

Academic Foundations

Academic Foundations courses are available for students whose placement test scores indicate a need for additional preparation in the areas of reading, writing, and/or math skills before entering their program of study. Typically, students complete Academic Foundations courses prior to taking core courses in their degree program. However, in some cases, Academic Foundations courses can be taken in conjunction with program-level coursework. Students who need foundations courses are assigned a pre-technical or pre-major advisor. The advisor assists students in selecting appropriate coursework and monitors the progress of each student toward meeting program admission requirements.

Courses in study skills are also available. These courses provide students with important college success skills such as taking tests, managing time, using the library, and taking notes. In addition, a computer learning laboratory and tutoring services are provided free of charge when extra help is needed.

Courses with the department code AFL (Academic Foundations - Language), AFM (Academic Foundations - Math) or ESL (English as a Second Language) are counted in the total number of attempted hours on student transcripts, but they are not used to calculate a student's grade point average (GPA). Even though these grades do not affect the GPA, they can affect financial aid eligibility. Academic Foundations courses cannot be counted toward graduation.

The following Academic Foundations courses are offered regularly:

AFL 080	Fundamentals of College Reading and Writing	5
AFL 085	Applications of College Reading and Writing	5
AFM 090	Foundations of Basic Mathematics	4
AFM 095	Foundations of Basic Algebra	4
ESL 051	English as a Second Language Level 1	4
ESL 052	English as a Second Language Level 2	4
ESL 055	English as a Second Language: Grammar	2
ESL 060	English as a Second Language: Pronunciation	2

Students may be advised to take other foundations courses not listed above to meet specific program preparation needs.

The Academic Foundations program also offers a Learning Lab in Rooms 254 and 258 of the Main Building. This computer laboratory provides students the opportunity to use supplemental instructional materials to sharpen their basic skills while reinforcing their ability to learn independently.

ESL Courses

International students who successfully complete courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) are considered to have completed Academic Foundations writing and reading courses. Additional foundations writing and reading courses are not required.

Success Center

Individual or group tutoring is available to Cincinnati State students in a variety of subject areas and is free of charge. Instruction is provided by qualified faculty or by student tutors who are recommended by faculty. All tutors receive training in methods, policies, and practices aimed at promoting independent learning. Students may request a tutor through the Success Center (<http://www.cincinnati-state.edu/real-world-academics/student-services/tutoring-services?searchterm=tutoring>) in Room 261 of the Main Building. Drop-in tutoring and tutoring by appointment are available for students who need assistance. The Success Center has two locations: Main Building, room 261 and ATLC Building, Room 105.

Writing Center

The Writing Center (<http://www.cincinnati-state.edu/real-world-academics/student-services/writing-center>) in Room 235 of the Main Building offers tutorial support at no charge to any Cincinnati State student whose coursework includes written assignments. Tutors are qualified, experienced writing instructors. Tutors are available by appointment, on a walk-in basis, or online to provide guidance to students in all facets of the writing process.

Academic Advising

Academic advising assists students in reaching their academic and career goals at Cincinnati State. Program chairs, academic advisors, and other faculty members are assigned to guide students through activities such as:

- Setting academic goals
- Developing educational plans
- Selecting courses
- Providing information on transfer credits
- Understanding and meeting requirements for graduation

- Clarifying career and personal goals
- Explaining academic policies and procedures
- Addressing academic challenges
- Making appropriate referrals to campus support services