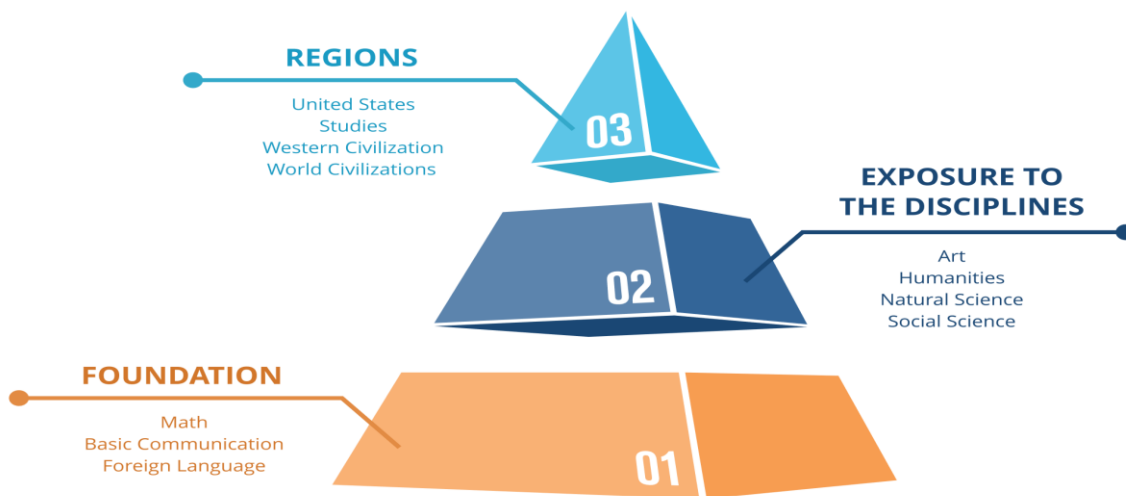


General Education (GE4) and Placement Levels

Our [General Education](#) curriculum consists of diverse course offerings that will provide you with a broad knowledge base and essential communication skills. Through GE courses you have the opportunity to explore new perspectives, ways of thinking, arguing, and being. The GE program can help you choose a major and will prepare you to specialize in one academic field. Each category must be complete by the time you graduate.



Transfer Students: Have you earned an AS or AA degree?

If so, then you have also completed the SUNY General Education Requirement (GER) and do not have to take any additional GE courses at New Paltz.

Once our Office of Admission receives final transcripts indicating the completion of an AA or AS degree, your progress report will be updated as follow:



General Education 4 Requirements Waived -
AA/AS Degree



General Education (GE4) and Placement Levels

01. Foundation

This category ensures that students can use words and numbers. These courses require placement levels. Placement levels determine which courses you will take to satisfy these GE requirements:

- **Mathematics** *(one course, at Math Placement Level 3 or higher)*
- **Basic Communication** *(one course, ENG170 Writing & Rhetoric; a prerequisite course may be required based on placement level)*
- **Foreign Language** *(one or two courses, depending on placement; two consecutive elementary courses OR one elementary and one intermediate course in a single language, OR one intermediate course)*

02. Exposure to the Disciplines

By taking classes in these disciplines, you will come to understand how artists, humanists, natural and social scientists answer questions about the world, the universe, and ourselves:

- **The Arts** *(one course, minimum 3 credits)*
- **Humanities** *(one course)*
- **Natural Sciences** *(one lab science course or two non-lab science courses)*
- **Social Sciences** *(one course)*

03. Regions

By studying regions of the world, you will explore questions about identity including who you are and how you may differ from others. This GE category will help you become an informed, engaged, and thoughtful citizen of the world.

- **United States Studies** *(one course)*
- **Western Civilization** *(one course)*
- **World Civilizations** *(one course)*



General Education (GE4) and Placement Levels

General Education IV Curriculum – SUNY NEW PALTZ

Category I: Foundational Skills

Basic Communication ENG 170/206 Writing and Rhetoric Based on Placement	Math Based on Placement / ALEKS	Foreign Language May Be Based on Placement	Foreign Language May Be Based on Placement
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Category II: Exposure to the Disciplines

The Arts		Humanities		Social Science	
Natural Science 3 Credit - No Lab	Natural Science 3 Credit - No Lab	OR		Natural Science 4 Credit - With Lab	

Category III: Regions

United States Studies	Western Civilization	World Civilizations
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General Education (GE4) and Placement Levels

Placement Levels

All students receive placements levels for Basic Communication, Math, and Foreign Language. Previous course work and sometimes test scores may determine how levels are assigned.

You and your advisor will discuss your placements and which courses would be most appropriate for you to register for in the fall or spring semester.

For More Information

- [Composition Placement](#)
- [Math Placement](#)
- [Foreign Language Placement](#)

Understanding Your Math Placement Level (MPL)

Math courses have Math Placement Level restrictions (math, science, business, and economics). Your MPL tells you what courses you are prepared for and eligible to take. Math prerequisites are strictly enforced at SUNY New Paltz. Your major also can determine which math course you take. For example, an English major with an MPL3 may take MAT145 Stats & Public Policy to fulfill the GE4 requirement while a math/science/business major will take MAT152 College Algebra.

Freshmen: All incoming freshmen must take the ALEKS assessment in order to receive a Math Placement Level. Information about ALEKS PPL assessment is sent via email. It is important to read through this information carefully and pay close attention to deadlines.

Transfer Students: Your MPL is based on the math courses taken at your previous college. If a college level course was not taken, you can take the ALEKS PPL assessment so you can be assigned a level. If you do not take ALEKS, you will be assigned MPL 2. (If you earned an AA or AS, all General Education requirements are considered to be completed.)