

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE PACKET

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

**MONDAY,
September 14, 2026**

2:30 p.m.

**University Center
Magnolia Room**

**Stanley Jones
Registrar/Secretary of the Academic Committee**

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE
AGENDA
September 14, 2026

1. Minutes of April 13, 2026, meeting. (pages 1-6) were approved by email April 16, 2026.
2. **OFFICE OF STUDENT SUCCESS & RETENTION**
 - a. New course RISE 1000 (pages 7-9)
 - b. New course RISE 2000 (pages 10-12)
3. **COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**
 - a. Revised requirements for the BA in Interdisciplinary Studies (pages 13-14)
 - b. Revised requirements for the Field of Study for the BA in History (pages 15-19)
 - c. Revised requirements for the BA in History senior curriculum (pages 20-22)
 - d. New course PSYC 4890 (pages 23-24)
4. **COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**
 - a. Revised degree requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences-Environmental and Climate Sciences (pages 25-27)
 - b. Revised degree requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences-Environmental Sustainability (pages 28-31)
 - c. Revised degree requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences-Geography (pages 32-35)
 - d. Revised degree requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences-Geology (pages 36-39)
 - e. Revised degree requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences-Natural Hazard Management (pages 40-43)
 - f. New course GEOG 3700 (pages 44-52)
 - g. New course GEOG 3720 (pages 53-57)
5. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**
 - a. Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy (pages 58-62)

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 13, 2026

The Academic Committee of the Valdosta State University Faculty Senate met in the University Center Cypress Room, Monday, April 13, 2026. Dr. Sharon Gravett, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Services, presided.

Members Present: Dr. Joshua Pifer, Ms. Meg Giddings (Proxy Dr. Haley Sherman), Ms. Kytt Everdeen Moore (Proxy Ms. Samantha Paul), Dr. Colette Drouillard (Proxy Dr. Taralynn Hartsell), Ms. Meg Giddings, Dr. Fleming Bell, Dr. Colette Drouillard, Dr. Dee Ott, Dr. Dee Ott (Proxy Dr. Lisa Battern), Dr. R. Paul Mihail, Dr. Jim Nienow, Dr. Kelly Mathis, Ms. Kytt Everdeen Moore, and Ms. Tera Ray.

Members Absent: Ms. Alene Dasher, Dr. Shaun Ault, Dr. Taewon Hwang, Mr. Jason Brown, Ms. Chalise Ludlow, Dr. Kristy Lister, Dr. Lisa Batten, and Dr. Luis Gonzalez.

Catalog Editor: Ms. Monica Close

Visitors Present: Dr. Donna Sewell, Dr. Michael Black, Dr. Fred Knowles, Dr. Joe Robbins, Dr. Joseph Jones, and Dr. Tolulope Salami

The Minutes of the March 9, 2026, meeting were approved by email on March 25, 2026. (pages 1-7).

A. Graduate School

1. Revised Academic Standards and Regulations were approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with cumulative GPA changed to institutional GPA. (pages 8-11).

B. College of Humanities and Social Sciences

1. Revised title, prerequisite and description, Public Administration (PADM) 9991, "Captone Seminar I", (CAPSTONE SEMINAR I – 6 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 6 lab hours, and 6 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 12-13).
2. New course, Public Administration (PADM) 9992, "Capstone Seminar II", (CAPSTONE SEMINAR II – 6 credit hours, 6 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 6 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 14-15).

C. College of Business Administration

1. Revised Academic Transfer Policy for the College of Business was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 16-18).
2. Revised course prefix, Business Administration (BUSA) 3000, "Introduction to International Business", (INTRO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 19-20). Deactivation of IB 3000.
3. Revised course prefix, Business Administration (BUSA) 3500, "Introduction to International Business", (INTRO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 19-20). Deactivation of MGNT 3500.
4. Reactivation, Accounting (ACCT) 3203, "Intermediate Accounting III", (INTRO INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 23-24).
5. New course, Accounting (ACCT) 3300, "Financial Reporting & Business Decision Making", (FIN REPORTING/BUS DECISION MKNG – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the prerequisite's requirements moved to the beginning of the description.

(pages 25-30).

6. Reactivation, revised title, prerequisites, and description, Accounting (ACCT) 3900, “Government and Nonprofit Accounting”, (Government & Nonprofit Accounting – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Summer Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – An examination of the accounting... . (pages 31-32).
7. Revised course description, Accounting (ACCT) 3201, “Intermediate Accounting I”, (INTERMEDIATE ACCOUNTING I – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 33-35).
8. Revised course description, Accounting (ACCT) 3202, “Intermediate Accounting II”, (INTERMEDIATE ACCOUNTING II – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 36-37).
9. Revised course prerequisites, Accounting (ACCT) 4410, “Accounting Information Systems”, (ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 38-39).

