



Guide to the Experience & Application General Education Requirement

Students who enter Emory University as first-time undergraduates or transfer students in the Fall 2023 semester and later are required to complete one approved experience to fulfill the Experience & Application (XA) General Education Requirement (GER).

There are five broad categories that fulfill the Experience & Application (XA) requirement for Emory College students. Within each category, there are different options that may have different policies or stipulations for fulfilling the GER.

RESEARCH

a. Departmental Honors Program

ECAS students who participate in the Honors Program usually enroll in two sequence courses (495A and 495BW). Courses numbered 495A carry the XA tag due to the student's engagement in practical elements of research during their first semester in Honors. 495A is offered for a fixed number of credits in some departments and a variable number of credits in others. Regardless of the credit hours, students will satisfy XA requirement if they successfully complete the course.

Note: The second Honors course (495BW) only carries the Continuing Communication and Writing (CW) GER due to students' engagement in the writing and defense of their theses.

b. Departmental Research Courses

ECAS students who enroll in any departmental research course that carries the XA or XAW (Experience and Application with Continuing Communication) tag can fulfill the Experience & Application GER. These courses must be taken for 3 credits or more to fulfill the requirement. Some departmental research courses are not approved for this GER, and students must enroll in a course that carries the XA or XAW tag.

c. SIRE 299R

ECAS students who participate in the Scholarly Inquiry and Research Experience (SIRE) program enroll in SIRE 299R for credit. This course carries the XA tag due to the student's hands-on introduction and exposure to research. This course is variable credit (1-8), but students need at least 3 total credits to satisfy the XA requirement.

d. SURE Program

ECAS students who participate in the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURE) are eligible to fulfill the Experience & Application (XA) GER. Students enroll in a specific section of RES999 UCOL for zero credits during the summer. The zero-credit course for SURE fully satisfies the XA requirement.

e. Research Experience for Undergraduates Offered at Other Universities

ECAS students who participate in undergraduate research experiences at other universities may enroll in URP 499R. This course can be taken for zero or one credit, and either option will fully satisfy the XA requirement.

f. Transfer Students with Prior Research Experience

Transfer students in Emory College who have completed a research experience at their previous institution are eligible to complete the XA requirement through this previous experience. If the student receives transfer credit for an equivalent course that carries the XA or XAW tag, this credit will fulfill the XA requirement. [Note that students do not ordinarily receive transfer credit for research, but there may be some courses with significant research components eligible for transfer credit.] If the student does not receive transfer credit, OUE advisors can initiate a request for the XA tag by contacting OUE - Academic Affairs. The request is reviewed with relevant colleagues, and if approved, the research experience will satisfy the XA requirement.

INTERNSHIP

a. Departmental Internship Courses

ECAS students who enroll in any departmental internship course that carries the XA or XAW tag can fulfill the Experience & Application GER. These courses ordinarily must be taken for 3 credits for students to fulfill the XA requirement. A few departments have structured their internships to award credit solely for the academic experience and components that accompany the internship. CHEM 496R and ECON 449 are approved to satisfy XA with a single credit; all other departmental internship courses require 3 credits.

b. Pathways Center Internship Course

ECAS students who enroll in INTERN 496R to complete an internship experience are eligible to fulfill the XA requirement. This course can be taken either for zero or one credit; either option fully satisfies the GER requirement.

Note: INTERN 497R does not carry the XA tag and is intended for shorter internship experiences.

c. Transfer Students with Prior Internship Experience

Transfer students in Emory College who have completed an internship experience while enrolled at their prior institution are eligible to complete the XA requirement through this previous experience. Students should submit a petition form, which will be reviewed by the Experience & Application subcommittee. If the petition is approved, OUE will enter an exception in the Degree Tracker noting that the XA requirement has been satisfied.

