

HISTORICAL (minimum 3 semester hours)*

History majors must take three extra semester hours at Level II in the Social Sciences, Arts & Letters, or Natural Science categories in lieu of the three hours in the Historical category. History majors may not use courses that are crosslisted with history courses for General Studies.

*A one-hour deviation in the General Studies Historical requirement may be allowed, provided the student has completed at least 33 semester hours of General Studies courses.

ARTS & LETTERS (minimum 6 semester hours)*

Arts & Letters courses impart a broad knowledge of important works and major schools of thought from at least two centuries. They also provide a foundation for critical evaluation within the discipline.

*A one-hour deviation in the General Studies arts and letters requirement may be allowed, provided the student has completed at least 33 semester hours of General Studies courses.

SOCIAL SCIENCES (minimum 6 semester hours)*

Social Sciences courses aim to explore the formation, behavior and interaction of various social, cultural, political or economic groups and institutions.

*A one-hour deviation in the General Studies Social Sciences requirement may be allowed, provided the student has completed at least 33 semester hours of General Studies courses.

NATURAL SCIENCE (minimum 6 semester hours)*

Natural Science courses provide an opportunity for students to experience the systematic formulation and testing of hypotheses and to learn the importance of accurate observation and measurement. Students will differentiate among fact, speculation, evidence, inference, belief, theory, law and generalization.

In order to receive General Studies credit, both BIO 1080 and 1090 or Bio 1081 and 1091, must be successfully completed. This is true also for State Guaranteed General Education credit.

CHE 1100 and CHE 1150 must be successfully completed to receive General Studies credit.

Successful completion of CHE 1850 and either CHE 1800 or 1810 will result in 6 hours Natural Science General Studies credit. Successful completion of all three courses will result in 10 hours of General Studies credit. CHE 1800 is a prerequisite for CHE 1850. CHE 1850 has a corequisite of CHE 1810.

A one-hour deviation in the General Studies Natural Science requirement may be allowed, provided the student has completed at least 33 semester hours of General Studies courses.

ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**Multicultural and Senior Experience Course Requirements**

In addition to completing the General Studies requirements, a student must complete a three-hour Multicultural course and a three-hour Senior Experience course, or selection of courses, to be awarded a bachelor's degree from MSCD. The Multicultural course does not require three hours as a separate category and can be taken in the major, minor or as an elective. The rules pertaining to those requirements and the courses that will satisfy those requirements are described below.

Multicultural Graduation Requirements (minimum 3 semester hours)

Multicultural course required content and course materials are designed to increase students' awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity in the United States. Multicultural education coursework examines the interactions of values, beliefs, traditions, identities, and contributions of one or more of the following four groups of color in the United States: African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American, which may include the characteristics of gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability within these groups.

At the conclusion of a multicultural course, students will be able to:

- Define factors that lead to the formation and continuation of one or more of the four groups of color in United States society.
- Present the customs, behavioral patterns, and identities of one or more of the four groups of color in United States society.
- Delineate the effects of bias, prejudices, and discrimination on one or more of the four groups of color in United States society.
- Describe the cultural similarities, commonalities, and differences within or among one or more of the four groups of color in United States society.
- Communicate how the acceptance and inclusion of all groups of color enriches lives and increases the creativity and performance of everyone in United States society.

Multicultural Graduation Designation Course Work:

Multicultural courses that are approved for the College's graduation requirement are listed in the Course Description section of this Catalog. This designation is noted in parenthesis at the end of each course description as "multicultural." Please Note: All multicultural courses are under review by the Multicultural Curriculum Review Committee. Some courses have the stipulation "Multicultural removal 2008-09." Consult with your academic advisor about which multicultural course applies to your degree.

Transferability of Multicultural Credits

Transfer credits to meet the multicultural requirement will be accepted under the following guidelines:

1. Transferable courses taken at an accredited institution to meet a multicultural or similar diversity requirement will satisfy the MSCD multicultural requirement.
2. Transferable courses equivalent to an existing multicultural course will satisfy the MSCD multicultural requirement. Equivalency will be determined by the department offering the course. Once a course has been approved by a department, it will be given the status of an approved transferable multicultural course.
3. If a transferable course is interdisciplinary, MSCD transfer evaluators will consult with the department(s) where the majority of the course content resides.
4. A one-hour deviation in the multicultural requirement will be allowed for courses judged to be similar in content to an existing MSCD multicultural course. Equivalency will be determined by the department offering the multicultural course.
5. Full credit or a one-hour deviation in the multicultural requirement will be allowed when the transferable course meets MSCD's multicultural definition and course criteria, although a similar course is not taught at MSCD.
6. If transferable courses do not clearly meet MSCD's multicultural definition, transfer evaluators may request an opinion from the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee and/or the Multicultural Curriculum Review Committee.

Senior Year Assessment Examinations and Other Activities

In their senior year, students may be required to participate in an assessment of their education. The faculty has determined educational goals or outcomes that it wants graduates to achieve. A copy of those goals and the methods by which their achievements are measured can be obtained from the department offices.

Senior Experience Graduation Requirements (Minimum 3 Semester Hours)

The Senior Experience course provides a culmination of the undergraduate experience, allowing students to synthesize their learning, using critical analysis and logical thinking. Students may use the course to satisfy major or minor requirements if the course is approved for that use. Students should consult with their advisor and check prerequisites. Students must complete a Senior Experience course at the end of the undergraduate program and must take the course or courses at MSCD. Senior Experience courses include “senior standing” as a prerequisite in addition to other prerequisites designated by the department. In some cases students may need to take two courses to satisfy the requirement.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES Semester Hours Credit

Course credit is based on units designated as semester hours. One semester hour or one base contact hour equals a minimum of 750 minutes; this translates to a minimum of fifteen, 50-minute class hours per semester. Time required for class preparation is not a consideration in the calculation of course credit. A three semester hour course will require six to nine hours of work each week outside of class. Omnibus courses involving laboratory work give one semester hour of credit for each two, three or four hours of scheduled work in the laboratory during a week, depending on the course. Internships require a minimum of 2,250 minutes for each hour of credit.

Course Load

The average course load per 16-week semester is 15 or 16 semester hours. Students who are academically strong may take up to 18 semester hours during fall and spring semesters and up to 12 semester hours during the summer semester. During fall and spring semesters, students with cumulative MSCD grade point averages (GPAs) of 3.25 or higher may take 19 or 20 semester hours and those students with GPAs of 3.50 or higher may take 21 semester hours for fall and spring semester or 14 semester hours for the summer semester. Students must have completed at least 15 semester hours at MSCD. Authorization for overloads for students without these qualifications must be obtained from the student’s major department chair and appropriate dean. Forms are available from the department, deans’ offices, or online.

Student Classification

Students are classified according to the number of semester hours of credit earned: freshmen fewer than 30; sophomores 30 or more, but fewer than 60; juniors 60 or more, but fewer than 90; seniors 90 or more.

Declaring/Changing a Major

Applicants to Metropolitan State College of Denver may indicate their intended major on the MSCD Application for Admission. Degree-seeking students who wish to change a major must complete a Declaration/Change of Major form, which is available from the major department or from the Academic Advising Center. Non-degree-seeking students who wish to declare a major must first change to degree-seeking status by completing a Change of Status form with the Admissions Office.