Information for New VSU Students

Navigating your way to graduation.
Student Success Center

Overview

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 - Core Curriculum
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What is the Core Curriculum?

- The Core Curriculum is made up of 60 credit hours of general education requirements. Most bachelor's degrees require 120 credit hours to complete.
- For the most part it is the same for all students no matter what your major is. There may be restrictions based on your major.
- The core can be found in the undergraduate catalog pp. 82-85 (or on the web).

What are the "credit hours"?

- Each course is given a value called credit hours.
- The majority of the courses you will take are 3-hour courses.
- Perspectives, Physical Education, Music, Theatre, Dance, & VSU course are often 1 or 2 credits.
- Many of the sciences are worth 4 credits.
- Normally the number of hours you spend in class determines the number of credits.

Hours & Your Standing

- 1-29 hours earned = Freshman Standing
- 30-59 hours earned = Sophomore Standing
- 60-89 hours earned = Junior Standing
- 90+ hours earned = Senior Standing

What's in the Core? (pg 95)

- Area A1-Communication (6 hours)
- Area A2 Quantitative(3 hours)
- Area B-Perspectives(4 hours)
- Area C-Fine Arts and Humanities (6 hours)

- Area D- Science, Math,& Technology (11 hours)
- Area E- Social Sciences (12 hours)

Area F- Major Specific (18 hours)

Courses in Area A1:	nester hours
ENGL 1101* or ENGL 1101H*	3 hours
ENGL 1102* or ENGL 1102H*	3 hours
*ENGL1101/1101H and ENGL1102/1102H must be passed with gra	ade of 'C' or better
Courses in Area A2:	nester hours
One of the following	
MATH 1101 or MATH 1111 or MATH 1112	3 hours
MATH 1113 or MATH 1113H	3 hours
MATH 2261 or MATH 2261H	4 hours
MATH 2262	4 hours

NOTE: MATH 1113 or MATH 1113H (or higher) is required of all students majoring in (or intending to transfer within the University System with a major in) architecture, astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering technology, geology, geography (B.S.), forestry, pharmacy, mathematics, physical therapy, physics, or secondary education (biology, chemistry, mathematics, or physics). MATH 2261 (or higher) is required of all students intending to transfer within the University System with a major in engineering.

AREA B Perspectives 4 semester hours

Two different courses required, each from a different areas of the Perspectives; all courses carry 2 semester credit hours.

- 1. Perspectives on Ethics/Values (PERS 21XX)
- 2. Perspectives on Tradition and Change (PERS 22XX)
- **3. Perspectives on Human Expression** (PERS 23XX)
- 4. Perspectives on the Environment/Physical World (PERS 24XX)
- 5. Perspectives on Race/Gender (PERS 25XX)
- 6. Perspectives on Cross-Cultural Understanding/Expression (PERS 26XX)
- 7. Perspectives on the World of Work (PERS 27XX)

AREA C Humanities / Fine Arts 6 semester hours

ART 1100 or ART 1100H, COMM 1100, COMM 1110, DANC 1500, MUSC 1100, MUSC 1110, MUSC 1120, MUSC 1130, MDIA 2000, THEA 1100, PHIL 2010 or PHIL 2010H, PHIL 2020 or PHIL 2020H, REL 2020, WMST 2010, ENGL 2110 or ENGL 2110H, ENGL 2120 or ENGL 2120H, ENGL 2130 or ENGL 2130H, ENGL 2140, FREN 1001, FREN 1002, FREN 1111, FREN 2001, FREN 2002, GRMN 1001, GRMN 1002, GRMN 1111, GRMN 2001, GRMN 2002, JAPN 1001, JAPN 1002, JAPN 1111, JAPN 2001, JAPN 2002, LATN 1001, LATN 1002, LATN 1111, LATN 2001, LATN 2002, \ RUSS 1001, RUSS 1002, RUSS 1111, RUSS 2001, RUSS 2002, SPAN 1001, SPAN 1002, SPAN 1111, SPAN 2001, SPAN 2002 or SPAN 2002H

Area D Science, Mathematics, & Technology 11 semester hours

**Science and mathematics majors must follow D.2.a requirements.

Nursing majors must follow D.2.b requirements.

