I’m in college.
What do I do now?
Navigating your way to graduation.

by: Alicia Roberson
Overview

- Using your catalog
  - Core Curriculum
  - Major Specific Requirements
  - Other University Requirements
  - Changing your Major
  - Minors

- Using your resources
  - VSU Offices
  - Academic Advisor
  - Professors
What is the Core Curriculum?

- The Core Curriculum is made up of 60 general education requirements.
- For the most part it is the same for all students no matter what your major is. There may be restrictions based on your major.
- The core can be found in the undergraduate catalog (hard copy-page 91 or on the web).
What are the “hours”?

- Each course is given a value called hours.
- The majority of the courses you will take are 3-hour courses.
- Perspectives, Physical Education, Music, Theatre, Dance, & VSU course are often 1 or 2 credits.
- Many of the sciences are worth 4 credits.
- Normally the number of hours you spend in class determines the number of credits.
Hours & Your Standing

- 1-29 hours earned = Freshman Standing
- 30-59 hours earned = Sophomore Standing
- 60-89 hours earned = Junior Standing
- 90+ hours earned = Senior Standing
What’s in the Core? (pg 91)

- Area A - Essential Skills (9 hours)
- Area B - Institutional Options (4 hours)
- Area C - Fine Arts and Humanities (6 hours)
- Area D - Science, Math, & Technology (11 hours)
- Area E - Social Sciences (12 hours)
- Area F - Major Specific (18 hours)
Area A Essential Skills ................................................ 9 semester hours

ENGL 1101 or ENGL 1101H ................................................ 3 hours
ENGL 1102 or ENGL 1102H ............................................. 3 hours

One of the following ...................................................... 3 hours
MATH 1101... 3 hours MATH 1111... 3 hours
MATH 1113 or MATH 1113H ... 3 hours
MATH 2261 or MATH 2261H ... 4 hours MATH 2262 ...4 hours

NOTE: MATH 1113 or MATH 1113H (or higher) is required of all students majoring in (or intending to transfer within the University System with a major in) architecture, astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering technology, geology, geography (B.S.), forestry, pharmacy, mathematics, physical therapy, physics, or secondary education (biology, chemistry, mathematics, or physics).
MATH 2261 (or higher) is required of all students intending to transfer within the University System with a major in engineering.
Area B-Institutional Options

- Each college within the University System of Georgia offers a variety of courses in this section.
- At VSU they are called perspectives. The perspectives are divided into 7 different areas based on themes.
- You must take two of these course, and they must be from two different areas.
Two different courses required, each from a different areas of the Perspectives; all courses carry 2 semester credit hours.

1. Perspectives on Ethics/Values (PERS 21XX)
2. Perspectives on Tradition and Change (PERS 22XX)
3. Perspectives on Human Expression (PERS 23XX)
4. Perspectives on the Environment/Physical World (PERS 24XX)
5. Perspectives on Race/Gender (PERS 25XX)
6. Perspectives on Cross-Cultural Understanding/Expression (PERS 26XX)
7. Perspectives on the World of Work (PERS 27XX)
AREA C Humanities / Fine Arts .................................. 6 semester hours

One required course from the following ........................ 3 hours
ENGL 2110 or ENGL 2110H, ENGL 2120 or ENGL 2120H,
ENGL 2130 or ENGL 2130H, ENGL 2140

One required course from the following ........................ 3 hours
ART 1100 or ART 1100H, COMM 1100, COMM 1110,
DANC 1500, MUSC 1100, MUSC 1110, MUSC 1120,
MUSC 1130, MDIA 2000, THEA 1100, PHIL 2010
or PHIL 2010H, PHIL 2020 or PHIL 2020H, REL 2020,
WMST 2010, ENGL 2110 or ENGL 2110H, ENGL 2120
or ENGL 2120H, ENGL 2130 or ENGL 2130H, ENGL 2140,
FREN 1001, FREN 1002, FREN 1111, FREN 2001,
FREN 2002, GRMN 1001, GRMN 1002, GRMN 1111,
GRMN 2001, GRMN 2002, JAPN 1001, JAPN 1002,
JAPN 1111, JAPN 2001, JAPN 2002, LATN 1001,
LATN 1002, LATN 1111, LATN 2001, LATN 2002,
RUSS 1001, RUSS 1002, RUSS 1111, RUSS 2001,
RUSS 2002, SPAN 1001, SPAN 1002, SPAN 1111,
SPAN 2001, SPAN 2002 or SPAN 2002H
Area D Science, Mathematics, & Technology ...... 11 semester hours

