

GREAT BOOKS

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Great Books at Oakton encourages faculty and students to explore fundamental cultural themes through discussion of readings from both Western and non-Western traditions. Great Books courses are particular sections of standard courses offered in English, history, humanities, philosophy, and political science. Their titles and content are as described in the general course catalog with two variations: at least half of the readings in all Great Books courses are classic texts, and each course includes a significant theme, such as “democracy,” “beauty,” “the good life,” “morality,” or “citizenship.” Other benefits of Great Books courses are smaller classes that are student centered and discussion based. Great Books classes also help students enhance their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, which can lead to greater success in advanced college courses and professional work.

To see the complete list of Great Books courses offered in a given semester, simply select “Great Books” from the “Category” menu in the online class listings. The designation of Great Books Scholar will appear on the transcripts of all Oakton students who earn credit for three or more Great Books courses.

For more information, contact program coordinator or visit www.oakton.edu/academics/special-programs/great-books.php.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate the ability to read critically within content areas.
2. Identify, define, analyze, interpret, and evaluate: ideas, concepts, information, problems, solutions, and consequences.
3. Communicate ideas, concepts, and information through written, oral, and nonverbal means.