**UMS-MCCS General Education Transfer Block**

***What is included in the UMS-MCCS General Education Transfer Block?***

The ***UMS-MCCS General Education Transfer Block*** is defined as follows:

1. It includes at least 34 credits of course work, with grades of C- or better in all courses.

2. Its outcomes align closely with the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes.

3. Its outcomes include all of the following content (although not necessarily using this language) with the understanding that each institution's general education will undoubtedly contain many more outcomes. These outcomes are common to all University of Maine System and Maine Community College System campuses, and are expected to be included in each institution's transfer-out block:

**1. Creative/Arts:**

 Students will experience a sustained engagement with at least one of the creative or performing arts, and will be able to participate in, identify, or evaluate artistic and creative forms of expression.

**2. Natural Science:**

 Students will demonstrate both conceptual and practical understanding of scientific method, including the abilities of hypothesis development and testing through observation or experiment, and evaluation of results. Students will engage in laboratory or field work at a level consistent with standard college laboratory and field courses.

 Students will demonstrate the ability to work with both qualitative and quantitative information in applying the scientific process.

**3. Writing:**

 Students will be able to write clear, coherent texts with adherence to proper mechanics. Students will be able to adapt their writing appropriately for different disciplinary contexts or audiences. Students will be able to effectively use writing as a means to engage in and communicate processes of critical inquiry, including analysis, synthesis, and argumentation.

**4. Quantitative Literacy:**

 Students will be able to reliably perform mathematical operations at the college level. Students will be able to understand and evaluate quantitative information both in their college work and in broader public discourses. Students will be able to apply mathematical concepts and techniques in practical situations, to solve problems.

**5. Diversity/Cultural Knowledge:**

 Students will demonstrate knowledge of cultural differences.

**6. Humanities:**

 Students will be able to analyze or interpret significant texts or other cultural artifacts. Students will be able to understand or think critically about meaning (significance) and value, from either an aesthetic, philosophical, literary, or multidisciplinary perspective.

**7. Social Sciences:**

 Students will be able to analyze or explain causal forces which shape social structures, institutions, or behavior. Students will demonstrate knowledge of multiple cultures.

**8. Ethical Reasoning:**

 Students will demonstrate the ability to do one or more of the following:

* understand social and cultural value systems;
* understand and evaluate ethical perspectives on environmental issues;
* understand and critically evaluate ethical theories or concepts;
* work effectively with ethical issues and theories through analysis and evaluation of the theoretical, literary, historical or artistic texts through which fundamental ethical ideas and problems are presented.
* critically evaluate disciplinary claims in the context of ethical, social, and environmental issues.

***Who qualifies for the UMS-MCCS General Education Transfer Block?***

Students who have completed the UMS-MCCS General Education Transfer Block at any UMS or MCCS institution currently accredited by NECHE will be regarded as having completed the General Education requirements at every other UMS or MCCS institution, except for up to eleven credits of additional General Education coursework to be specified by the receiving institution.

***How does a student find out about additional credits needed?***

UMS institutions which require any additional credits will be responsible for publishing information about these specified credits in a manner that is accessible and clear to the appropriate audiences (e.g., students, advisors, etc.). *See the website of the institution for more information.*

***How is the “block” communicated to the UMS institution a student is transferring to?***

When the registrar at a "sending" MCCS or UMS institution certifies that a transferring student has completed the block at the sending institution, the "receiving" UMS or MCCS institution will accept the block as degree credit, with at least 34 credits counting as General Education credits, as described above. While individual course equivalents will continue to be assigned to each transferable course for students not eligible for the block, equivalents will be applied as a block to the general education portion of an eligible student's degree audit.