All other students may choose D.1., D.2.a, or D.2.b.

AREA D.1

* Check course restrictions in the course descriptions.

AREA D.2.a Science and Math Majors

Required of majors in of astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, environmental geosciences, mathematics, physics, secondary biology education, secondary chemistry education, secondary mathematics education, secondary earth and space science education, secondary physics education, and all students in the pre-engineering program.

Mathematics, above the level taken for Area A 3 hours

For biology majors: MATH 2261, MATH 2262, or MATH 2620

For all other science or mathematics majors: MATH 2261 or MATH 2262 (The additional hour of calculus [MATH 2261 & 2262] counts in Area F or in the major.)

AREA D.2.b Nursing

Two-semester laboratory sequence 8 hours
PHYS 1111K and PHYS 1112K
or PHYS 2211K and PHYS 2212K
or CHEM 1151K and CHEM 1152K
or CHEM 1211/1211L and CHEM 1212/1212L
or BIOL 1010/1020L and BIOL 1030/1040L
One required course from the following
ASTR 1000, ASTR 1010K, ASTR 1020K, BIOL 1010/1020L, BIOL 1030/1040L,
BIOL 1050, BIOL 1060, BIOL 1070, BIOL 1080, BIOL 1090, CHEM 1010,
CHEM 1211 and 1211L, CHEM 1212 and 1212L, GEOG 1110, GEOG 1112K,
GEOG 1113K, GEOL 1110, GEOL 1121K, GEOL 1122K, PHYS 1111K,
PHYS 1112K, PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K, ENGR 1010, MATH 1112,
MATH 2620, MATH 2261, MATH 2262, PHSC 1100

Courses in Area E:	ours
POLS 1101 or POLS 1101H	ours
One required course from the following	ours
Any two courses from the following	ours
POLS 2501, PSYC 2500 or PSYC 2500H, SOCI 1101 or SOCI 1101H, SOCI 11	60

Area F Courses Appropriate to the Major 18 semester hours

Requirements vary according to the major program.

See the requirements for Area F in the departmental section of your major.

How do I find Area F for my major?

- Look for your major in the index at the back of the catalog.
- Turn to the page number listed and look for:

Core Curriculum Requirements for: Bachelor of Business Administration Degrees

Core Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42 hours
Area F Requirements 1	. 18 hours
DUCA 2040 DUCA 2407	
BUSA 2210, BUSA 2106	
ECON 2105, ECON 2106 6 hours	
ACCT 2101, ACCT 2102	

1 The grade in each of these courses must be a "C" or better.

Students completing Area F courses in Areas B through E will be required to substitute VSU core curriculum courses as part of their Area F requirements. Students should see their advisor to ensure that appropriate courses are selected in order to satisfy this requirement.

*,**,1,&2

- Sometimes you will see a number or symbol next to the words.
- This means there is further explanation.
- For example:

Core Curriculum Requirements for: Bachelor of Business Administration Degrees

42 hours
18 hours
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1The grade in each of these courses must be a "C" or better.

Students completing Area F courses in Areas B through E will be required to substitute VSU core curriculum courses as part of their Area F requirements. Students should see their advisor to ensure that appropriate courses are selected in order to satisfy this requirement.

Other places to look for rules:

- Each section of the catalog gives you important information about the expectations of your major.
- For example:

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Freshmen and sophomore students who declare their intention to pursue one of the majors in business administration may be accepted for advising by business faculty or staff. All students who wish to pursue one of the majors in business administration **beyond their sophomore year** must be accepted to the senior college of the Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration. Students who meet the following criteria are accepted.

