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.
Which general education requirements are satisfied by your major?
- Advanced Discourse (1a)
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences (3)
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (4)
- Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5f)
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities (2)
- Advanced Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5a)
- Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6d & 6a)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)

But what about your other requirements?
- Foundational Discourse (1f)
- Critical Thinking in the Social Sciences (5f)
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences (4)
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US (7)
- Critical Thinking in the Social Sciences (2)
- Advanced Quantitative and Computational Thinking (5a)
- Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts (6d & 6a)
- 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.

---

<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>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Cultures &amp; Environments</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Planet</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Agriculture &amp; Food Systems</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate &amp; Society</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data &amp; Decisions</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabilities Studies</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecological Cities</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystems for Human Well-Being</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event &amp; Experience Management</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Business Practices to Improve the Human Condition</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Food Security &amp; Health</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Security</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Sciences</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials in Society</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Leadership</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathways to Sustainability</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Studies &amp; Social Justice</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy, Politics, and Economics</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science, Technology, &amp; Law</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Communication</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts &amp; Society</td>
<td>1b 2 3 4 5f 6d 6a 7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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).
WATER RESOURCES, POLICY, AND MANAGEMENT MAJOR + ECOLOGICAL CITIES PATHWAYS MINOR

Wondering how a Pathways minor can complement your WRPM major? Using the Ecological Cities (ECOC) 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 concepts. If you’re a WRPM major, you will fulfill concepts 1 (advanced), 3, 4, and 5 (foundational) 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>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Courses that satisfy major requirements**
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US
- Critical Thinking in the Humanities
- Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
- Quantitative & Computational Thinking
- Critique & Practice in Design & the Arts
- Critical Analysis of Identity & Equity in the US

**Courses that satisfy minor requirements**
- ENGL 3534 or ENGL 3764
- HIST 3144
- AAEC 1005 or ECON 2005
- AAEC 1006 or ECON 2006
- CHEM 1035
- FREC 4354
- Elective of your choice

**Electives outside of major and minor requirements**
- Elective of your choice

ECOC Minor Requirements
The Ecological Cities minor includes 6 hours of required introductory courses, 9 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 2, 5a, 6 and 7. The diagram to the left illustrates just one possible path for completing the minor and fulfilling your Pathways requirements.

**Introductory Courses**
- LAR 1254
- HORT/FREC 2134

**Electives**
- 9 credits

**Capstone Course**
- FREC 4554