

## American Civic Literacy Requirement

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### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**1. Who must complete this requirement?**

Students seeking a bachelor's degree with a 2026 catalog and/or planning graduate in spring 2030 or later must complete this requirement, unless they qualify for an approved exemption.

**2. I passed all the assignments for the American civic literacy class but did not pass the comprehensive exam. Can I still pass the course?**

No. Regardless of the grades earned in the other portions of the course, if you did not pass the comprehensive American civic literacy exam you will fail the course.

**3. I passed the American civic literacy comprehensive exam. Can I still pass the course?**

Passing the American civic literacy exam does not mean you will automatically pass the course. It will be determined by your instructor based on the requirements and grading scale listed in the syllabus.

**4. My catalog is 2026, and I plan to graduate *before* spring 2030. Do I still need to complete this requirement?**

Yes. If your catalog year is 2026 or later, you will be required to complete this requirement no matter your planned graduation term.

**5. My catalog is earlier than 2026, and I plan to graduate *before* spring 2030. Do I still need to complete this requirement?**

No. You do not need to complete this requirement if (a) your catalog is pre-2026 *AND* (b) you graduate before spring 2030 (May 2030).

**6. My catalog is earlier than 2026, and I plan to graduate *after* spring 2030. Do I still need to complete this requirement?**

Yes. If you graduate in spring 2030 (May 2030) or later with a bachelor's degree, you will be required to complete this requirement no matter your catalog year.

**7. My original catalog year was 2025 but I updated it to 2026. Do I still need to complete the requirement?**

Yes. If your catalog year is 2026 or later, regardless of when you started or your original catalog year, you will be required to complete this requirement no matter your planned graduation term.

**8. Are there any exemptions to this requirement?**

Yes. Per the Ohio Revised Code §3345.382, students may fulfill the requirement with one of the following:

- a. College Credit Plus (CCP) course as approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education's chancellor.
  - Approved Kent State courses that may be taken by CCP students are *HIST 12061 American Foundations: From Pre-Colonization to Civil War and Reconstruction* and *POL 10101 American Government*.
  - Approved American Civic Literacy courses at other Ohio colleges and universities can be found on [Ohio Transfer 36 Course Reporting System](#) (search under the subject areas that end with "- Civic Literacy").
- b. Advanced Placement (AP) course/exam (3+ score) as approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education's chancellor. Currently, no AP course/exam has been approved.
- c. A 3-credit hour (or equivalent) course in American history or American government that includes the required readings listed above. This exemption does not apply after the 2030-2031 academic year.

**9. Can I meet this requirement with a transfer course?**

Yes, *IF* the course is approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education for the American Civic Literacy requirement. Approved courses can be found on [Ohio Transfer 36 Course Reporting System](#) (search under the subject areas that end with "- Civic Literacy").

**10. I already completed HIST 12070 Early America or POL 10100 American Politics at Kent State. Will that count toward this requirement?**

No. Neither course is approved for the American Civic Literacy requirement.

**11. I already transferred in a course equivalent to HIST 12070 Early America or POL 10100 American Politics at Kent State. Will that count toward this requirement?**

No. Neither course (nor their transfer equivalent) is approved for the American Civic Literacy requirement.

**12. What will happen if I take HIST 12061 American Foundations after earning credit for HIST 12070 Early America?**

You will earn credit for both courses if successfully completed. Only HIST 12061 will count toward the American Civic Literacy requirement. Both courses may count towards your Kent Core — Humanities and/or Additional categories — if not already completed.

**13. What will happen if I take POL 10101 American Government after earning credit for POL 10100 American Politics at Kent State?**

You will earn credit for both courses if successfully completed. Only POL 10101 will count toward the American Civic Literacy requirement. Both courses may count toward your Kent Core — Social Sciences and Additional categories — if not already completed.

**14. I took AP Government or AP U.S. History in high school. Does that count?**

Currently, no AP course/exam has been approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education chancellor to count toward the American Civic Literacy requirement.

**15. I completed College Credit Plus (CCP) coursework. Does that count?**

Certain approved CCP courses may satisfy the requirement if they meet state guidelines. Approved Kent State courses that may be taken by CCP students are *HIST 12061 American Foundations: From Pre-Colonization to Civil War and Reconstruction* and *POL 10101 American Government*.

Approved American Civic Literacy courses at other Ohio colleges and universities can be found on [Ohio Transfer 36 Course Reporting System](#) (search under the subject areas that end with "- Civic Literacy").

**16. Where can I find this requirement in my GPS degree audit?**

If you are under the 2026 catalog, the requirement appears in the University Requirements block in your degree audit.

**University Requirements**

- Flashes 101
- Writing-Intensive Requirement (WIC-Min C)
- Experiential Learning Requirement
- American Civic Literacy Requirement

**17. What happens if I do not complete this requirement?**

Students who are required to complete the American Civic Literacy Requirement cannot be awarded a bachelor's degree until the requirement is satisfied.

**18. Who should I contact with questions?**

You should contact your academic advisor.