D. College of Science and Mathematics

1. Revised course description, Biology (BIOL) 3100, “Microbiology”, (MICROBIOLOGY – 4 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026. (Pages 40-41).
2. Revised course description, Biology (BIOL) 5100, “Microbiology”, (MICROBIOLOGY – 4 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, and 6 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026. (Pages 42-43).
3. Revised requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences – Geography was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 44-47). TABLED
4. Revised requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences – Geology was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 48-51). TABLED
5. Revised requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences – Natural Hazard Management was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 52-55). TABLED
6. Revised requirements for the BS in Environmental Geosciences – Geospatial Technology and Urban Planning was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 56-59). TABLED
7. New course, Geography (GEOG) 3060, “Remote Sensing of the Environment”, (REM SENS ENVIRON – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026 with the description changed to read – An introduction to the theory...studies. Course emphasizes conceptual... . (Pages 60-61).
8. New course, Geography (GEOG) 3700, “Human Impacts on the Environment”, (HUMAN IMPACTS ENVIRONMENT – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026 with the description changed to read...An examination of human... . (Pages 62-70).
9. Revised prerequisites, Geography (GEOG) 3810, “Introduction to Biogeography”, (INTRODUCTION TO BIOGEOGRAPHY – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026. (Pages 71-72).

D. College of Education and Human Services

1. Revised Field of Study for the BSED in Middle Grades Education was approved effective Fall Semester 2026.. (Pages 73-74).

2. Revised Field of Study and Senior Curriculum for the BSED in Elementary Education Face-to Face was approved effective Fall 2026. Pages (75-77).
3. Revised Field of Study and Senior Curriculum for the BSED in Elementary Education eDegree was approved effective Fall 2026. Pages (78-82).
4. Revised Field of Study and Senior Curriculum for the BSED in Secondary Education was approved effective Fall 2026. Pages (83-86).
5. Revised degree requirements for the MED in Curriculum and Instruction in Accomplished Teaching was approved effective Fall 2026. Pages (87-89).
6. New course, Education (EDUC) 2140, "Foundations of Reading", (FOUNDATIONS OF READING – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours, was approved effective Fall 2026 with the description changed to read – Development of scientifically based...reading The course emphasizes addresses word...contexts. The course emphasizes reflective... . (Pages 90-99).
7. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 3790, "Elementary Education Field Experience II", (ELEMENTARY ED FIELD EXP I – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hour, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read Prerequisite: EDUC 2999 and a minimum GPA of 2.75. Co-requisite: ELED 3010. Graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory". An examination of a structured...preparing The course activities are... (pages 100-101).
8. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 4703, "Field Experience Grades 4-5", (FIELD EXPERIENCE GRADES 4-5– 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hour, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite EDUC 2999. Graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory"... . (pages 102-105).
9. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 4702, "Field Experienced Grades 1-3", (FIELD EXPERIENCE GRADES 1-3 – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hour, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite EDUC 2999. Graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory"... . (pages 106-109).
10. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 4701, "Field Experienced Grades PreK-K", (FIELD EXPERIENCE GRADES PreK-K – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hour, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read - Prerequisite: EDUC 2999. Graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory". A... . (pages 110-113).
11. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 3702, "English Language Arts methods for Elementary Education", (ENG LANG ART MTHD ELED – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 114-117).
12. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 6090, "Field Experience", (FIELD EXPERIENCE – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hours, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisites: ELED 6050, EDUC 6051 and 6052. Graded "Satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory". A structured... . (pages 118-119).
13. New course, Elementary Education (ELED) 6091, "Clinical Practice in Elementary Education", (FIELD EXPERIENCE – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hours, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisites: ELED 6090. Graded "Satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory". A structured... . (pages 120-121).
14. Revised course title, description and reactivation, Middle/Secondary Education (MSED) 6091, "Adolescent Development", (ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Exploration of educational... . (pages 122-123).