**Science and mathematics majors** must follow D.2.a requirements.  
**Nursing majors** must follow D.2.b requirements.  
**All other students** may choose D.1., D.2.a, or D.2.b.

**AREA D.1**

Any **two** courses from the following .................................. 8 hours
ASTR 1010K, ASTR 1020K, BIOL 1010/1020L, 
BIOL 1030/1040L, BIOL 1951H, BIOL 1952H, 
CHEM 1010, CHEM 1151K, CHEM 1152K, 
CHEM 1211 and 1211L, CHEM 1212 and 1212L, 
GEOG 1112K, GEOG 1113K, GEOL 1121K, GEOL 1122K, 
PHYS 1111K, PHYS 1112K, PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K

Any **one** course from the following .................................... 3 hours
*ASTR 1000, BIOL 1050, BIOL 1060, BIOL 1070, 
BIOL 1080, BIOL 1090, ENGR 1010, *GEOG1110, 
*GEOL 1110, MATH 1112, MATH 1261, MATH 2620, 
MATH 2261, MATH 2262, PHSC 1100 
* Check course restrictions in the course descriptions.
Required of majors in astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, environmental geosciences, mathematics, physics, secondary biology education, secondary chemistry education, secondary mathematics education, secondary earth and space science education, secondary physics education, and all students in the pre-engineering program.

Mathematics, above the level taken for Area A ............. 3 hours

For biology majors: MATH 2261, MATH 2262, or MATH 2620

For all other science or mathematics majors: MATH 2261 or MATH 2262 (The additional hour of calculus [MATH 2261 & 2262] counts in Area F or in the major.)

Science (for all students listed above) .......................... 8 hours
BIOL 2010, CHEM 1211 and 1211L,
CHEM 1212 and 1212L, PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K
AREA D.2.b
Nursing

Two required chemistry courses ....................................................... 8 hours

CHEM 1151K AND CHEM 1152K

One required course from the following ................................. 3 hours

ASTR 1000, ASTR 1010K, ASTR 1020K, BIOL 1010/1020L, BIOL 1030/1040L,
BIOL 1050, BIOL 1060, BIOL 1070, BIOL 1080, BIOL 1090, CHEM 1010,
CHEM 1211 and 1211L, CHEM 1212 and 1212L, GEOG 1110, GEOG 1112K,
GEOG 1113K, GEOL 1110, GEOL 1121K, GEOL 1122K, PHYS 1111K,
PHYS 1112K, PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K, ENGR 1010, MATH 1112,
MATH 2620, MATH 2261, MATH 2262, PHSC 1100
Area E Social Sciences ..................................................... 12 semester hours

POLS 1101 or POLS 1101H .................................................. 3 hours

One required course from the following ......................... 3 hours

HIST 2111 or HIST 2111H,
HIST 2112 or HIST 2112H

Any two courses from the following ............................... 6 hours
AFAM 2020/WMST 2020, ANTH 1102 or ANTH 1102H, ECON 1500,
ECON 1900H, GEOG 1100, GEOG 1101, GEOG 1102, GEOG 1103, HIST 1011 or
HIST 1011H, HIST 1012 or HIST 1012H, HIST 1013 or HIST 1013H, POLS 2101,
POLS 2401 or POLS 2401H, POLS 2501, PSYC 2500 or PSYC 2500H, SOCI
1101 or SOCI 1101H, SOCI 1160
Area F Courses Appropriate to the Major ........... 18 semester hours

- Requirements vary according to the major program.

- See the requirements for Area F in the departmental section of your major.
How do I find Area F for my major?

