.5
(GHW)	(GHW)	10.5
	13.5	13.5

Total Credits 120

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
- Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 100N, COMM 110 and 3 credits of COMM 118, COMM 150N, COMM 205, COMM 320 or COMM 452 will take these courses at University Park. COMM 100N will be taken 5th semester in place of the B.A. Knowledge domain which will be taken 2nd semester at the commonwealth campus. 3 Credits of COMM 118, COMM 150N, COMM 205, COMM 320 or COMM 452 will be taken 5th semester in place of ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D which will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus. COMM 110 will be taken 6th semester in place of the B.A. Knowledge Domain which will be taken 3rd semester at the commonwealth campus.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures.

See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

International Communications Option (Semester Abroad): Media Studies, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 1	4 Foreign Language Level 2	4
ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS) [‡]	3 COMM 100N*1	3
ECON 102 (GS)	3 General Education Course (GS) (Inter-Domain)	3
General Education Course (GH) (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
COMM 160	1 General Education Course (GN)	3
PSU 9	1	
·	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 3	4 STAT 200 (GQ) [‡]	4
COMM 110 ^{1*}	3 COMM 118, 150N, 205, 320, 381, or 452 ^{1*}	3
COMM 270 [*]	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 B.A. Other Cultures	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3
	16	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 304*	3 Semester Abroad (No COM Courses, All Electives)*	M 15
COMM 405*	3	
CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C (GWS) [‡]	3	
General Education Course (GA)	3	
General Education Course (GN)	3	

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Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 410 (International Cultures, IL)*	3 COMM 419 (US Cultures, US)*	3
COMM 305*	3 COMM 413W*	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3

General Education Course (GA)	3 Elective	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	13.5	13.5

Total Credits 120

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
- Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 100N, COMM 110 and 3 credits of COMM 118, COMM 150N, COMM 205 COMM 320 or COMM 452 will take these courses at University Park. COMM 100N will be taken 5th semester in place of the B.A. Knowledge domain which will be taken 2nd semester at the commonwealth campus. 3 Credits of COMM 118, COMM 150N, COMM 205, COMM 320 or COMM 452 will be taken 5th semester in place of ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D which will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus. COMM 110 will be taken 5th semester in place of the B.A. Knowledge Domain which will be taken 3rd semester at the commonwealth campus.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

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W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures.

See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

Society and Culture Option: Media Studies, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

Fi	rst	Ye	eai

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 1	4 Foreign Language Level 2	4
ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS) [‡]	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
ECON 102 (GS)	3 General Education Course (GH) (Inter-Domain)	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 COMM 100N ^{*1}	3
COMM 160	1 General Education Course (GS)	3
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
Foreign Language Level 3	4 STAT 200 (GQ) [‡]	4
COMM 110, 118, 150N, or 205 ^{1*}	3 COMM 110, 118, 150N, or 205 ^{*1}	3
COMM 270*	3 General Education Course (GA) (Inter-Domain)	3
B.A. Other Cultures	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain (US Cultures)	3
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 Elective	3
	16	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C (GWS) [‡]	3 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3
COMM 304 [*]	3 COMM 305 [*]	3
COMM 405*	3 COMM Theory 400 Level Course [*]	3
COMM Theory Course	3 Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain (International Cultures)	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM Theory 400 Level Course*	3 COMM Theory 400 Level Course [*]	3
COMM 413W [*]	3 COMM 411*	3
Bachelor of Arts Knowledge Domain	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
Elective	3 Elective	3

13.5		13.5
(GHW)	(GHW)	
General Education Course	1.5 General Education Course	1.5

Total Credits 120

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
- Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 100N or 3 credits of COMM 110, COMM 118, COMM 150N or COMM 205 will take those courses at University Park. 3 credits of COMM 110, COMM 118, COMM 150N or COMM 205 will be taken 5 semester in place of the Other Cultures requirement which will be taken 3rd semester at the commonwealth campus. COMM 100N will be taken 5th semester in place of ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D which will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus. 3 credits of COMM 110, COMM 118, COMM 150N or COMM 205 will be taken 6th semester in place of the B.A. Knowledge Domain (International Cultures), which will be taken 4th semester at the commonwealth campus.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures.

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See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).