- 1. Completion of **all junior college requirements** of the Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration.
- 2. Successful completion of **both parts of the Regent's** Testing Program (RGTR 0196 and RGTR 0197).
- 3. A minimum over-all Grade Point Average (GPA) of **2.80** (on a 4.00 scale). The GPA calculation is based on all course work, including transfer credits.
- 4. A minimum grade of "C" in all courses in Area F of the junior college core curriculum..

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

These programs introduce students to the liberal arts and to psychology as a scientific discipline, with content and methods able to improve the human condition. To declare psychology a major you must have **completed 45** hours of coursework in the Core and **earned at least a "C" or better** (> 2.0 GPA) in all your previously attempted coursework. You must also earn a "C" or better (> 2.0 GPA) in each and every required psychology course and prerequisite.

*Guided Electives. 24 hours

*If Area F requirements for the Valdosta State University B.A. or B.S. degree with a major in psychology are not taken in Area F or another Area, they must be taken as Guided Electives.

University System Regents' Testing Program (pg. 66)

- Each institution of the University System of Georgia must assure the other institutions, and the System as a whole, that students obtaining a degree from that institution possess literacy competence, that is, certain minimum skills of reading and writing.
- Therefore, students enrolled in undergraduate degree programs shall pass the Regents' Test as a requirement for graduation. For undergraduate students at Valdosta State University, the Regents' Test requirement will be fulfilled by a passing grade in English 1102* or an approved substitute.
- * Students failing ENGL 1102 will be required to register for the class each subsequent semester in which they are enrolled at VSU. They will also be required to meet with a tutor in VSU's Student Success Center to develop a remediation plan. See www.valdosta.edu/ssc.

Legislative Requirements (pg 79)

In accordance with an act of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, all candidates for degree are required to possess and demonstrate a reasonable mastery of United States history, Georgia history, the United States Constitution, and the Georgia Constitution. These history requirements are met by the successful completion of History 2111 or History 2112. The constitution requirements are met by the successful completion of Political Science 1101 (3 hours). Transfer credit for these three courses may not satisfy the requirements of the State of Georgia. Exemption tests in Georgia History or Georgia Constitution are offered to transfer students whose American History or Political Science course(s) did not include Georgia History or Georgia Constitution and to students who have obtained credit in American Government or in American History via the CLEP program, which does not include credit for satisfying the legislative requirements. See the VSU Testing Office in Powell Hall West concerning the exemption tests in Georgia History and in Georgia Constitution.

So what?

- If you transferred from a college in another state AND you received credit for HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 and/or POLS 1101, then you will need to take a test on Georgia History and/or the Georgia Constitution
- If you have never taken or have not received credit for HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 and/or POLS 1101, then when you take and pass these course you will have completed the requirement.

What if I want to change my major?

- Go to the department of your major.
- Tell them you want to change your major.
- They will either give you your folder or send your folder to the department to which you want to change.
- You will fill out a form that your current department and new department must sign and then send to the registrar's office.

What if I want to add a minor?

- A minor consists of 15-18 hours of course work from an area outside of your major
- 9 hours must be upper division (3000-4000)
- For more information see the department of the minor.

G.P.A. Requirements

- College of the Arts
 - Art Ed-2.75
 - Interior Design-2.5
 - Mass Media-2.25
 - Music Ed- Audition
 - Speech Comm-2.25
- College of Business-2.8
- College of Nursing-2.8

- College of Education
 - Business Ed-2.5
 - Communication Disorders-3.0
 - Early Childhood, Exercise
 Physiology, Middle Grades,
 Physical Ed, Special Ed-2.5
 - Sports Med-2.75
- *Some programs have limited spots & the minimum G.P.A. is for consideration. It is not a guaranteed acceptance.

