

Understanding Your Degree Evaluation

A Guide for First-Year Students

Welcome to Southern! This document is intended to help you understand the structure of your Southern degree by reviewing the parts of your Degree Evaluation.

Southern uses a tool called **Degree Works** to track your progress towards your degree. Degree Works has two parts:

- Degree Evaluation: Shows a check-list of your requirements and your progress towards completing them.
- Degree Plan: Shows your degree requirements as a map to graduation. You and your advisor will use this plan to arrange your required courses in the way that makes sense for you.

This guide will walk you through the Degree Evaluation. Once you have finished this guide, you can move on to the “Understanding Your Degree Plan” guide.

Video Walk-Through

Watch the video “[Degree Evaluation How-To](#)” to learn how to access and read your Degree Evaluation.

This guide will expand on the information in that video.

Parts of Your Degree Evaluation

Open your Degree Evaluation and follow along as we walk through its parts. Understanding these parts will help you to understand the structure of your degree and the requirements that you must take to complete your degree.

Make sure you note any questions that you have about your Degree Evaluation so that you can ask them during your advising appointment.

Degree Overview

The top of your Degree Evaluation lists basic information about your degree. Here you will see your current program, any minors you have declared, your advisor/s’ names, your overall progress to degree completion, and your overall Southern GPA.

Degree Evaluation



Student ID: 70321316 Name: Demmi, AcaPreferred Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Advanced search

Level: Undergraduate Class: Freshman Program: History, BA Major: History Minor: Sociology Major Advisor: Meredith Sinclair
Professional Advisor: Harry Twyman Pronoun(s): They/Them/Their

Degree Evaluation | What-If Analysis | View Previous Degree Evaluations: 08/27/2024 at 12:35 AM (BA)

Format: Student View

Degree progress

22% Requirements | 13% Credits | Overall GPA: 0.00

In-progress classes Preregistered classes **PROCESS**

Audit date: 08/27/2024 12:35 AM

The first block on your degree evaluation gives you a snapshot overview of your degree.

Bachelor of Arts Degree INCOMPLETE

Credits Required: 120 Credits Applied to Program (Excludes Excess): 15 Catalog year: Fall 2024

<input type="radio"/> Overall Credits Required	Still needed:	120 credits are required, including a total of 29 free elective credits.
<input type="radio"/> Minimum 30 Credits at SCSU	Still needed:	You have 15 credits and still need 15
<input type="radio"/> Overall GPA of 2.0		
<input type="radio"/> Major Requirements	Still needed:	See Major in History section

An undergraduate degree is made up of 120 credits; at least 30 of those credits must be taken at Southern to earn a degree from Southern.


The number of free elective credits listed here is determined by the number of credits in your major and whether or not you have any cognate requirements, minors, or accelerated pathways.

The Degree Evaluation does the math for you!

Southern's minimum GPA requirement is a 2.0. However, your major may have a higher GPA requirement; this will be indicated on your Degree Evaluation if it is true for your major.

Requirements




Each line of your Degree Evaluation represents a requirement you must complete to earn your degree.

SOC 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@						
 Teachers, Schools and Societies ('C' or better) [T2CC]	Still needed:	1 Class in EDU 200				
 United States History I and II ('B-' or better) [T2AE]	HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
 School Health [T2MB]	Still needed:	1 Class in SHE 203				

Note that in some cases, you must earn a minimum grade in order for the course to count towards the requirement. These grade minimums are indicated on your degree evaluation. In this example, the student must earn a C or better in EDU 200 and a B- or better in the United States History course.

Progress Towards Degree

Your Degree Evaluation will track your progress towards degree completion. If a specific course must be taken for a requirement, it will be listed on the Degree Evaluation.

 Technological Fluency	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T1TF				
 Written Communication Prerequisite Waived						
 Written Communication	ENG 112	Writing Arguments	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	

A red circle on the Degree Evaluation means that you have not yet completed this requirement. In this example, the student must still take a course in Technological Fluency. Clicking the blue link "attribute=T1TF" will show all courses that can be taken to fulfill this requirement.

A green checkmark means the requirement has been completed. Requirements can be completed by successfully completing the required course, by transfer credits, or by waivers.

A blue half circle means the requirement is in progress. This means you are currently registered for (either in the current term or the next term) for a course that fulfills this requirement. These **in-progress courses** are included in the credit count listed at the top of your Degree Evaluation.

To graduate, all requirements on your degree evaluation must be checked off as complete.

General Education Requirements

The next three blocks on your Degree Evaluation list your General Education requirements. These include: W-courses, LEP Foundations courses, and LEP Explorations courses.