- Look for your major in the index at the back of the catalog.
- Turn to the page number listed and look for:
Core Curriculum Requirements for:
Bachelor of Business Administration Degrees

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum) ....................................................... 42 hours
Area F Requirements 1.......................................................................................... 18 hours

BUSA 2000 .......................................................................................................... 1 hour
CISM 2201 or CS 1000 ......................................................................................... 2 or 3 hours
BUSA 2106 .......................................................................................................... 3 hours
ECON 2105, ECON 2106..................................................................................... 6 hours
ACCT 2101, ACCT 2102 ...................................................................................... 6 hours

1 The grade in each of these courses must be a “C” or better.
Students completing Area F courses in Areas B through E will be required to substitute VSU core curriculum courses as part of their Area F requirements. Students should see their advisor to ensure that appropriate courses are selected in order to satisfy this requirement.

Found on Page 176
Sometimes you will see a number or symbol next to the words.

This means there is further explanation.

For example:
Core Curriculum Requirements for:
Bachelor of Business Administration Degrees

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum) .................................................. 42 hours
Area F Requirements 1 .................................................................................... 18 hours

BUSA 2000 ........................................................................................................ 1 hour
CISM 2201 or CS 1000 .................................................................................... 2 or 3 hours
BUSA 2106 ........................................................................................................ 3 hours
ECON 2105, ECON 2106 ................................................................................ 6 hours
ACCT 2101, ACCT 2102 ................................................................................ 6 hours

1The grade in each of these courses must be a “C” or better.
Students completing Area F courses in Areas B through E will be required to substitute VSU core curriculum courses as part of their Area F requirements. Students should see their advisor to ensure that appropriate courses are selected in order to satisfy this requirement.

Found on page 176
Other places to look for rules:

- Each section of the catalog gives you important information about the expectations of your major.
- For example:
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Freshmen and sophomore students who declare their intention to pursue one of the majors in business administration may be accepted for advising by business faculty or staff. All students who wish to pursue one of the majors in business administration beyond their sophomore year must be accepted to the senior college of the Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration. Students who meet the following criteria are accepted.

1. Completion of all junior college requirements of the Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration.

2. Successful completion of both parts of the Regent’s Testing Program (RGTR 0196 and RGTR 0197).

3. A minimum over-all Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.80 (on a 4.00 scale). The GPA calculation is based on all course work, including transfer credits.

Found on page 175
4. A minimum grade of “C” in all courses in Area F of the junior college core curriculum. Students majoring in fields outside the Langdale College may enroll in 3000- and 4000-level business courses only if: (a) they have completed at least 60 semester hours prior to the current semester of enrollment, (b) they have completed Area F of the B.B.A. curriculum (ACCT 2101, ACCT 2102, ECON 2105, ECON 2106, BUSA 2000, and either CISM 2201 or CS 1000), and (c) they have met the specific prerequisites for the course as listed in the course description. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the course instructor and the Dean or Associate Dean of Langdale College. Students not majoring in business are limited to 30 semester hours in business courses, including course work transferred from other institutions.
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

These programs introduce students to the liberal arts and to psychology as a scientific discipline, with content and methods able to improve the human condition. To declare psychology a major you must have completed 45 hours of coursework in the Core and earned at least a “C” or better (> 2.0 GPA) in all your previously attempted coursework. You must also earn a “C” or better (> 2.0 GPA) in each and every required psychology course and prerequisite.

*Guided Electives. ................................................................. 24 hours
*If Area F requirements for the Valdosta State University B.A. or B.S. degree with a major in psychology are not taken in Area F or another Area, they must be taken as Guided Electives.

Found on page 221
Each institution of the University System of Georgia must assure the other institutions, and the System as a whole, that students obtaining a degree from that institution possess literacy competence, that is, certain minimum skills of reading and writing. Therefore students enrolled in undergraduate degree programs shall pass the Regents’ Test as a requirement for graduation.