15. Deactivation of MSED 6000 was noted effective Summer Semester 2026. (pages 124-125).
16. Revised course title, prerequisite, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3690, "Elementary Education Field Experience I", (ELED FIELD EXPERIENCE I – 1 credit hour, 0 lecture hours, 1 lab hour, and 1 contact hour), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999 and a GPA Minimum of 2.75. Graded "Satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory". A structured... . (pages 126-127).
17. Revised course prefix, prerequisite, credit hours, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3010, "Planning for Effective Teaching and Learning", (PLAN EFFECTIVE TCHNG AND LRNG – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999 and a GPA Minimum of 2.75. An introduction... . (pages 128-129). Deactivation ELES 3010.
18. Revised course prefix, prerequisite, credit hours, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3020, "Assessment to Promote Student Learning", (ASSESS PROMOTE STUDENT LRNG – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999, ELED 3010, and a GPA Minimum of 2.75. The study... . (pages 130-131). Deactivation ELES 3020.
19. Revised course prefix, prerequisite, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3100, "Developmentally Appropriate Practices", (DEVELOPMENTALLY APPR PRACT – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999, and a GPA Minimum of 2.75. An introduction... . (pages 130A-131A). Deactivation ELES 3100.
20. Revised course prefix, prerequisite, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3210, "Introduction to the Management of Learning Environments", (INTRO MGMT LRN ENVIRONMENTS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999, and a GPA Minimum of 2.75. Co-requisite: ELED 3210. Fundamentals of... . (pages 130B-131B). Deactivation ELES 3210.
21. Revised course title, and credit hours, Middle/Secondary Education (MSED) 6010, "Field Experience", (FIELD EXPERIENCE – 10 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 10 lab hours, and 10 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 132-134).
22. Revised course title, grade mode, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6071, "Math II", (MATH II – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 135-136).
23. Revised course title, grade mode, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6070, "Math I", (MATH I – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 137-138).
24. Revised course title, grade mode, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6060, "Literacy I", (LITERACY I – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 139-140).
25. Revised course title, grade mode, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6061, "Literacy II", (LITERACY II – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 141-142).
26. Revised course title, grade mode, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6081, "Science Methods", (SCIENCE METHODS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 143-144).

27. Revised course title, Secondary Education (SEED) 4610, "Secondary Education Field Experience I", (SCIENCE METHODS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 145-146).
28. Revised course prerequisites, Elementary Education (ELED) 4010, "Differentiated Instruction", (DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION – 2 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 2 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 147-148).
29. Revised course prerequisites, Middle Grades Education (MGED) 3991, "Differentiated Classroom for Middle Grades", (DIFFERENTIATED CLASSROOM MGE– 3 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 2 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisites: EDUC 2999, and a GPA of minimum 2.75. Study... . (pages 149-150).
30. Revised course prerequisites, Literacy (LITR) 3120, "Early Literacy", (EARLY LITERACY – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 151-152).
31. Revised course prerequisites, Literacy (LITR) 3130, "Developing Literacy", (DEVELOPING LITERACY – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 153-154).
32. Revised course title and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 3601, "Emergent Structured Literacy Foundations", (EMERGENT STRUCTURED LIT/FUNDTN– 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 1 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999. Introduction to foundations... . (pages 155-157).
33. Revised course title and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 4501, "Methods for Culturally Responsive Practice", (METHODS CULTURALLY RES PRAC– 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 1 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026 with the description changed to read – Prerequisite: EDUC 2999. A study of strategies... . (pages 158-159).
34. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Secondary Education (SEED) 4620, "Secondary Education Field Experience II", (SEED FIELD EXPERIENCE II – 3 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 2 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 160-161).
35. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Secondary Education (SEED) 4790, "Secondary Education Field Experience II", (SEED FIELD EXPERIENCE II – 3 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 2 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 162-163).
36. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Elementary Education (ELED) 4690, "Elementary Education Field Experience III", (ELED FIELD EXPERIENCE III – 2 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 2 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 164-166).
37. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Elementary Education (ELED) 4790, "Clinical Practice in Elementary Education", (CLINICAL PRACTICE IN ELED – 10 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 10 lab hours, and 10 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 167-168).
38. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Middle Grades Education (MGED) 4620, "Middle Grades Education Field Experience", (MGED FIELD EXPERIENCE – 2 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 4 lab hours, and 4 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 169-170).
39. Revised course title, description, prerequisites, Middle Grades Education (MGED) 4790, "Clinical Practice in the Middle Grades Education", (CLINICAL PRACTICE IN MGED – 10 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 10 lab hours, and 10 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 171-172).
40. Revised course title, and description, Middle/Secondary Education (MSED) 6020 "Clinical Practice", (CLINICAL PRACTICE – 10 credit hours, 0 lecture hours, 10 lab hours, and 10 contact hours), was approved effective Fall

Semester 2026. (pages 173-175).