GLOBAL LEARNING/STUDY ABROAD

a. Summer Education Abroad Programs

ECAS students who participate in any of the summer abroad programs led by Emory faculty are eligible to fulfill the XA requirement. Ordinarily, students must be enrolled in at least 3 credits of coursework in the program to satisfy the GER. The Experience and Application sub-committee may make exceptions to allow programs with fewer credits to satisfy the GER if there is associated coursework that students complete prior to the program.

b. Semester and Year Abroad Programs

ECAS students who participate in an Emory-approved education abroad program offered through an external institution or provider are enrolled in temporary OISP 99X course(s). After completing the semester, OUE-Education Abroad maps the OISP courses onto their approved equivalent courses in Emory College. The Degree Tracker is programmed to recognize the study abroad class attribute (ABRD) as fulfilling the XA requirement, and students will see the requirement as fulfilled once the equivalent courses appear in OPUS.

c. Non-Emory Abroad Program

ECAS students who are interested in enrolling in a study abroad program that is not approved by Emory may petition the Education Abroad Committee (EAC) for approval of the program. Students with an approved petition who complete a non-Emory Study Abroad Program will fulfill the XA GER. After the student's final transcript is received, OUE will enter an exception in the Degree Tracker to show that the XA requirement has been satisfied. Students who participate in a non-Emory study abroad program without an approved petition from the EAC will not receive XA credit.

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING (AND OTHER XA COURSES)

a. Oxford Experiential Learning "E" Courses

Oxford Students who complete the AA degree and continue to Emory College satisfy the Experience & Application on the basis of their associate degree, which requires experiential learning ("E" courses).

b. Community-Engaged Learning and Experiential-Based Courses

ECAS students enrolled in a community-engaged learning or experiential-based course that carries the XA or XAW tag will fulfill the XA requirement. These courses must be offered for 3 credit hours or more in order to fulfill the requirement. The Curriculum and Educational Policy Committee approves these tags in advance of the course being offered. Occasional field trips or other isolated experiential components are generally not enough to satisfy the requirements for tagging the course.

c. ECS 250: Intro to Community Engagement

ECAS students who enroll in ECS 250, which carries the XA tag, will fulfill the XA requirement. This is a zero-credit course offered by the Center for Civic and Community Engagement (CCE). Currently, only students involved in Atlanta Urban Debate League and Graduation Generation are eligible to receive the XA tag. Although the course is offered for zero credit, it will satisfy the XA requirement as long as the CCE ensures that students have enough project hours to qualify.

Note: The Community Building and Social Change program has its own course that is approved for the XA tag (CBSC/POLS/SOC/ENVS 370BW).

APPLIED ARTS

a. Applied Arts Courses

ECAS Students enrolled in applied arts courses with the XA or XAW tag may fulfill the XA GER. The completion of 2 credit hours is required; this may involve multiple applied arts courses or a single course of 2 credits or more. Options include studio and performance-based courses in Dance, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. Typically, these courses are more advanced in level to allow for sufficient knowledge so that students can apply this knowledge to grapple with artistic and creative problems.

PETITION FOR NON-APPROVED EXPERIENCES

a. Petition Process

ECAS students who wish to satisfy the XA GER with a non-approved experience (outside the categories listed above) may submit a petition for consideration. The student petition must be submitted in advance of the experience; retroactive requests are not considered, except in the case of transfer students who already completed an equivalent experience at their previous institution. The petition includes a description of the experience and asks how the experience meets the specific XA learning outcomes. The Experience and Application subcommittee will review the petition. If the petition is approved, students must provide evidence once the experience is complete, at which point OUE will enter an exception in the Degree Tracker to show the XA requirement has been satisfied.

QUESTIONS

a. General Questions

ECAS students who have general questions about the XA GER requirement should contact their OUE Academic Advisor for assistance.

b. Questions about Specific Experiences

ECAS students who have specific questions about particular experiences that fulfill the requirement should contact the office or department responsible for the experience. For example, students with a question about departmental research should contact the department through where they intend to do research. Students with a question about the Pathways Center internship course (INTERN 496R) should contact the Pathways Center.