

General education electives never actually annoyed me while I was taking them at Iowa State. Often, people are annoyed they have to do things unrelated to their major, but I was looking forward to having a little variety in my classes. I transferred in quite a few credits from DMACC, so I only ended up taking three general education courses at Iowa State, but got to have the variety I was looking for.

The first gen ed I took at Iowa State was AM IN 225, or American Indians in Iowa. I took a lot of Social Studies courses while I was in high school and wanted to continue that while I was in college. It was very interesting to get to take a social studies course that was so focused on a specific region of the country, especially because it was about the history of my home state and something that I had been learning about throughout my whole life. Because this course came at the beginning of my college career, it was very helpful in helping me get used to the way college worked.

Keeping with the Social Studies theme, I took RUS 375. This course gives you everything you could possibly want to know about the modern history of Russia. It makes you understand the factors that have lead Russia to the exact point it is today. With Russia being such a prominent world power at the moment, it was nice to gain some background on them as we hear about them so much.

The final general education elective I took was ARTIS 308, Introduction to 3D Modeling. I have always been interested in filmmaking and visual effects and this got to be first real step into that world. I got to flex a creative muscle, but also got to work in a complex computer program that could be like something I help design some day. I thought this was a great class and it let me explore something I had always wanted to.

General education electives are extraordinary important to the college experience because they help you to become a more knowledgeable person, and experience things you had always wondered about but don't necessarily always apply to your main education.