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 a total of 45 credits from across 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
   - 9 credits
   - 6 Foundational (1f) + 3 Advanced (1a)

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
   - 6 Foundational (5f) + 3 Advanced (5a)

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

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

How do you fulfill your Pathways requirements?
There are a number of options for satisfying the 45-credit requirement. You may have already fulfilled credits through high school AP/IB courses or transfer credits. Some of your 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).
Ful/f_ill your General Education requirements while earning a minor!

Which general education requirements are satisfied by your major?

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

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

But what about your other requirements?

- Advanced Discourse (1a)
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- 3 credits of Reasoning in the Social Sciences (3)
- Critique & Practice in Design & the Arts (6a & 6d)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)

A Pathways minor can help you ful/f_ill 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 ful/f_ill your requirements.

Have specific questions about meeting your requirements? Reach out to your advisor!

*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.
Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your Environmental Informatics major? Using the Science, Technology, and Law (STL) 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 page 2 to identify other minors that interest you!

**Pathways Requirements**
Pathways requires you to complete credit hours across seven core concepts. If you’re an EI major, you will fulfill concepts 1f, 4, 5, and half of the requirements for concept 3, in your program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses that satisfy major requirements</th>
<th>Courses that satisfy minor requirements</th>
<th>Electives outside of major and minor requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundational</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1015</td>
<td><strong>Discourse</strong></td>
<td>Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elective</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AAEC 1005 or ECON 2005</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reasoning in the Social Sciences</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elective</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1105</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reasoning in the Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elective</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1025-1026 or MATH 1225-1226</td>
<td><strong>Quantitative &amp; Computational Thinking</strong></td>
<td>Advanced</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Design</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elective</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIT 1105</td>
<td><strong>Critical Analysis of Identity &amp; Equity in the US</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIT 1106</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**STL Minor Requirements**
The Science, Technology, and Law minor includes 6 hours of required core courses, a 3-credit hour ethics course, a 3-credit hour elective civic course, and one additional 3-credit hour elective, and a 3-credit hour capstone course, for a total of 18 credit hours. Together, these required and elective courses offer numerous possible combinations for completing Pathways concepts 1a, 2, 3, and 7. The diagram to the left illustrates just one possible path for completing the minor and fulfilling your Pathways requirements.

**Required Courses**
- STL 2304
- STL 3304

**Elective Courses**
- 9 credits

**Capstone Course**
- STL 4314