Jenni Gallagher
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What have you heard from students about Pathways?
“Why do I have to take this stuff?”

1. Provides a complement to the deep disciplinary dive of your major(s).

2. Provides the opportunity to make sense of the world from multiple perspectives, fields, and with various tools.

3. Offers an opportunity to consider world issues alongside students from different backgrounds, majors, and perspectives.

4. Provides the foundation for an informed citizenry in a strong democracy.

5. Allows you to discover academic passions and interests.

6. Builds the skills and knowledge you’ll need to be successful in your career.
National Association of Colleges and Employers

Career Readiness Competencies
There are eight career readiness competencies, each of which can be demonstrated in a variety of ways.

- Career & Self-Development
- Leadership
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork
- Equity & Inclusion
- Technology

Source: https://www.naceweb.org/career-readiness/competencies/career-readiness-defined
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### Ability to analyze and Interpret data

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The Pathways General Education Curriculum

Students complete 45 credit hours across 7 core concepts.

Core Concepts
- Discourse: 9 credits
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences: 6 credits
- Quantitative and Computational Thinking: 9 credits
- Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States: 3 credits (may be double-counted with another core concept)

Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts: 6 credits
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities: 6 credits

Integrative Concepts
- Ethical Reasoning: Throughout
- Intercultural and Global Awareness: Throughout

Each Pathways course also integrates one (or both) of these concepts.
Pathways Minors
Just like a normal minor, but also...

- Is a cross-disciplinary program that fulfills at least three core concepts and both integrative concepts
- Has three levels: introductory, mid-level, and a capstone experience
- Fulfills a minimum of nine Pathways credits
30 Minors
1100+ Students Enrolled
Data and Decisions (DTDC) Minor

As tomorrow’s doctors, lawyers, politicians, industrial leaders, patients, parents, and citizens, you will make important decisions that will impact both yourself and society. Data serve as an important resource for gathering “objective” information and evaluating risk (or lack thereof) from multiple perspectives. The DTDC minor helps students develop skills to think critically and use data responsibly to formulate sound and ethical judgements.

84 students currently enrolled from 8 colleges and 29 majors
Adaptive Brain and Behavior (ABB) Minor

In addition to meeting Pathways requirements, students completing the ABB minor benefit from 1) having a multidisciplinary perspective on factors that impact health, well-being and resilience, and 2) gaining a deeper understanding of the neurological underpinnings of thoughts, beliefs, behaviors, and social influences.

195 students currently enrolled from 7 colleges and 29 majors
Why should students take a Pathways minor?

- It shows up on their transcript.
- It allows them to go deeper into a topic that complements (or goes beyond) their major.
- It allows them to take classes alongside students from dozens of different majors.
- It can open the door to courses they may not be able to access otherwise (e.g., Studio Arts for Non-Majors).
- It can set them apart from the pool in a job search or grad school application.
Minor Showcase Pages

Pathways Minors Showcase

Pathways Minors are thematic, cross-disciplinary programs that allow students to examine important topics from a variety of perspectives while completing general education requirements along the way.

Overview of all Pathways Minors (PDF)

Read a summary of each Pathways minor in the flyer linked above, or explore individual Pathways minors in detail through the links below.

Adaptive Brain and Behavior
Asphaltian Cultures and Environments
Biodiversity Conservation
Blue Planet
Civic Agriculture and Food Systems
Climate and Society

https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors/showcase.html
Major/Minor Maps

Pathways is the general education curriculum at Virginia Tech. As a central component of the undergraduate experience, the Pathways curriculum will allow you to examine the world from multiple perspectives and integrate your knowledge across various disciplines. Along with the coursework required for your major, you will complete credits from seven Pathways concepts (seven core concepts and two integrative concepts).

**Core Concepts**
You will complete a total of 45 credits across seven Pathways core concepts. The number of credits required per concept is listed below.

1. **Discourse**
   - 5 credits
   - 3 Foundational (F)
   - 2 Advanced (A)

2. **Critical Thinking in the Humanities**
   - 6 credits

3. **Reasoning in the Social Sciences**
   - 6 credits

4. **Reasoning in the Natural Sciences**
   - 6 credits

5. **Quantitative and Computational Thinking**
   - 9 credits
   - 3 Foundational (F)
   - 6 Advanced (A)

6. **Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts**
   - 6 credits
   - 3 Design (D)
   - 3 Arts (A)

7. **Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States**
   - 3 credits
   - May be double-counted with another core concept

**Integrative Concepts**
Each Pathways course also meets at least one integrative concept, ensuring that you complete your general education with competency in both ethical reasoning and intercultural and global awareness.

