PATHWAYS TO GENERAL EDUCATION

What is Pathways?

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 nine 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 (1d)
   - 9 credits
   - 6 Foundational (1f) + 3 Advanced (1a)

2. Critical Thinking in the Humanities (1c)
   - 6 credits

3. Reasoning in the Social Sciences (1s)
   - 6 credits

4. Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (1n)
   - 6 credits

5. Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5q)
   - 9 credits
   - 6 Foundational (5f) + 3 Advanced (5a)

6. Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6d)
   - 6 credits
   - 3 Design (6d) + 3 Arts (6a)

7. Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States (6i)
   - 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

How do you fulfill your Pathways requirements?

There are a number of options for satisfying your Pathways requirements. You may have already fulfilled credits through high school AP/IB courses or transfer credits. Some of the required coursework for your major will likely also fulfill Pathways credits. For the remainder, you may choose individual courses or complete a compatible Pathways minor (see the following pages).

Visit the Pathways website to search for classes by concept or to view an alphabetical list of Pathways courses: https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/about/pathways-guides.html.

Lean more about Pathways at https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu.
**Which general education requirements are satisfied by your major?**

- Discourse (1f & 1a)
- 3 credits of Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences (3)
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (4)
- Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5a and 3 credits of 5f)

*Requirements may vary slightly based on your year of entry; consult the checksheet or your advisor to confirm.

**But what about your other requirements?**

- 3 credits of Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- 3 credits of Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5f)
- Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6a & 6d)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)

**A Pathways minor can help you fulfill the requirements that are not met within your major!**

Use the table below to find which minors best complement your gen ed needs. On the following page, you can find just one of many possible examples of how your major and a Pathways minor can work together to fulfill your requirements. Have specific questions about meeting your requirements? Reach out to your advisor!

*Note: Any courses in your core degree requirements can count towards your minor requirements, but cannot count towards your Pathways requirements.

### Minor Pathways Concepts in Minor* | # of Credits in Minor
--- | ---
Adaptive Brain & Behavior | 1f 2 3 4 6a 6d 7 | 18
Appalachian Cultures & Environments | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Biodiversity Conservation | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Blue Planet | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Civic Agriculture & Food Systems | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Climate & Society | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Data & Decisions | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Disabilities Studies | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Ecological Cities | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Ecosystems for Human Well-Being | 1f 2 3 4 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Event & Experience Management | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Global Business Practices to Improve the Human Condition | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Global Food Security & Health | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Health Communication | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Housing and Society | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Innovation | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Integrated Security | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Language Sciences | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Materials in Society | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Organizational Leadership | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Pathways to Sustainability | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Peace Studies & Social Justice | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Science, Technology, & Law | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Strategic Communication | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Technology, Humans, and Environment | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18
Visual Arts & Society | 1f 2 3 df 6d 6a 7 | 18

*Table lists all possible concepts that could be met within the minor; students are guaranteed to fulfill at least three concepts, and potentially more depending upon electives.

You can explore each of these minors in more detail at [https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors.html](https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors.html).
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND SOCIETY MAJOR
+ ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP PATHWAYS MINOR

Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your Environmental Conservation and Society major? Using the Organizational Leadership (BOLD) minor as an example, the diagram below illustrates how your major and a minor can work together to meet your gen ed needs. Use the table on the previous page to identify other minors that interest you!

Pathways Requirements
Pathways requires you to complete credit hours across seven core concepts. If you’re a ECS major, you will fulfill concepts 1, 3, 4, 5a, and half of 2 and 5f in your program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses that satisfy</th>
<th>Courses that satisfy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>major requirements</td>
<td>minor requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tier 1: Leadership in Context
- ENGL 1105-1106 or COMM 1015-1016
- Discourse
- Advanced
- FREC 3524

Tier 2: Learning to be a Leader
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities
- Elective of your choice
- Elective of your choice
- Elective of your choice
- Elective of your choice
- Elective of your choice

Tier 3: Leadership in Action
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- One course from approved list
- BIOL 1105
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
- BIOL 1106

Tier 4: Advancing Leadership
- Quantitative & Computational Thinking
- Advanced
- STAT 3604 or STAT 3615
- Elective of your choice
- Elective of your choice

BOLD Minor Requirements
The four-tiered minor in Organizational Leadership requires a minimum of 18 credit hours. This includes a required core course for Tier 1 (Leadership in Context), a list of interdisciplinary elective options for Tier 2 (Learning to Be a Leader), departmental options for Tier 3 (Leadership in Action), and the required capstone course for Tier 4 (Advancing Leadership). Together, these required and elective courses offer numerous avenues for completing Pathways concepts 2, 5f, 6, and 7.