Students are expected to register for and take both components of the Regents’ Test prior to the accumulation of 45 semester hours of earned credit. Students who have not taken the Regents’ Test prior to the end of the semester in which they will have accumulated 45 semester hours of earned credit are subject to denial of registration.
All students who have not passed the test, whether they have taken the test or not, by the time they earn 45 semester hours of degree credit must take the appropriate non-degree credit course or courses in remedial writing, RGTE 0199, and remedial reading, RGTR 0198, in each semester of attendance until they have passed all components of the test. These students must successfully pass the remedial course in reading and/or writing before they are allowed to take the reading and/or writing portion of the test again. Students who fail to enroll in the required remedial course will not be allowed to register at Valdosta State University.
The Regents & Transfer Students

- Students transferring from within the University System of Georgia shall be subject to all provisions of this policy and to Valdosta State University procedures. Students transferring from outside the System with 45 or more earned semester hours shall register for and take the Regents’ Test during the first two semesters of enrollment and in subsequent semesters shall be subject to all provisions of the policy and of VSU procedures.
The Regents & International Students

Foreign students on non-immigrant visas whose native language is not English may register for an alternative testing program. Students should register through the Foreign Student Advisor. Resident aliens, permanent residents, native speakers of English, and U.S. citizens, regardless of native language, must pass the standard Regents’s Test.
Exemptions for the Regents-Essay

- AP English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition scores of at least 3
  - International Baccalaureate (IB) higher-level English scores of at least 4
  - SAT II English Writing scores of at least 650
  - SAT I Verbal score of at least 530 and an “A” in English 1101
  - SAT I Verbal score of at least 590 and a “B” in English 1101
  - ACT English exemption score of at least 23 and an “A” in English 1101
  - ACT English exemption score of at least 26 and a “B” in English 1101
Exemptions for the Regents-Reading

- SAT I Verbal scores of at least 510
- ACT Reading scores of at least 23
In accordance with an act of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, all candidates for degree are required to possess and demonstrate a reasonable mastery of United States history, Georgia history, the United States Constitution, and the Georgia Constitution. These history requirements are met by the successful completion of History 2111 or History 2112. The constitution requirements are met by the successful completion of Political Science 1101 (3 hours). Transfer credit for these three courses may not satisfy the requirements of the State of Georgia. Exemption tests in Georgia History or Georgia Constitution are offered to transfer students whose American History or Political Science course(s) did not include Georgia History or Georgia Constitution and to students who have obtained credit in American Government or in American History via the CLEP program, which does not include credit for satisfying the legislative requirements. See the VSU Testing Office in Powell Hall West concerning the exemption tests in Georgia History and in Georgia Constitution.

So what?

If you transferred from a college in another state AND you received credit for HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 and/or POLS 1101, then you will need to take a test on Georgia History and/or the Georgia Constitution.

If you have never taken or have not received credit for HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 and/or POLS 1101, then when you take and pass these course you will have completed the requirement.
What if I want to change my major?

- Go to the department of your major.
- Tell them you want to change your major.
- They will either give you your folder or send your folder to the department to which you want to change.
- You will fill out a form that your current department and new department must sign and then send to the registrar’s office.
What if I want to add a minor?

- Page 66 & 67
- A minor consists of 15-18 hours of course work from an area outside of your major
- 9 hours must be upper division (3000-4000)
- For more information see the department of the minor.
G.P.A. Requirements

- College of the Arts
  - Art Ed-2.75
  - Interior Design-2.5
  - Mass Media-2.25
  - Music Ed- Audition
  - Speech Comm-2.25
- College of Business-2.8
- College of Nursing-2.8
- College of Education
  - Business Ed-2.5
  - Comm Disorders-3.0
  - Early Childhood, Exercise Physiology, Middle Grades, Physical Ed, Special Ed-2.5
  - Sports Med-2.75

*Some programs have limited spots & the minimum G.P.A. is for consideration. It is not a guaranteed acceptance.
Offices Around Campus

- Student Success Center
- Career Services
- Counseling Center
- Office of Testing
- Access Office
- Farber Health Center
- Student Life
- Admissions

- Bursary
- Financial Aid
- Registrar
- Odom Library
- Multicultural Affairs & Equal Opportunities
- Department of your major
Student Success Center