Offices Around Campus

- Student Success Center
- Career Opportunities
- Counseling Center
- Office of Testing
- Access Office
- Health Center
- Student Life
- Admissions

- Bursary
- Financial Aid
- Registrar
- Odum Library
- Multicultural Affairs & Equal Opportunities
- Department of your major

Student Success Center

- Langdale Hall
- Tutoring for various subjects
- Supplemental instruction for targeted classes
- Academic skills workshops
- For more info visit:

http://www.valdosta.edu/ssc/

Career Opportunities

- 2nd Floor of Powell Hall West
- Help in choosing a major
- Off-campus job opportunities
- Internships & Cooperative Education
- Assistance with resumes
- Employment after college
 - Career Day
 - Resume Referrals
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/career/students.shtml

Counseling Center

- 2nd Floor of Powell Hall East
- Confidentiality
- Individual Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Workshops
 - Study Skills, Test anxiety, Leadership, etc.
- For more info visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/counseling/

Office of Testing

- Located on the 1st Floor of Powell Hall East
- CLEP Test
- Legislative Requirement Testing
- Prep Books for standardized test
- Exams for Grad school & professional schools
- For more info visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/testing/

Access Office

- Located in Farber Hall near Oak Street
- Faculty Liaison
- Classroom Testing Modifications
- Physical Accommodations
- Sign Language Interpreting/Note-taking Services
- Campus Accessibility
- For more info visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/access/

Student Health Center

- Located across Georgia Avenue.
- Equipped to handle most short-term illnesses
- \$80 health fee per semester makes students eligible for unlimited visits at no additional cost
- For more info visit:
 http://services.valdosta.edu/health/

Student Life

- Located on the 2nd floor of the University Union
- Campus Activities Board
- Union Station
- Greek Life
- Student Government Association
- Volunteer Service
- For more info visit:

 http://www.valdosta.edu/stulife/

Admissions

- Located Across the street from main campus-Two story red brick house
- Transient Forms
- Transfer Credit
- Readmission
- For more information visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/admissions/

Bursary

- Located Across from the UC at the Corner of Patterson and Ann St.
- Fee Payment
- Tuition
- For more information visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/financ
 e-admin/financial-services/students/welcome.php

Financial Aid

- First floor University Center at Entrance 5
- Grants, Federal Work-Study, loans, and a number of scholarships
- Aid eligibility, Stafford loans, the PELL grant, the HOPE Scholarship,
- FAFSA forms & assistance in filing
- For more info visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/financialaid/

Registrar

- Transcripts
- Registration
- Add/Drop
- Withdrawals
- Graduation Audits
 - Apply two full semesters before your expected graduation date
 - \$25 fee paid to the Bursary-(good for a year)

For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/registrar/

Graduation & the Registrar

- Requirements
 - Successful completion of at least 120 semester hours
 - Cumulative g.p.a of 2.0 or better from VSU
 - Minimum of 39 upper division courses (3000/4000)-21 of those hours in the field of major
 - Grade of C or better in ALL major & minor courses
 - The last 30 hours completed at VSU
 - More requirements may apply based on major or situation

Odum Library

- Computer Labs
- Reference Books
- Reference Desk
- GeorgiA LIbrary LEarning Online
- Study Rooms
- Internet Cafe'
- Media Service
- IT Help Desk
- For more info visit: http://www.valdosta.edu/library/

Office of Social Equity

- Located across from the UC & College of Nursing-Two story white house
- Sexual Harassment
- Discrimination
- Tutors
- For more info visit:
 http://www.valdosta.edu/ose/

Department of your Major

- Graduation Requirements
- Advisor
 - You must be advised each semester
 - Most departments start advising appointments a couple of weeks before registration
 - Sum/Fall 07 Registration begins March 26 for seniors
- References
- Professors

Your Relationship with your Professor

Do

- Come to class or office hours prepared
- Ask questions that are personal in nature during office hours
- Read so you can ask specific questions
- Let the instructor know how you are trying to help yourself
- Contact if you are going to miss class

Don't

- Ask questions that indicate you haven't listened
- Expect your professor to repeat a lecture because you were absent.
- Fall asleep or talk while the instructor is talking
- Don't leave class early without explaining why you must leave.
- Don't miss appointments

