**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).

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### 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)

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### 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

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### 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](https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/about/pathways-guides.html).

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

- Discourse (1f & 1a)
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences (3)
- Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5f & 5a)

But what about your other requirements?

- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (4)
- Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6d & 6a)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)

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

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Pathways Concepts in Minor*</th>
<th># of Credits in Minor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive Brain &amp; Behavior</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Cultures &amp; Environments</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Planet</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Agriculture &amp; Food Systems</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate &amp; Society</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data &amp; Decisions</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabilities Studies</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecological Cities</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystems for Human Well-Being</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event &amp; Experience Management</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Business Practices to Improve the Human Condition</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Food Security &amp; Health</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing and Society</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Security</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Sciences</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials in Society</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Leadership</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathways to Sustainability</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Studies &amp; Social Justice</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy, Politics, and Economics</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science, Technology, &amp; Law</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Communication</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology, Humans, and Environment</td>
<td>1f 2 3 4 5f 6a 7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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 International Trade and Development major? Using the Peace Studies and Social Justice (PSSJ) 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 ITD major, you will fulfill concepts 1, 3, 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discourse</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking in the Humanities</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 1005</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasoning in the Social Sciences</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasoning in the Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative &amp; Computational Thinking</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis of Identity &amp; Equity in the US</td>
<td>Elective of your choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PSSJ Minor Requirements

The Peace Studies and Social Justice minor includes a 3-credit hour required introductory course, 12 credit hours of elective courses from across 4 categories, and a 3-credit hour required integrative capstone course, for a total of 18 credit hours. Together, these required and elective courses offer numerous possible avenues for completing Pathways concepts 2, 4, and 7, as illustrated in the diagram to the left.

- **Required Course**
  - PSVP 2044

- **Electives**
  - 12 credits

- **Capstone Course**
  - PSVP 4104

### Electives

- **Foundation Courses**
  - ENGL 1105
  - ENGL 1106

- **Advanced Courses**
  - COMM 2004
  - STAT 3615

- **Design**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Arts**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US**
  - Elective of your choice

- **AAEC 1005**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Reasoning in the Natural Sciences**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Reasoning in the Social Sciences**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Critical Thinking in the Humanities**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Discourse**
  - Elective of your choice

- **Quantitative & Computational Thinking**
  - Elective of your choice

- **PSVP 2044**
  - Elective of your choice

- **PSVP 4104**
  - Elective of your choice