Writing Intensive Course Requirement (W-courses)

Southern has a Writing Requirement of 3 W-courses. **W-Courses** are indicated by a W by the section number on the course schedule.

Writing Intensive Course Requirement INCOMPLETE

'W' courses are not additional course requirements and may be taken within the General Education (LEP), Major, Minor, Cognate, or as a free elective.

<input type="radio"/> Writing Requirement	Still needed:	<small>You currently have 0, you still need 3 more. 'W' courses are indicated by section number that ends in 'W'. Students must successfully complete ENG 112, ENG 120, HON 150 or Tier 1 Written Communication as a prerequisite to 'W' courses.</small>
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W-courses can "double-dip" or count towards both the W-requirement and any other requirement on your degree. That means that you can take a W-course as an LEP course, as a major or cognate course, or as a free elective.

You can not take a W-course until you have met the Written Communication Requirement in LEP Foundations.

When you register for a W-course it will appear in this block of your degree evaluation. If the W-course is also an LEP course, major course, or cognate course, it will also appear in that block. If the W-course does not meet an LEP requirement, major requirement, or cognate requirement, it will NOT appear in the free electives list BUT it will reduce your overall required free electives.

Most majors have at least one W-course within the major. Your Degree Plan template will indicate recommended semesters to take one of your courses as a W-section.

General Education: LEP Foundations

LEP Foundations Courses cover areas of knowledge that are foundational for students in all majors.

General Education: LEP Foundations

INCOMPLETE



When up to three courses in the major/cognate may also satisfy LEP Foundations and Explorations requirements, they are recommended below.

	Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
	First Year Experience	INQ 101	Intellectual/Creative Inquiry	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
	Multilingual Communication	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T1MC			
	Quantitative Reasoning Prerequisite	MAT 100P	Intro and Intern Algebra	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
	Quantitative Reasoning	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T1QR			
	Technological Fluency	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T1TF			
	Written Communication Prerequisite Waived					
	Written Communication	ENG 112	Writing Arguments	IP	(3)	Fall 2024

You may have **waivers** in LEP Foundations based on your high school transcript or placement test scores. In this example the Written Communication Prerequisite Requirement is waived.

A waiver means you do not have to take that required course; however, you do not receive credit for the course. Instead, you will take additional free-electives later in your program to get up to your 120 credits.

General Education: LEP Explorations

LEP Explorations Courses are intended to encourage you to explore a wide variety of disciplinary areas. There are 6 required LEP Explorations category areas and two required LEP Explorations Electives; LEP Explorations Electives can be filled by a course from any LEP Explorations category.

General Education: LEP Explorations

INCOMPLETE



When up to three courses in the major/cognate may also satisfy LEP Foundations and Explorations requirements, they are recommended below; only two courses within Explorations (T2) may be fulfilled by courses in the same subject.






	Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
<input type="radio"/>	Natural World	Still needed:	Choose from 1 of the following:			
<input type="radio"/>	Option I	You must complete all of the following:				
<input type="radio"/>	Life and Environment	1 Class in @ @ with attribute = T2LE and credits = 4				
<input type="radio"/>	Physical Realm	1 Class in @ @ with attribute = T2PR and credits >= 3				
<input type="radio"/>	Option II	You must complete all of the following:				
<input type="radio"/>	Physical Realm	1 Class in @ @ with attribute = T2PR and credits = 4				
<input type="radio"/>	Life and Environment	1 Class in @ @ with attribute = T2LE and credits >= 3				
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	American Experience -OR- Time & Place	HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Conflict & Consensus -OR- Mind & Body	ANT 101	Cultural Anthropology	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
<input type="radio"/>	Creative Drive	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2CD			
<input type="radio"/>	Cultural Expression -OR- Global Awareness	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2CE or attribute = T2GA			
<input type="radio"/>	Exploration Electives	Still needed:	6 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2AE or attribute = T2CC or attribute = T2CD or attribute = T2CE or attribute = T2GA or attribute = T2LE or attribute = T2MB or attribute = T2PR or attribute = T2TP			

There are two options for fulfilling your Natural World requirement. All students must take at least one 4-credit lab-science course (either in Life & Environment or Physical Realm).

- If you take a 4-credit Life & Environment course, option I will be marked as filled and option II will go away once you register for your Physical Realm course.
- If you take a 4-credit Physical Realm course, option II will be marked as filled and option I will go away once you register for your Life & Environment course.

You may elect to take two 4-credit science courses.