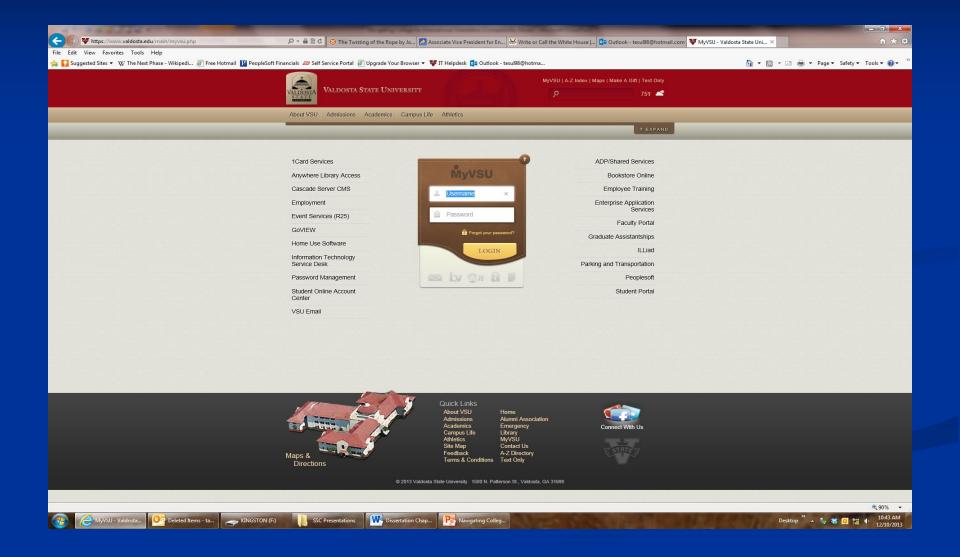
The Chain of Command

- Professor/Advisor/Staff Member
- Department Head/Director
- Dean
- Vice President of Academic Affairs/Student Affairs
- The President

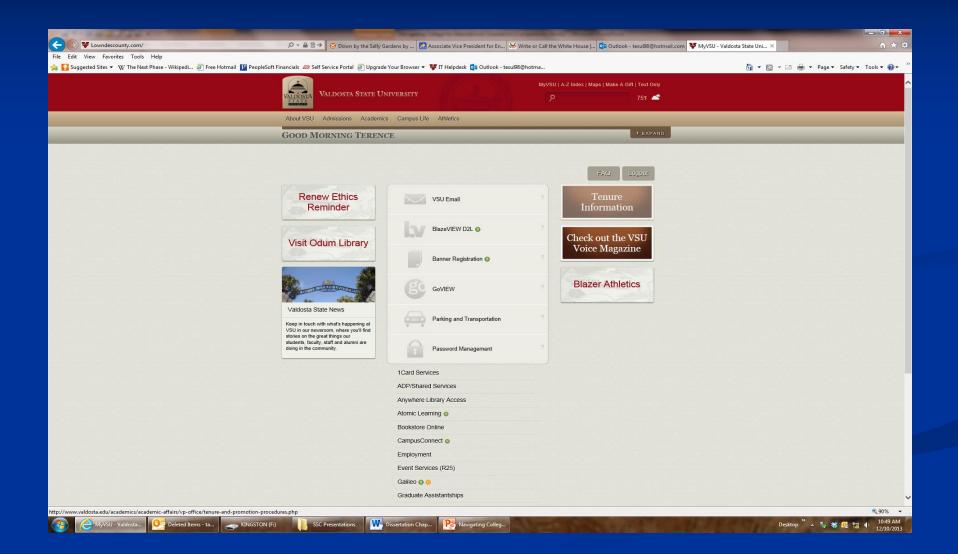
MyVSU Portal

- **BANNER** Student Database
 - Registration
 - Financial Aid Awards
 - DegreeWorks
 - Checking Grades/Transcripts
- **VSU Email**
- BlazeVIEW D2L Online Classroom

