

### **Anecdotal Comments re GER courses (Source: 2007 Academic Advising Survey)**

... the advisors know we have to take dumb classes that don't have anything to do with our major, but are required to take so we can be "well rounded" and I think that sucks. We are paying the school to come here therefore we should ONLY have to take classes that pertain to our major!

I feel like I'm taking a bunch of random classes.

.... I suggest limiting GER and college requirements and putting more of a focus on the requirements in the major its self.

Sometimes I wish my GER classes had more to do with my major but I like that they don't have to because then I can look for other things outside of my major that I like doing.

I really dislike how on the schedule of classes it may say SS credit - however it does not apply to every school. It's awful that in the same school each college/department has its OWN requirements, especially pertaining to GER requirements. It makes reading the Schedule of Classes and its prerequisites useless so you have to check with your advisor for every class.

[Have the advisor] help the students not only understand what the major requirements are (since these can easily be found on the website) but also what GER's each of these will satisfy (if any) so that extra courses are not taken if not wanted.

[Having the advisor know] a bit more about areas outside of your "school" would be so fantastically helpful, so when you're taking classes to fulfill GER's, the advisor can actually be helpful with choosing classes

Get rid of required classes and have advisors help student take the courses they need for their majors only.

The online GER requirements can be confusing and to ask what you have completed you must make an appointment with your advisor (what's wrong with email?)

Give students all options. ... Make sure students know all the classes that they have to take and what can count towards their GERs and not just tell a student to take a specific class because it would fill a GER. Let the student look at the description of classes to see if it is something they could be interested in.

Academic advisors should concentrate more on GER rather than the pre-reqs and required classes for Major. They should suggest/assign a departmental advisor for the academic advising of required courses for majors. My academic advisor didn't realize I could take 2 courses at the same time and now I won't graduate for 5 years, but I am way ahead in my GER and will basically be a student for 2 classes my last 2 semesters.

Help the students not only understand what the major requirements are (since these can easily be found on the website) but also what GER's each of these will satisfy (if any) so that extra courses are not taken if not wanted

My advisor was helpful in telling me about some of the GER's that would be best for me to take in my second semester. I was able, as a result, to get some classes out of the way that I wouldn't have thought of taking.

They [should] have information about what course meets each GER.

... In one instance I had to seek help outside of the advising department to get approval for a course that I had taken at another institution that was clearly acceptable for transfer credit for a GER. These types of situations are a waste of time. I am able to navigate this type of scenario, but I worry that younger students do not get the best advice from their advisors.