In some cases you may see specific courses recommended in LEP categories as in this example:

	American Experience -OR- Time & Place (Recommend ANT 205, GEO 100, HIS 110, 111 and SOC 250 for Major/Cognate)	HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
	Conflict & Consensus -OR- Mind & Body (Recommend EDU 200 and SHE 203 for Major/Cognate)	ANT 101	Cultural Anthropology	IP	(3)	Fall 2024
	Creative Drive	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2CD			
	Cultural Expression -OR- Global Awareness	Still needed:	3 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2CE or attribute = T2GA			
	Exploration Electives	Still needed:	6 Credits in @ @ with attribute = T2AE or attribute = T2CC or attribute = T2CD or attribute = T2CE or attribute = T2GA or attribute = T2LE or attribute = T2MB or attribute = T2PR or attribute = T2TP			

These recommendations are for courses that will count both towards an LEP requirement and a requirement in your major or cognate block.

- Following the recommendation will allow you to "double-dip" and count the course towards both requirements. This student took HIS 110 as recommended.
- If you do not follow the advice but take a different LEP course, the course you take will still count towards your LEP requirement; however, you will still need to take the recommended course later to fulfill your cognate or major requirement. This student took ANT 101 which does fulfill the LEP requirement. They will need to take EDU 200 and SHE at some point as both are cognate requirements.
- You can use your LEP Elective space for these recommended courses. So this student can take EDU 200 and SHE 203 and have them fulfill their Exploration Elective slots.

Make sure you pay attention to, and follow, the advice on your Degree Evaluation! Your Degree Plan template will reflect the advice on your Degree Evaluation (see the Degree Plan tutorial for more information).

The Major Block

The next block on the Degree Evaluation shows the requirements specific to your chosen major.

At the top of this block you will see your major GPA; this GPA is calculated based only on the courses in this major block.

You will also see a credit count for total courses within the major.

Major in History		INCOMPLETE					^
Catalog year: Fall 2024 GPA: 0.00							
	Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated	
<input type="radio"/>	Minimum Credits	Still needed:	33 credits are required. You currently have 3, you still need 30 more credits.				
<input type="radio"/>	The Historian's Craft	Still needed:	1 Class in HIS 200				
<input type="radio"/>	Seminar in History	Still needed:	1 Class in HIS 485				
<input type="radio"/>	European History	Still needed:	1 Class in HIS 301 or 302 or 303 or 304 or 305 or 306 or 307 or 308 or 310 or 316 or 317 or 330 or 336 or 337 or 343 or 373 or 374 or 375 or 376 or 389				
<input type="radio"/>	U.S. History	Still needed:	1 Class in HIS 311 or 312 or 313 or 315 or 318 or 319 or 345 or 350 or 351 or 352 or 353 or 354 or 355 or 357 or 358 or 359 or 360 or 361 or 363 or 364 or 365 or 370 or 371 or 410 or 480				
<input type="radio"/>	Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern, African History	Still needed:	1 Class in HIS 300 or 320 or 340 or 341 or 342 or 344 or 345 or 346 or 347 or 351 or 378 or 393 or 409				
<input type="radio"/>	History Electives at the 200-Level or above	Still needed:	6 Credits in HIS 2@ or 3@ or 4@				
<input type="radio"/>	History Electives	HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
		Still needed:	9 Credits in HIS 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@				

Each line in the major block represents a requirement in the major.

- In some cases there is a particular course you must take to fulfill that requirement. For example, the requirement “The Historian’s Craft” can only be fulfilled by taking HIS 200.
- In some cases you have a list of options that will fulfill a requirement. For example, the requirement “European History” can be fulfilled by any of the courses listed to the right. Keep in mind that not all courses are offered every semester. You should check the schedule listings and ask your advisor about when major courses are offered.
- In some cases you have many choices to fulfill a requirement. For example, “History Electives at the 200-level or above” requires that you take 6 credits in HIS; only courses at the 200-, 300-, or 400- level will satisfy this requirement.

Cognate Requirements

The next block on your Degree Evaluation will only be present if you are in a degree program that has cognate requirements. Cognate requirements are courses that are related to your major and required by your degree program.

Cognate Requirements		INCOMPLETE					^
	Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated	
<input type="radio"/>	Minimum Credits in Cognate	Still needed:	27 credits are required. You currently have 6, you still need 21 more credits.				
<input type="radio"/>	Economics Elective	Still needed:	3 Credits in ECO 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@				
<input type="radio"/>	Geography Elective [TZPR for GEO 201]	Still needed:	3 Credits in GEO 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@				
<input type="radio"/>	Political Science Elective	Still needed:	3 Credits in PSC 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@				
<input type="radio"/>	Social Science Electives [T2LE for ANT 102, T2TP for ANT 205 or GEO 100 or SOC 250]	ANT 101	Cultural Anthropology	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
		Still needed:	6 Credits in ANT 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@ or ECO 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@ or GEO 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@ or PSC 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@ or PSY 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@ or SOC 1@ or 2@ or 3@ or 4@				
<input type="radio"/>	Teachers, Schools and Societies ('C' or better) [T2CC]	Still needed:	1 Class in EDU 200				
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	United States History I and II ('B-' or better) [T2AE]	HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
<input type="radio"/>	School Health [T2MB]	Still needed:	1 Class in SHE 203				

Minor Requirements

The next block will only appear if you have declared a minor. The Minor block shows the requirements for your selected minor.

