ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Academic Programs

For a list of undergraduate programs offered on the Columbia Campus visit the following link:

• Programs A-Z (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/)

Carolina Core Requirements
The Carolina Core curriculum provides the common core of knowledge, skill, and academic experience for all Carolina undergraduates. It has 10 Core components, each with learning outcomes and credit hour requirements. The Core begins with foundational courses early in the undergraduate experience, followed by one or more integrative courses near the end in which selected Core learning outcomes are integrated into the chosen major.

Each of the ten Core components must be met with a Core-approved course. While most Core-approved courses fulfill a single Core component, a few courses, called overlay-eligible courses, have been approved to fulfill two Core components. Every student is required to complete a minimum of 31 credit hours of Core-approved courses.

Transfer students who enter USC Columbia, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, or Union are subject to the Carolina Core requirements. Any transfer courses that equate to Carolina Core courses will equate to both content and all outcomes associated with the USC Course.

Visit the Carolina Core website for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Carolina Core Components</th>
<th>Carolina Core Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMW</td>
<td>Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written Component Identify and analyze issues, develop logical and persuasive arguments, and communicate ideas clearly for a variety of audiences and purposes through writing and speaking.</td>
<td>6 Written component</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ARP</td>
<td>Analytical Reasoning and Problem-Solving Apply the methods of mathematical, statistical, or analytical reasoning to critically evaluate data, solve problems, and effectively communicate findings verbally and graphically.</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>Scientific Literacy Apply the principles and language of the natural sciences and associated technologies to historical and contemporary issues.</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>GFL</td>
<td>Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language Communicate effectively in more than one language.</td>
<td>0-6 (depending on placement test)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GHS</td>
<td>Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Historical Thinking Use the principles of historical thinking to understand past human societies.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GSS</td>
<td>Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Social Sciences Use the principles of the social sciences to explore diverse cultural identities and to analyze political and environmental issues.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIU</td>
<td>Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding Create or interpret literary, visual or performing arts</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Carolina Core Courses

- **Foundational Courses** ([https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/](https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/))
- **Integrative Courses** ([https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/#integrativecoursestext](https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/#integrativecoursestext))

## Other Requirements

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective.

## Special Academic Opportunities

Special academic and cultural programs whose scope extends beyond the disciplinary field of any specific college, school, or department are offered at the University.

### Cognates and Minors

The University recognizes the importance to students of in-depth study of an area to supplement their major field. Most colleges within the University require either a cognate or a minor in addition to the major as part of degree requirements. Some programs require neither.

A minor is a series of courses that display a distinct curricular pattern in one discipline that is different from the major. Undergraduate minors normally require a minimum of 18 credit hours of prescribed courses. Undergraduate minors appear on the transcripts, but not on the diplomas.

A cognate is a series of courses that display a distinct curricular pattern in one or more disciplines different from the major. Undergraduate cognates require a minimum of 12 credit hours in advanced level courses related to, but outside the major. Cognates are variable according to what is appropriate as determined by the student and the major advisor. Thus cognates do not appear on either the transcripts or the diplomas.

Students are advised to consult their academic dean as to whether a minor or cognate is required for their degree program. For a list of undergraduate minors visit [Programs A-Z](https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/).

### South Carolina Honors College

South Carolina Honors College ([http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/honors_college/](http://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/honors_college/)) was established in 1978 as a means of encouraging gifted students to develop their full intellectual capacities. For additional information, please visit the South Carolina Honors College ([https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/honors/](https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/honors/)) section of this bulletin.

### Study Abroad

Each year hundreds of students participate in study abroad programs in many locations around the world. The Study Abroad Office ([http://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/global_carolina/?](http://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/global_carolina/))
toward most baccalaureate degrees offered by the University.

A student's regular load or as an overload. Course credit is awarded on a
interest in working with new students. The course may be taken as part of
faculty members and administrative personnel who have a special
Offered in small classes of 19 students, University 101 is taught by
by examining problems common to the new-student experience.
success skills. It also provides students a support group in a critical year
understanding of the learning process, and acquire essential academic
The course helps new students adjust to the University, develop a better
understanding of the learning process, and acquire essential academic
success skills. It also provides students a support group in a critical year
by examining problems common to the new-student experience.
 offerings for exchange students who attend USC, and administers exchange
programs with international universities. The Study Abroad Office
continually developing new program options for the benefit of
interested students.

