

Degree Requirements:

- A minimum of 34.50 course credits (at least 18 of these must courses taught or supervised by Trinity faculty)
- Completion of the College's general education requirements
- Completion of the requirements of at least one major. (A student who is completing more than one major must complete all the requirements of each major; however, if any course is required by more than one major, then that course may be applied toward fulfillment of the requirements of each major as allowed by the individual major.)
- Attain a cumulative grade point average of at least C (2.000).

Some courses have limits on the number of credits that may be applied toward the degree:

- No more than 1 course credit in physical education
- No more than 4 course credits in applied music (exclusive of MUSC 407. Senior Recital)
- No more than 3 course credits in techniques and applications of theater and dance courses (THDN 109, 209, 309), no more than two of which may be in THDN 109
- No more than 2 course credits in teaching assistantships
- No more than 2 course credits in exploratory internship credits

General education requirements:

First-year seminar requirement—Entering first-year students are required to enroll in a first-year seminar or, for students in the following programs – The Cities Program, Community Action Gateway, Global Health Humanities Gateway, Humanities Gateway Program, InterArts Program, or Interdisciplinary Science Program – the course designated in the program as fulfilling the first-year seminar requirement. First-year students entering the College in January are exempted from this requirement if no first-year seminar is available in the spring term. Students who enroll in the Individualized Degree Program (IDP) as first-year students satisfy this requirement by means of the required IDP transitional seminar. The first-year seminar requirement does not apply to transfer students.

Writing proficiency—Writing is an integral part of academic work in virtually all courses at Trinity, and students are expected to write prose that is correct, clear, convincing, and appropriate to audience and purpose. Consequently, the College's Writing Center evaluates the writing proficiency of all entering students. On the basis of this evaluation, some students may be required in their first semester to take RHET 103. College Writing (and earn a grade of C- or higher). The continued development of students' writing abilities is supported by various programs in the Writing Center and across the curriculum. At any time during students' careers at Trinity, faculty may refer students to the Writing Center for assistance, and they may be required to enroll in writing courses or other programs of supplemental writing instruction.

Quantitative literacy—Because many introductory courses (especially in the natural and social sciences) assume basic quantitative skills, Trinity requires every student to demonstrate a level of mathematical proficiency equivalent to what can reasonably be expected of someone who has taken two years of high school algebra and a year of geometry. This is known at Trinity as "Quantitative Literacy." The Trinity Aetna Quantitative Literacy Center administers the Quantitative Literacy Foundational Degree Requirement. A faculty committee reviews all entering first-year students and may require some to take QLIT 101. Students must earn a grade of C- or better to fulfill the requirement. The requirement must be fulfilled on Trinity's Hartford campus.

Distribution—To ensure suitable breadth in their programs of study, all students must earn a C- or better in at least one full-credit course (or the equivalent in fractional-credit courses) in each of the following categories:

- Arts
- Humanities
- Natural sciences
- Numerical and symbolic reasoning

- Social sciences

To allow students maximum choice, a large number of courses have been designated that may be used to satisfy each category of this requirement. Some of these courses may also be part of the student's major or minor; such courses may be double counted in fulfillment of both the distribution requirement and the requirements of the major and/or minor. After matriculating at Trinity, a student may fulfill up to two of the five distribution requirements with courses taken elsewhere, provided the registrar determines that the courses in question are appropriate to the distribution categories the student seeks to fulfill with them. The approval of the registrar should be secured before the courses are taken. Advanced Placement credit may not be used to satisfy this requirement. Courses used to fulfill these requirements cannot be taken on a pass/low pass/fail basis.

Second-language foundational requirement—The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that all students possess knowledge of a language other than English. Some students will have attained the requisite degree of second-language knowledge prior to their enrollment at Trinity; others will have to take college-level language courses in order to meet the requirement.

Students will be credited with satisfying the requirement on the basis of pre-collegiate language learning if:

- they demonstrate the requisite knowledge on a Trinity-administered foreign language proficiency examination (typically, language placement exams are held before pre-registration in October and March and during New Student Orientation); or
- they provide the Registrar's Office with official certification that they attained the indicated score for a foreign language on any of the following standardized tests: SAT II (600 or above), Advanced Placement (4 or 5), International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examination (5, 6, or 7), or United Kingdom "A" Level General Certificate Examination (grade of A, B, or C); or
- they provide the Registrar's Office with official certification that they attained the indicated score in any subject on the French Baccalaureate (12-20), German Abitur (7-15), or Swiss Matura (5 or 6); or
- they successfully completed a minimum of one year of study at a secondary school where the language of instruction was a language other than English, as certified by an official transcript from the school (usually submitted as part of the student's application for admission to Trinity).

