

**Operational Rules**  
For the  
Montana University System Core

Operational Rule 1. In order to satisfy the Montana University System (MUS) Core, students must successfully complete at least one course that includes significant content related to the cultural heritage of American Indians. It could be a course in the cultural diversity category, or it could also be a course in any other category, as long as it has the appropriate content.

Operational Rule 2. In order to successfully complete the Montana University System Core, students must earn the minimum number of credits in each of the six (6) categories of coursework. Students can only use credit-bearing competency tests or coursework to satisfy the MUS core.

Operational Rule 3. Coursework can only be used once to satisfy the requirements of the MUS Core. It cannot be “double counted” to satisfy the requirements of more than one category.

Operational Rule 4. In order to satisfy the requirements of the Communications area, students must successfully complete a combination of courses that includes significant content in both written and oral communications.

Operational Rule 5. Students must satisfy the “minimum grade” requirements established by Board of Regents’ Policy 301.5.3, along with any exceptions to that policy that may have been established by their program of study. Information about those exceptions may be found at: <http://mus.edu/transfer/highermingrades.asp>

Operational Rule 6. Transfer students should remember that completion of the MUS Core means that they have satisfied the general education requirements at the 100 and 200-level when they move to their new campus. They will not be required to complete additional general education classes at the lower division course level. If their new campus has general education requirements at the 300 and 400-level, however, transfer students will be expected to satisfy those requirements, according to Board of Regents’ Policy 301.10 concerning general education transfer. The most common example is an upper division writing requirement on some of the campuses.

**Please note:** As students work on the Montana University System general education core, they should attempt to select classes that are also required in their major. That efficient use of coursework could help students complete their degree more quickly, since the classes could be used to satisfy both the requirements of the major and the requirements of the MUS General Education Core.