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
   - 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 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.
**PATHWAYS MINORS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE MAJOR**

Fulfill your General Education requirements while earning a minor!

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### Which general education requirements are satisfied by your major?*

- Discourse (1f & 1a)
- 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?

- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6d & 6a)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)

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### 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(s), you can find one or more (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.

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*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.

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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).
Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your Environmental Science major? Using the Appalachian Cultures and Environments (APCE) 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 a ENSC major, you will fulfill concepts 1, 3, 4, and 5 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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundational</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advanced</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1105</td>
<td>ENGL 3764</td>
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<td>ENGL 1106</td>
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<tr>
<td>APS/HUM 1704</td>
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<td>Elective of your choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>APS/HUM 1704</td>
<td></td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAEC 1005 or ECON 2005</td>
<td>AAEC 1006 or ECON 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 1035/1045</td>
<td>CHEM 1036/1046</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 1025</td>
<td>MATH 1026</td>
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<td>MATH 1025</td>
<td>MATH 1026</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
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<td>Critical Analysis of Identity &amp; Equity in the US</td>
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<td>APS/HUM 1704</td>
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APCE Minor Requirements
The Appalachian Cultures and Environments minor includes a required 3-credit introductory course, 12 credits of electives (four courses from five areas), and a 3-hour required capstone course, for a total of 18 credit hours. Together, these required and elective courses offer numerous possible combinations for completing Pathways concepts 2, 6 and 7. The diagram to the left illustrates just one possible path for completing the minor and fulfilling your Pathways requirements.