International students whose primary language is other than English will be credited, ipso facto, with meeting the requirement. Transfer students who received a letter grade of at least C- in an intermediate-level foreign language course at their previous college or university will also be credited with satisfying it.

Students not fulfilling the requirement in any of the above ways have the following options:

- If they prefer to meet the requirement by means of a language they studied in secondary school for more than one year, they will be required to complete study in that language through the 201 level, or in Latin, 203, beginning at the appropriate level as determined by the results of a placement or proficiency examination. Students who studied a language for more than one year and are allowed to start at the 101 level at Trinity will still need to complete the 201 level to fulfill the requirement. If the student took the language in high school for more than one year and took the courses more than four years before matriculating at Trinity, the student can fulfill the second language requirement by completing 101 and 102 in that same language. Note: If a student has studied a language for three or more years in high school, then the student may not enroll at the 101 course level in that language without explicit permission from the language section head or chair of the Language and Culture Studies department and, in the case of Latin, the chair of the Classics department.
- If they prefer to fulfill the requirement by means of a language they have not studied previously (or studied for at most one year in school), they will be required to take both halves of the introductory sequence in the language (numbered 101 and 102).
- Individualized Degree Program (IDP) students are not subject to the regular language placement policy. Their placement is decided by the department chairperson in consultation with the director of the IDP program.

Only language courses in which the student receives a letter grade of at least C- may be counted toward satisfaction of this requirement. Students are strongly advised to attend to the requirement early in their college career.

Writing Intensive (WI) Requirement—To satisfy this requirement, students must pass with a letter grade of C- or better two writing-intensive (WI) courses. The WI requirement is distinct from the writing proficiency requirement, under which certain entering students are required to take RHET 103. College Writing.

For first-year students, the first of their two writing intensive courses is their first-year seminar or a designated course in a gateway/special program. Students who fail to earn a letter grade of at least C- in their first-year seminar or other designated WI I course are required to complete with a letter grade of at least C- a course beyond RHET 103 with permission from the director of the Allan K. Smith Center for Writing and Rhetoric.

All students meet the second part of this requirement by taking a designated WI course in their major field. Only courses given at Trinity qualify. A student who has more than one major may choose either major to fulfill the WI requirement. If a student satisfactorily completes a WI course in his or her declared major but subsequently drops that major in favor of another one, it is not necessary for the student to take a WI course in the new major in order to satisfy the second part of the writing intensive requirement. Courses meeting this requirement are listed with the degree requirements for each major.

Transfer students may satisfy the first part of this requirement by means of a course taken at their previous college or university, provided that they receive Trinity transfer credit for the course, and the institution at which the course was taken officially designated it on the transcript (or in some other manner) as “writing intensive” or the equivalent. Otherwise, in order to meet the first part of the WI requirement, transfer students are required to complete with a letter grade of at least C- a course beyond RHET 103, no later than their second semester at Trinity and with permission from the director of the Allan K. Smith Center for Writing and Rhetoric. Transfer students meet the second part of the requirement by taking a designated WI course in their major field.

All Individualized Degree Program (IDP) students, whether they matriculate as first-year or transfer students, may satisfy the first part of the WI requirement by means of the required IDP Transitional Seminar, provided that their grade in it is a C- or better. An IDP student who fails to receive a grade of at least C- in the transitional seminar is required to take, within the next two semesters of enrollment, a RHET course beyond RHET 103.¹

Any student who is required to take a “writing intensive” course as outlined above, must earn a letter grade of at least C- in it for the course to satisfy the first part of the WI requirement. If the student receives a letter grade below C-, he or she will have to either repeat the course or take another one of these courses.

Global engagement requirement—Students satisfy this requirement by passing with a letter grade of C- or better a full-credit “global engagement” course (or the equivalent in fractional-credit courses). Included in this category are 1) courses that cover international issues (i.e., issues extending beyond territorial boundaries of any given country in their reach or impact); 2) courses that study a specific region, country, or cultural tradition outside of the United States or that engage the United States from a global perspective; 3) courses that focus on topics global in scope, including ecological change, artistic expression, urban dynamics, modernity, human rights, sports, nationalism, social movements, intellectual traditions, etc.; and 4) courses a student takes while studying away.

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