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.

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Lean more about Pathways at
https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu.

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METEOROLOGY MAJOR

Fulfill your General Education requirements while earning a minor!

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

- Foundational Discourse (1f)
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences (3)
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (4)
- Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5f & 5a)
- Critique and Practice in Design (6d)

But what about your other requirements?

- Advanced Discourse (1a)
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- Critique and Practice in the Arts (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, 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	1a, 2, 3, 4, 7	18
Appalachian Cultures & Environments	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Biodiversity Conservation	2, 3, 4, 5f, 6d, 7	18
Blue Planet	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a, 7	20
Civic Agriculture & Food Systems	1a, 2, 3, 4, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Climate & Society	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a	18
Data & Decisions	1a, 2, 3, 5f, 5a	18
Disabilities Studies	2, 3, 6d, 7	21
Ecological Cities	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Ecosystems for Human Well-Being	1a, 2, 3, 4, 7	18
Event & Experience Management	2, 3, 5a, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Global Business Practices to Improve the Human Condition	1a, 2, 3, 5f, 5a, 7	21
Global Food Security & Health	1a, 3, 4, 7	19
Health Communication	1f, 1a, 2, 3, 5f, 7	21
Housing and Society	2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a, 6d, 7	18
Innovation	1a, 2, 3, 5f, 6d	18
Integrated Security	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a, 7	18
Language Sciences	1a, 2, 3, 5f, 5a, 7	18
Materials in Society	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 6d, 7	18
Organizational Leadership	1a, 2, 3, 5f, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Pathways to Sustainability	1a, 2, 3, 4, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Peace Studies & Social Justice	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 5a, 7	18
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	1a, 2, 3, 4, 6d, 7	18
Science, Technology, & Law	1a, 2, 3, 7	18
Strategic Communication	1f, 1a, 3, 5f, 6d, 6a, 7	18
Technology, Humans, and Environment	1a, 2, 3, 4, 5f, 6d, 7	18
Visual Arts & Society	1a, 2, 3, 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.

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You can explore each of these minors in more detail at https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors.html.

METEOROLOGY MAJOR
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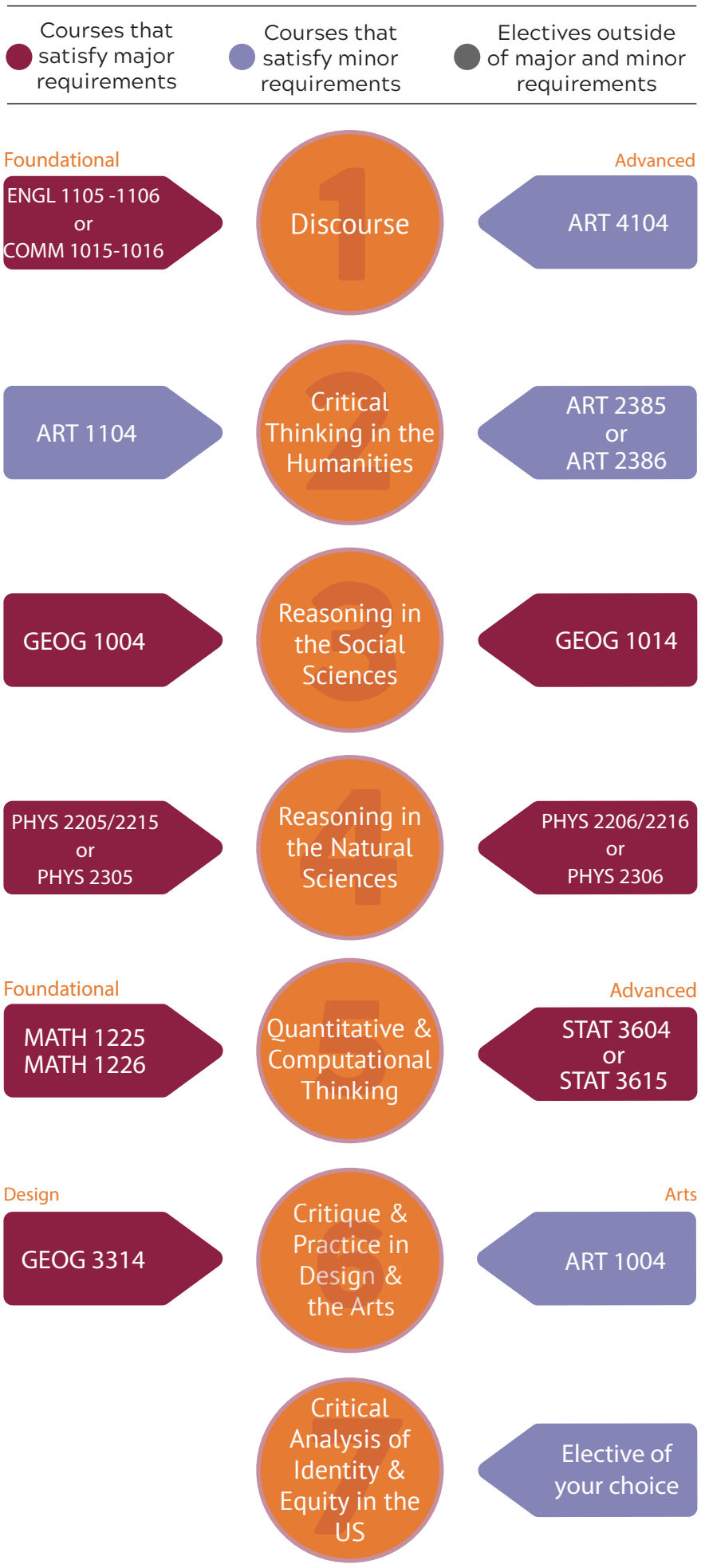
VISUAL ARTS AND SOCIETY PATHWAYS MINOR

Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your MTRG major? Using the Visual Arts and Society (VAS) 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 MTRG major, you will fulfill concepts 1 (foundational), 3, 4, and 5, and 6 (design) in your program.



VAS Minor Requirements

The Visual Arts and Society minor includes 9 hours of required introductory courses, 6 credits of electives, and a 3-hour required capstone course, for a total of 18 credit hours. Together, these required and elective courses offer the opportunity to fulfill Pathways requirements in concepts 1a, 2, 6a, and 7. The diagram to the left illustrates just one possible path for completing the minor and fulfilling your Pathways requirements.

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