- 2nd Floor of Langdale Hall above the Tech Shop
- Tutoring for various subjects
- On-campus job opportunities
- General advising questions answered

For more info visit:
http://www.valdosta.edu/ssc/
Career Services

- 2nd Floor of Powell Hall West
- Help in choosing a major
- Off-campus job opportunities
- Internships & Cooperative Education
- Assistance with resumes
- Employment after college
  - Career Day
  - Resume Referrals
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/career/students.shtml
Counseling Center

- 2nd Floor of Powell Hall East
- Confidentiality
- Individual Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Workshops
- Study Skills, Test anxiety, Leadership, etc.

For more info visit:
http://www.valdosta.edu/counseling/
Office of Testing

- Located on the 1st Floor of Powell Hall West
- CLEP Test
- Legislative Requirement Testing
- Prep Books for standardized test
- Exams for Grad school & professional schools
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/testing/
Access Office

- Located on the 1st Floor of Nevins Hall
- Faculty Liaison
- Classroom Testing Modifications
- Physical Accommodations
- Sign Language Interpreting/Notetaking Services
- Campus Accessibility

For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/access/
Farber Health Center

- Located Behind Langdale Hall & off of Oak St.
- Equipped to handle most short-term illnesses
- $80 health fee per semester makes students eligible for unlimited visits at no additional cost
- For more info visit: http://services.valdosta.edu/health/
Student Life

- Located on the 2nd floor of the University Union
- Campus Activities Board
- Union Station
- Greek Life
- Student Government Association
- Volunteer Service

For more info visit:
http://www.valdosta.edu/stulife/
Admissions

- Located Across the street from main campus - Two story red brick house
- Transient Forms
- Transfer Credit
- Readmission
- For more information visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/admissions/
Bursary

- Located Across from the UC at the Corner of Patterson and Ann St.
- Fee Payment
- Tuition
- For more information visit:
Financial Aid

- First floor University Center at Entrance 5
- Grants, Federal Work-Study, loans, and a number of scholarships
- Aid eligibility, Stafford loans, the PELL grant, the HOPE Scholarship,
- FAFSA forms & assistance in filing
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/financialaid/
Registrar

- Transcripts
- Registration
- Add/Drop
- Withdrawals
- Graduation Audits
  - Apply two full semesters before your expected graduation date
  - $25 fee paid to the Bursary-(good for a year)

For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/registrar/
Graduation & the Registrar

**Requirements**

- Successful completion of at least 120 semester hours
- Cumulative g.p.a of 2.0 or better from VSU
- Minimum of 39 upper division courses (3000/4000)- 21 of those hours in the field of major
- Grade of C or better in ALL major & minor courses
- The last 30 hours completed at VSU
- More requirements may apply based on major or situation
Odom Library

- Computer Labs
- Reference Books
- Reference Desk
- GeorigA LLIbrary LEarning Online
- Study Rooms
- Internet Cafe’
- Media Service
- IT Help Desk
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/library/
EOP & MA

- Located across from the UC & College of Nursing-Two story white house
- Sexual Harassment
- Discrimination
- Tutors
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/eopma/
Department of your Major

- Graduation Requirements
- Advisor
  - You must be advised each semester
  - Most departments start advising appointments a couple of weeks before registration
    - Sum/Fall 07 Registration begins March 26 for seniors
- References
- Professors
Your Relationship with your Professor

**Do**
- Come to class or office hours prepared
- Ask questions that are personal in nature during office hours
- Read so you can ask specific questions
- Let the instructor know how you are trying to help yourself
- Contact if you are going to miss class

**Don’t**
- Ask questions that indicate you haven’t listened
- Expect your professor to repeat a lecture because you were absent.
- Fall asleep or talk while the instructor is talking
- Don’t leave class early without explaining why you must leave.
- Don’t miss appointments
The Chain of Command

- Professor/Advisor/Staff Member
- Department Head/Director
- Dean
- Vice President of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs
- The President
Questions
References

- www.valdosta.edu
- 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog