

Fall 2022

General Education/ Distribution Requirements

- I. The Writing Program
 - II. One or Two Courses in a Foreign Language
 - III. Three Courses in Natural Sciences and Quantitative Skills
 - IV. Three Courses in the Humanities and Fine Arts
 - V. Three Courses in Social Sciences
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I. The Writing Program

W1 Critical Inquiry - The First-Year Seminar (*Students must complete this course in their first year.*)

The W1 introduces all students to the essential thinking activities of liberal arts education, including inquiry, critical thinking, discussion, writing, and argument. Students fulfill this requirement by completing a first-year seminar (FYS). Washington College's First-Year Seminar program introduces new college students to the excitement of critical inquiry and learning, and to the key academic skills required for sustained collegiate success. FYS courses cover a wide range of topics, but all share three essential elements: the passion of a dedicated instructor, a small-seminar format where students contribute and learn from each other, and a sustained focus on careful reading, sound research, thoughtful discussion, and clear writing—the 'habits of critical inquiry' at the heart of liberal education.

All FYS courses introduce students to library research and information literacy; offer instruction on the writing process, rhetorical knowledge, and academic conventions; and include significant research, writing, revision, and presentation work.

W2 Process of Writing – courses that fulfill this requirement are indicated on the course schedule.

(Students must complete one W2 course by the end of their second year at Washington College, or by completion of 60 credits.)

W2 courses continue the development of rhetorical knowledge and critical thinking introduced in W1, while providing additional time and attention to the practice of all aspects of writing processes.

W3 Writing in the Discipline – courses that fulfill this requirement are indicated on the course schedule.

The W3 requirement advances the larger program goals of persuasive analysis, flexible thinking, responsible inquiry, and effective expression into each department and major, focusing attention on the methods and modes of writing and critical thinking specific to a discipline or major field of study. Each major builds a W3 course into the required program of study, so simply completing a major will ensure completing the W3 writing requirement.

W4 Senior Capstone Experience

W4 is the capstone of the writing experience at Washington College. All seniors complete discipline-specific writing as part of their Senior Capstone Experience (SCE), demonstrating at an advanced level the elements of critical thinking, writing processes, rhetorical knowledge, and knowledge of conventions that they have been developing in their previous writing experiences across the curriculum and in the major. As with the W3 requirements, each student will automatically complete the W4 requirement by completing the SCE.

II. Foreign Language Requirement

(Students must complete one or two courses in a foreign language depending on their placement level.)

- A. For students starting a new language or students placed in the 100-level of a previously studied language, complete two courses (eight credits) in that language.
- B. For students placed in the 200-level or above in French, German, Chinese, or Spanish, complete one course (four credits).
- C. Students who speak, read, and write a native language other than English are exempted from this requirement.
- D. Students with a language-based learning disability, and who are granted an accommodation by the Office of Academic Skills, may apply for an OAS accommodation (information is available here: washcoll.edu/people_departments/offices/disability-

services/student-academicaccommodations.php). Students granted an OAS accommodation fulfill the Foreign Language Requirement by substituting two four-credit courses (eight credits total), taught in English, in a foreign culture. Courses must be selected from the list of courses approved for this accommodation by the chair of the World Languages and Cultures department and available from the Office of Academic Skills.

III. Natural Science and Quantitative Skills Requirement

Students must complete three courses, either with two natural-science courses and one quantitative course (option A below), or two quantitative courses and one natural-science course (option B below), as detailed here:

A. Natural Science Component: *To fulfill the overall requirement with two Natural Science courses and one Quantitative Skills course, complete one of the options below.*

Option 1: Complete a natural science general sequence. This option is strongly recommended for students who plan to major in biology, chemistry, environmental science, environmental studies, physics or psychology, or who intend to apply to medical or veterinary school. These sequences are also recommended for students seeking teacher certification or who otherwise have an interest in the sciences:

- BIO 111, 112 General Biology
- CHE 120, 140 Chemical Principles of Organic Molecules, Reactions of Organic Molecules
- PHY 101, 102 College Physics (algebra-based)
- PHY 111, 112 General Physics (calculus-based)

Note: Transfer, AP, and IB credit for CHE 111 and 112 will fulfill the Natural Science component.

Option 2: Complete any two natural science courses. Any two of the non-major science courses on this list may be taken, or one may be paired with a course from the list under Option 1. Note that since BIO 100 courses are diverse, two BIO 100 courses on different topics may be paired.

- BIO 100 Current Topics in Biology
- BIO 104 Ecology of the Chesapeake Bay
- CHE 110 Chemistry of the Environment
- CRS 240 Estuarine Science
- PHY 100 Concepts in Contemporary Physics
- PHY 105 Astronomy
- ENV 140 Exploring the Solid Earth
- ENV 141 Atmosphere, Ocean, and Environment

Any *one* course from either option above will fulfill the Natural Science component for students taking *two* Quantitative Skills courses.

Students completing two natural-science courses as specified above may complete the Natural Sciences and Quantitative requirement with just one Quantitative Skills course. Any of the following courses will count to complete the quantitative component (keep in mind that further attention may be needed to fulfill major requirements).

BUS 109 Managerial Statistics

ECN 215 Data Analysis

MAT, CSI Any Mathematics (MAT) or Computer Science (CSI) course

MUS Any Music Theory course (MUS 131, 132, or 231)

PHL 108 Logic

POL 209 Political Data Analysis

PSY 209 Statistics and Experimental Design

B. Quantitative Skills Component: *This is a common pathway for students who's major (Business Management is an example) has a two-course quantitative requirement. There are three main options:*

Option 1: Complete any combination of two Mathematics (MAT) and/or Computer Science (CSI) courses MAT 106 (Stretch Differential Calculus I) and MAT 107 (Stretch Differential Calculus II) **both** must be taken to count for this option. (In other words, taking MAT 106 and another MAT course would not fulfill this option.)

Note: that some Math special-topics courses may not qualify—consult the department chair for specific special-topics courses.

Option 2: Complete any two Music Theory courses (Except for MUS 131, 132, or 231)

Option 3: Complete one quantitative-skills course from Column A, and one from Column B.

Select one course from Column A and one course from Column B. Please see department course listings for prerequisite restrictions and/or major requirements.

| Column A | Column B |
|--|---|
| BUS 109 Managerial Statistics | BUS 209 Financial Analysis |
| ECN 215 Data Analysis | ECN 320 Econometrics |
| MAT 109 Statistics | Any MAT/CSI course other than MAT 106, 107, or 109* |
| POL 209 Political Data Analysis | |
| PSY 209 Statistics & Research Design I | |

Note: Students may not receive academic credit for both BUS 109 and MAT 109.

Students completing two quantitative skills courses as specified above may complete the Natural Sciences and Quantitative requirement with any Natural Science course listed in Option A above (keep in mind that further attention may be needed to align with major requirements).

IV. Humanities and Fine Arts Requirement *(Students must complete three courses, with at least one satisfying the Humanities component [letter A] and another satisfying the Fine Arts component [B], as detailed here:*

A. Humanities Component: To fulfill the overall requirement with *two* Humanities courses and *one* Fine Arts course, complete one of the following options listed below:

- **Communication and Media Studies:** CMS 101 Intro to Communication & Media Studies and CMS 201 Contemporary Popular Film & TV
- **English:** ENG 101 and one 200-level English course, *or* any two 200-level English courses
- **Foreign Language:** Any two courses taught in the same foreign language and numbered 303 or above, e.g. FRS, GRS, or HPS 303+ (except HPS 307)
- **International Literatures and Cultures:** Any two International Language/Culture courses
- **Philosophy:** Any two Philosophy courses (except PHL 108)

Any *one* course from the list above will fulfill the Humanities component for students taking *two* Fine Arts courses.

B. Fine Arts Component: To fulfill the overall requirement with *two* Fine Arts courses and *one* Humanities course, complete one of the following options listed below:

- **Art & Art History:** Any two four-credit Art or Art History courses.
- **Dance:** Eight credits of Dance courses (except DAN 181-186, 285, 310, or 381)
- **Theatre:** Any two Theatre courses (except THE 375)
- **Music:** Eight credits of Music courses (except MUS 131, 132, 231 or 232), including applied music (private instruction) and musical ensembles

Any *one* course from the list above, or a combination of four credits from the same department, will fulfill the Fine Arts component for students taking *two* Humanities courses.

V. Social Science Requirement

(Students must complete three courses, with at least two from the same department.)

To fulfill the Social Science requirement, complete a two-course sequence or pairing from any department listed below plus one additional course from a different department on the list. The third course must be one of the bulleted courses on this list. An indented course will not count as the third course unless otherwise noted.

Anthropology

Any ANT courses

Economics

- ECN 111, 112 Macro- and Microeconomics, *or*
- ECN 111 *or* 112, *plus any one of the following:*
 - ENV 117 Introduction to Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
 - ECN 218 Economics Development

- ECN 219 Human Resources Economics
- ECN 312 Public Finance
- ECN 317 Environmental Economics
- ECN 318 Natural Resource Economics
- ECN 410 International Trade
- ECN 411 International Finance
- ECN 415 Government and Business
- ECN 416 Law and Economics

Note: Students planning to take one Economics course and two courses from another department may complete either ECN 111, 112, or 117 to satisfy the third course.

Education

- EDU 251, 252 Principles of Education *and* Educational Psychology

Note: Students planning to take one Education course and two courses from another department may complete either EDU 251 or 252 to satisfy the third course.

History

- HIS 111 Introduction to History, *plus any other History course or* any two of the following 200-level History courses:
- HIS 201 History of the United States I
- HIS 202 History of the United States II
- HIS 203 Modern World History I
- HIS 204 Modern World History II
- HIS 205 Early Origins of Western Civilization I
- HIS 206 Early Origins of Western Civilization II

Note: Students do not need to take the 200-level courses in any certain pair or sequence. Any combination of the 200-level History courses will satisfy the requirement. Students planning to take one History course and two courses from another department may complete either HIS 111 or any 200-level HIS course to satisfy the third course.

Political Science

- POL 102, 104 American Government & Politics *and* Introduction to World Politics, *or*
- POL 102 American Government and Politics, *plus any 200- or 300-level POL course or*
- POL 104 Introduction to World Politics, *plus any 200- or 300-level POL course*

Note: Students planning to take one Political Science course and two courses from another department may complete either POL 102 or POL 104 to satisfy the third course.

Psychology

- PSY 111, 112 General Psychology I *and* II, *or*
- PSY 111 *or* 112, *plus any one of the following:*
 - PSY 202 Lifespan Developmental Psychology
 - PSY 205 Drugs and Behavior
 - PSY 220 Human Sexuality

Note: Students planning to take one Psychology course and two courses from another department may complete either PSY 111 or PSY 112 to satisfy the third course.

Sociology

- SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology, *plus any 200-level SOC course*

Note: Students planning to take one Sociology course and two courses from another department may complete SOC 101 to satisfy the third course.