Minor in Sociology		INCOMPLETE					^
Catalog year: Fall 2024							
A maximum of one course can be shared between major/concentration requirements and the minor.							
<input type="radio"/>	Minimum Credits	Still needed:	18 credits are required. You currently have 0; you still need 18 more credits.				
<input type="radio"/>	Introduction to Sociology	Still needed:	1 Class in SOC 100				
<input type="radio"/>	Sociology Electives	Still needed:	15 Credits in SOC @				

Free Electives

The next block on your Degree Evaluation is the Free Elective block. If you have not yet taken free electives, this block will not yet appear.

The number of free electives you need varies depending on your chosen major and/or minor. You can see the total number of free electives you need at the top of your Degree Evaluation. The free elective block will tell you how many you have earned.

Free Electives

Credits Applied: 29

Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
MAT 0100	MAT Transfer Elective	T1	3	Fall 2021	
Satisfied by: MAT109 - Quantitative Literacy - Gateway Community College					
MAT 100	Intermediate Algebra	T1	3	Fall 2021	
Satisfied by: MAT137 - Intermediate Algebra - Gateway Community College					
MAT 112	Algebra for Business & Sci	A+	3	Fall 2021	
MUS 0100	MUS Transfer Elective	T1	2	Fall 2021	
Satisfied by: MUS171 - Chorus I - Gateway Community College					

Accelerated Pathway

The next block will only appear if you have indicated interest in an accelerated pathway ([taking graduate courses as an undergraduate student](#)).

Accelerated Pathway Option

INCOMPLETE

Students with a minimum 3.0 GPA overall must meet with their advisor to create a Graduate Course Plan and receive permission to register for graduate courses for their senior year (90+ earned credits).

○ Graduate Courses

Still needed:

12 Credits in @ 5@ or 6@ or 7@

If you have an accelerated pathway, you will work with your advisor in your junior year to select appropriate graduate courses.

Excess Credits

The next block will only appear if you have earned excess credits. Excess credits are courses that you have earned credit for and that will appear on your transcript; however, these courses do not fulfill a requirement for your current program nor do you need them to complete your free elective requirement.

Excess Courses:Not Counted in Program					
Credits Applied: 8					
Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
HIS 104	Islamic Civilization	C	3	Spring 2023	
MAT 100P	Intro and Interm Algebra	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
PSY 0100	PSY Transfer Elective	T2	1	Fall 2021	
Satisfied by: PS110 - Intro Psychology - Eastern Nazarene College					
PSY 0200	PSY Transfer Elective	T1	1	Fall 2021	
Satisfied by: PS331 - Theories Personality - Eastern Nazarene College					

If new courses appear in your excess courses list after you register, you should check with your advisor to see if you need to change your registration.

Insufficient

This next block will only appear if you have courses that do not earn credit towards your degree or that do not meet the minimum grade requirements towards your degree.

Insufficient					
Credits Applied: 3					
Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
MAT 100P	Intro and Interm Algebra	W	0	Spring 2024	
PSY 321	Abnormal Psychology	D	3	Spring 2022	(R)
PSY 370	Educational Psychology	D+	0	Summer 2022	(R)

If you withdraw from a course, fail a course, or do not meet the required minimum grade for a course, that course will appear in the insufficient block.

In Progress/Planned Courses

The last block on your Degree Evaluation shows the courses you are currently taking (in progress) as well as those you have registered for in up-coming terms (planned).

In-Progress/Planned Courses ^

Credits Applied: 15

Course	Title	Grade	Credits	Term	Repeated
ANT 101	Cultural Anthropology	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
ENG 112	Writing Arguments	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
HIS 110	United States History to 1877	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
INQ 101	Intellectual/Creative Inquiry	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	
MAT 100P	Intro and Interm Algebra	IP	(3)	Fall 2024	

These in progress courses are included by default in the progress towards degree calculations on the Degree Evaluation.

Next Steps

Now that you are more familiar with the parts of your Degree Evaluation, you are ready to use the Degree Plan tool to map out your classes!

Remember to take any questions you have about your Degree Evaluation or your program requirements to your academic advisor.