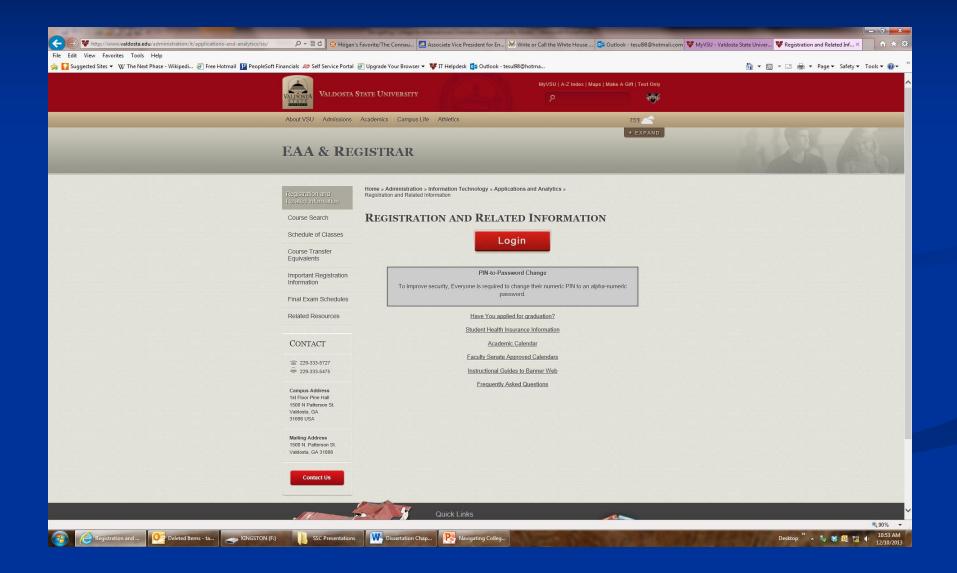
MyVSU Portal



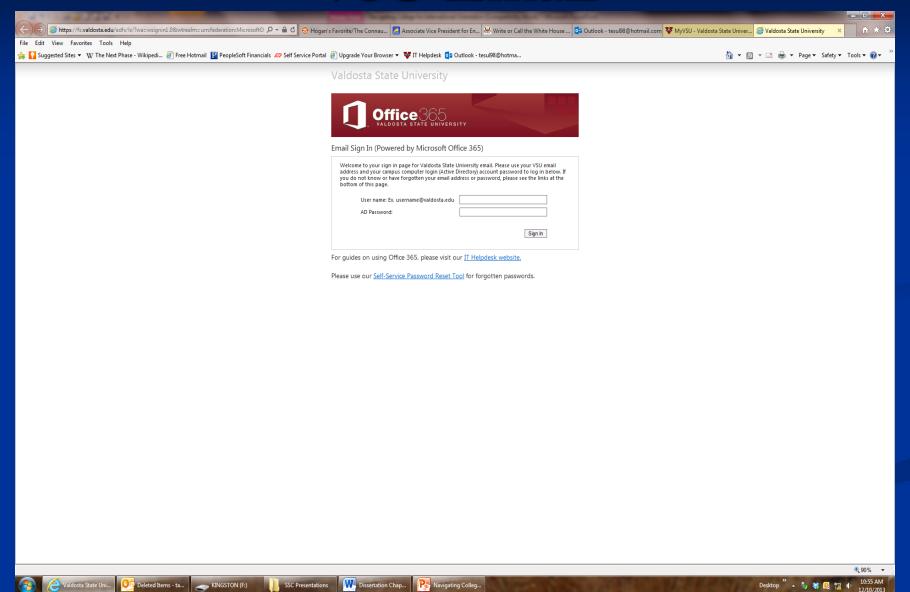
MyVSU Portal



BANNER Database



VSU Email



BlazeVIEW D2L



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Questions

References

- <u>www.valdosta.edu</u>
- 2014-2015 Undergraduate Catalog