For more information contact the Study Abroad Office (https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/study_abroad/) at 803-777-7557.

University 101

University 101 is a 3-credit-hour seminar course provided for and
offered to freshmen and to other undergraduate students (i.e., transfer
students) in their first semester at USC Columbia. This course provides
an introduction to the nature and importance of university education and
a general orientation to the functions and resources of the University.
Many sections are offered for students enrolled in a specific USC college
or academic major.

The course helps new students adjust to the University, develop a better
understanding of the learning process, and acquire essential academic
success skills. It also provides students a support group in a critical year
by examining problems common to the new-student experience.

Offered in small classes of 19 students, University 101 is taught by
faculty members and administrative personnel who have a special
interest in working with new students. The course may be taken as part of
a student’s regular load or as an overload. Course credit is awarded on a
letter-grade basis. Credit is applicable as either elective or required credit
toward most baccalaureate degrees offered by the University.

Undergraduate Research

Many students enrich the academic experience through
research opportunities in all disciplines. Students work
one-on-one with a faculty mentor, receive funding for their
projects, and gain professional research experiences. The
Office of Undergraduate Research (http://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/undergraduate_research/) assists students
in making connections with faculty and facilitating projects.
Discovery Day (https://sc.edu/about/signature_events/discover/usc/) showcases students’ scholarly pursuits in and out of the
classroom. Students present their research discoveries through
poster discussions, oral presentations, artistic presentations &
visual art displays. Some students elect to live together in a unique
community on campus. Students will benefit from field trips, the
Discover Seminar Series, networking events with faculty and other
researchers, and access to service learning opportunities study
abroad programs and internships.

Service Learning

Service-learning offers students an opportunity for hand-on
involvement with real world concerns as a venue for educational
growth. Combining the academic experience with community
service provides a context for testing, observing, or trying
out discipline-based theories, concepts, or skills. The Service
Learning website (https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/leadership_and_service_center/service_learning/) offers information on service learning courses
available for students.

Leadership Learning

Many programs and activities are available at USC to develop
leadership talent in students across disciplines, across colleges,
across campus, and throughout the community. Several well known
programs include the annual Student Leadership and Diversity
Conference, the Emerging Leaders Program (https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/leadership_and_service_center/leadership_development/carolinalead/cfelp_peer_leader.php)(ELP), and the leader mentor network. The ELP assists students in
learning about basic leadership theory. Students assess and
explore their own leadership style and capacities, develop skills
relevant to leadership work, and develop a personal development
and leadership plan. Emerging Leader Mentors (ELMs) are students
who have been at the university for more than 4 semesters who
provide mentoring for first year students and transfer students in
the Emerging Leaders Program.

Career and Pre-Professional Counseling

Students interested in careers requiring postgraduate professional
training should plan their undergraduate curricula to meet the
entrance requirements of the professional schools involved. Special
advisors are available to offer assistance in career and curriculum
planning in the following fields of postgraduate specialization:

Law (Eileen Korpita, pre-law advisor). Most law schools require for
admission a B.S. or B.A. degree and an acceptable score on the Law
School Admission Test. A solid liberal arts education is the best
academic background for the study of law. Hence, no particular
major or specific courses are required for successful performance
in law school.

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Optometry, Podiatry
(Eileen Korpita, health careers advisor). Students may obtain
general advice concerning health related careers from the health
careers advisor in Rooms 127-129, Sumwalt. Medical schools urge
undergraduate students to obtain a broad liberal arts education but
also require certain specific courses for admission. These include
courses in the areas of biology, chemistry, English, mathematics,
and physics. A very high scholastic average and a good score
on the appropriate national admission examination (MCAT, DAT,
etc.) are also essential for admission. Premedical, predental,
preveterinary medicine, preoptometry, and prepodiatry students
should have their course programs approved by the faculty advisor
beginning with their freshman year in order to increase their chance
for admission to a professional school.

Religious Vocations (Carl D. Evans, advisor). The professional
schools of theology and religious education usually require
a B.A. degree for admission. In regard to the undergraduate
program, a broad liberal arts education with emphasis in religious
studies, philosophy, English literature, history, and languages is
recommended. Students planning professional religious vocations
should work with the advisor in planning their academic program to
be sure that they are adequately prepared for graduate professional study.

**Education (Office of Student Affairs).** Students may obtain general advice concerning teacher preparation from the Office of Student Affairs in the College of Education, Room 113, Wardlaw College.