- **Ethical Reasoning**
  - Throughout

- **Intercultural and Global Awareness**
  - Throughout

**Pathways Requirements for the Landscape Architecture Major**

Some Pathways requirements are met through your in-major classes, and those not satisfied within your major can be fulfilled by a Pathways minor.

**Which general education requirements are satisfied by your major?**
- Discourse (F & A)
- 3 credits of Reasoning in the Social Sciences (D)
- 3 credits of Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (D)
- Quantitative and Computational Thinking (F & A)
- 3 credits of Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (D & A)

**But what about your other requirements?**
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (D)
- 2 credits of Reasoning in the Social Sciences (D)
- 3 credits of Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (D)
- 3 credits of Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (D & A)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the United States (D)

**How to Choose a Pathways Minor for a Landscape Architecture Major**

Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your major? The chart below maps out which credits are met within your major. *See the section below for Pathways minors that can help you fill in the gaps.*

Minors That Are a Good Fit for Your Landscape Architecture Major

The Pathways minors listed below offer the most opportunity to fulfill the concepts not met within your major. Click on the name to learn more about each minor, or explore all Pathways minors at pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors/showcase.

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Ecological Cities
- Housing and Society
- Organizational Leadership
- Pathways to Sustainability
- Peace Studies and Social Justice
- Technology, Human, and Environment

https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors/about-minors.html
Pathways and Study Abroad
Imagine fulfilling your Critical Thinking in the Humanities credits by studying Old Norse literature while traveling the Icelandic countryside in which it was written. Or completing Reasoning in the Social Sciences credits in Switzerland and Rwanda by studying citizen leadership in the context of creating sustainable social change.

Study abroad programs provide an excellent opportunity to complete Pathways general education credits while also exploring another culture. With the variety of options available, nearly all students can fit a study abroad experience into their plans of study with a little advanced planning. Check out the questions below to learn more!

- Want to learn more about study abroad opportunities?
- Which study abroad courses are already approved for Pathways?
- Are there any Pathways minors that include study abroad experiences?
- Can I apply for Pathways credit for a VT study abroad course that is not approved for Pathways?
- Can I apply for Pathways credit for a non-VT study abroad course?
- You’ve convinced me. I want to study abroad! How do I get started?

Resources
- Global Education Office outbound students
- Global Education Office advisors
- Pathways Credit Review Request Form, study abroad pre- and post-approval

Selected Current Programs
- Global One Health and Social Justice in Southern Africa (POE)
- Pathways to the Sieger Center
- Rising Sophomore Abroad Program (RSAP) (POE)
- The Making of England (POE)
Global One Health and Social Justice in Southern Africa (Botswana & Mozambique)

Spend six weeks located across from the world-famous Chobe National Park, studying the country’s diverse wildlife and approaches to wildlife management and conservation!

Contact the Global Education Office
Rachel Fitzgerald rfitz@vt.edu
Pathways for Transfer Students
How do credits from other institutions transfer to Pathways?

Credit from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS)
- Completed transferable Associate Degree
  - Pathways General Education requirements satisfied*
    *additional major-specific requirements may apply

Credit from other four-year institutions or two-year colleges outside of Virginia, or other sources such as AP, IB, CLEP, etc.
- Has not completed transferable Associate Degree
  - Transfer credits can satisfy individual Pathways General Education requirements

PATHWAYS RESOURCES FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Pathways Course Catalogs: https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/about/pathways-guides.html
- Degree Checksheets: https://www.registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/checksheets.html

https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/students-and-advisors/transfer-students.html
Pathways/CLE Course Review Request For Substitutions

If you are a student, advisor, or college rep looking to have a course reviewed for Pathways or CLE credit substitution, follow the process outlined below. Students must have advisor support and acknowledgment before proceeding with this process AND students must have completed the course at the time of the request.

NOTE: You will need the course syllabus and a written justification for how the course meets the desired concept to complete the request. AP/IB courses CANNOT be reviewed using this process, talk to your advisor.

Please email Jenni Gallagher with any questions.

- What Can Be Reviewed Using this Process
- What CANNOT Be Reviewed Using this Process
- What Does Not Need to Be Reviewed Using this Process
- Process Details and Timeline
- Pathways Course Review Request Form
- Table of Pathways Course Transfer Recommendations
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