

# GE COURSES EACH CLUSTER SATISFIES

Upon completion of the Cluster program, students satisfy 4 GE requirements. The table below lists the Cluster courses for the 20-21 school year, and the number of GE courses in each GE foundation area that each Cluster satisfies. Learn more at [clusters.ucla.edu](http://clusters.ucla.edu).

CLUSTER	FOUNDATION AREA		
	SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY	SOCIETY & CULTURE	ARTS & HUMANITIES
<b>REQUIRED NUMBER OF GE COURSES</b>	4	3	3
<b>FOOD - A Lens for Environment and Sustainability</b> (Cluster M1A,B,CW)	2 or 3	1 or 2	
<b>RACE - Interracial Dynamics in American Society and Culture</b> (Cluster 20A,B,CW)		2	2
<b>GLOBAL ISLAM</b> (Cluster 27A,B,CW)		3	1
<b>VIOLENCE - Political Violence in the Modern World: Causes, Cases and Consequences</b> (Cluster 48A,B,C)		3	1
<b>AMERICA IN THE '60S - Politics, Society, and Culture, 1954-1974</b> (Cluster 60A,B,CW)		2	2
<b>EVOLUTION - Evolution of the Cosmos and Life</b> (Cluster 70A,B,CW)	4		
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY</b> (Cluster M71A,B,CW)	1	2	1
<b>BRAIN - The History, Science and Philosophy of the Brain</b> (Cluster 73A, B, CW)	2	1	1
<b>AGING - Frontiers in Human Aging</b> (Cluster 80A,B,CW)	1	3	



## UCLA WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

### UCLA CLUSTER PROGRAM



**UCLA Cluster Program**  
Big Ideas. Community of Learners. Bruins for Success.

[www.clusters.ucla.edu](http://www.clusters.ucla.edu)

## UCLA CLUSTER PROGRAM

### WHAT IS THE UCLA CLUSTER PROGRAM?

The UCLA Cluster Program is an innovative initiative designed to help first-year students successfully transition to UCLA. Clusters are year-long, collaboratively taught, interdisciplinary and open to entering first-year students only. Because of this, each Cluster is a Learning Community, where you can build relationships with your fellow students, your TAs and your faculty throughout a year of interaction. Clusters have been proven to provide first-year students with the tools to excel during their college career. On average, Cluster students graduate earlier and have a higher GPA when they graduate.

## BENEFITS OF A CLUSTER

- Study with distinguished faculty
- Satisfy 4 GE requirements
- Satisfy Writing II requirement
- Earn 18 units toward degree
  - College Honors units including Honors Collegium
  - Priority Enrollment in English Composition 3
  - Some Clusters satisfy Diversity requirement



### JOIN A VIBRANT CLUSTER COMMUNITY

Each cluster course has:

- 200 FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS
- 4 FACULTY
- 5 GRADUATE STUDENTS
- LIBRARIAN
- WRITING SPECIALIST
- RESIDENTIAL LIFE SUPPORT



#### CLUSTER M1: FOOD A LENS FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

As the world's human population surpasses 7 billion — with 1 billion people starving and approximately 1.5 billion over-weight — feeding the global population in a healthy, sustainable way in the face of climate change is perhaps the most urgent challenge of our time. In the Food cluster, you'll explore the complex connections between food and the environment, focusing on scientific, economic, cultural and social factors.



#### CLUSTER 20: INTERRACIAL DYNAMICS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Looking at social and cultural themes that shape contemporary American life, explore the role of race in society today and the ways in which racial stereotypes are produced and challenged in popular culture. Engage in active dialogue and debate to become culturally fluent in the new multiethnic complexities that have displaced the outdated black-white paradigm of U.S. race relations.



#### CLUSTER 27: GLOBAL ISLAM

This cluster draws on the social sciences and humanities to guide you in the interdisciplinary study of global Muslim communities. You'll also learn how to analyze global religions through the diverse lenses of anthropology, history, language, and sociology and how to critically engage with representations of Islam and Muslims in public discourse.



#### CLUSTER 48: POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN THE MODERN WORLD: CAUSES, CASES AND CONSEQUENCES

Investigate the causes, dynamics, and consequences of political violence, from genocide to civil war to counter-revolution, with a focus on three different case studies. Engage with a variety of materials from multiple disciplinary perspectives, including memoirs, literature, and testimony, as well as theoretical and methodological debates about dehumanization, killing, and justice.



#### CLUSTER 70: EVOLUTION OF THE COSMOS AND LIFE

The Evolution cluster explores the emergence of the universe and its contents — from the Big Bang to the formation of our solar system, and then the development of life on Earth. Through experiential learning, including labs and field trips, you'll see firsthand the forces that drive evolution, the evidence for the Earth's past, and the techniques used to explore that past and the universe.



#### CLUSTER 71: BIOTECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

As advances in genetics and molecular biology continue, the next generation of leaders must be challenged to think about hard questions, including, most broadly, "How do advances in biotechnology affect our understanding of ourselves, our relationships with each other, and our role in the natural universe?" In the Biotechnology cluster, explore this new science from biological, ethical and sociopolitical perspectives.



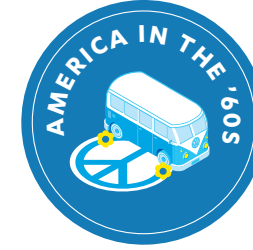
#### CLUSTER 73: MIND OVER MATTER: THE HISTORY, SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE BRAIN

This cluster course looks at brain function from historical, biological, psychological, and philosophical perspectives to enable you to better understand the organ responsible for all our mental processes and behavior in health and disease. Gain a solid foundation in neuroscience that will enable you to make knowledgeable decisions about scientific policy.



#### CLUSTER 80: FRONTIERS IN HUMAN AGING

While advances in medical technology and public health have significantly increased life expectancy, our perceptions of age are still deeply rooted in culture, religion, literature, music, and film, all of which shape our views of the human life course. This Cluster incorporates hands-on education through "elder interviews" and service learning in the Los Angeles community, exploring fundamental issues that relate to living longer, more fulfilling lives.



#### CLUSTER 60: AMERICA IN THE SIXTIES: POLITICS, SOCIETY AND CULTURE, 1954-1974

Go beyond hippies, tie-dye and Motown to examine the major social revolutions of the 1960s that transformed America's cultural character and political environment forever. Explore the '60s counter-culture, turbulent political arena and revolutionary youth movements while making connections to society today.



CLUSTER 70: Evolution of the Cosmos and Life

*"I would recommend a Cluster if you are looking for a challenging yet rewarding course. Having a year-long course helps greatly to build better relationships with professors, TA's, and other students."*

- Former Clusters Student

*"Coming into class feels like coming home, as the environment just feels really warm and inviting. The teaching team is like a family. So far, it's been my favorite class in college."*

- Former Clusters Student