41. Revised course title, credit hours, and description, Elementary Education (ELED) 6080 “Social Studies Methods”, (SOCIAL STUDIES METHODS – 2 credit hours, 2 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 2 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 176-177).
42. Revised course description, Special Education (SPEC) 2000 “Serving Students with Diverse Needs”, (SERVING STUDENTS DIVERSE NEEDS – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 178-179).
43. Revised course description and prerequisite, Elementary Education (ELED) 4601 “Literacy Assessing and Instruction”, (LIT ASSESS AND INSTRUCTION – 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 180-183).
44. Revised course title, description and prerequisite, Elementary Education (ELED) 3700 “Intermediate Structured literacy Development and Practices”, (LIT DEVELOPMENT/PRACTICES– 3 credit hours, 3 lecture hours, 0 lab hours, and 3 contact hours), was approved effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 184-186).
45. Deactivation of ELED 3701 was noted effective Fall Semester 2026. (pages 187-188).

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley Jones
Registrar

 Valdosta State University Curriculum Form • Request for a REVISED COURSE		Date of Submission: 05/1/2026	
<i>*Course/curriculum revisions originate with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.</i>			
College:	Academic Division	Dept. Initiating Request:	Office of Student Success & Retention
Requestor's Name:	Lauren McCullough	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
CURRENT: (list only items to be changed)		REQUESTED: (list only items to be changed)	
Course Prefix and Number:	RISE 1000	Course Prefix and Number:	
Course Title:	Re-Ignite Seminar for Academic Recovery	Course Title:	
<i>Lecture Hours:</i>		<i>Lecture Hours:</i>	
<i>Lab/Contact Hours:</i>		<i>Lab/Contact Hours:</i>	
<i>Credit Hours:</i>	0	<i>Credit Hours:</i>	
Pre-requisites:		Pre-requisites:	
CURRENT Course Description:		NEW Course Description: (hover over for instructions)	
RISE 1000 is designed for undergraduates with less than 60 earned credits and who are permitted to remain enrolled following a probation academic standing, readmit after suspension, or financial aid SAP appeal. This course provides structured academic recovery support to help students strengthen foundational academic skills, reconnect with key campus resources, and re-establish momentum toward success. Through weekly seminars, facilitated study halls, and targeted assignments, students will engage strategies for effective learning, financial and academic planning, major and career pathways, wellbeing, and resilience. Emphasis is placed on building accountability, fostering a sense of belonging, and developing sustainable academic behaviors that support persistence and graduation.		RISE 1000 is designed for students on academic probation. This course provides structured academic recovery support to help students strengthen foundational academic skills, reconnect with key campus resources, and re-establish momentum toward success. Through two in person seminars, facilitated study halls, and targeted assignments and 1:1 coaching meetings, students will engage strategies for effective learning, financial and academic planning, major and career pathways, wellbeing, and resilience. Emphasis is placed on building accountability, fostering a sense of belonging, and developing sustainable academic behaviors that support persistence and graduation.	
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
		Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:	

☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☐ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026	<i>Twice per Year</i>
Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)				
☐ Improving student learning outcomes ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency				
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field ☒ Other –				
Request to change the focus of who the RISE course is serving and the delivery of the course.				

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes

(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –



Valdosta State University - REVISED COURSE Form

• **Request for a REVISED COURSE**

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Barrie D. Fitzgerald	Signed by: Barrie D. Fitzgerald EA6C514B51764C4...	5/20/2026
College/Division Executive Committee			
Dean/Director			
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			
*Will this change impact another department?		☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature		Signed by: Barrie D. Fitzgerald EA6C514B51764C4...	

 Valdosta State University Curriculum Form • Request for a REVISED COURSE		Date of Submission: 05/1/2026	
<i>*Course/curriculum revisions originate with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.</i>			
College:	Academic Division	Dept. Initiating Request:	Office of Student Success & Retention
Requestor's Name:	Lauren McCullough	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
CURRENT: (list only items to be changed)		REQUESTED: (list only items to be changed)	
Course Prefix and Number:	RISE 2000	Course Prefix and Number:	
Course Title:	Re-Ignite Seminar for Academic Recovery	Course Title:	
<i>Lecture Hours:</i>		<i>Lecture Hours:</i>	
<i>Lab/Contact Hours:</i>		<i>Lab/Contact Hours:</i>	
<i>Credit Hours:</i>	0	<i>Credit Hours:</i>	
Pre-requisites:		Pre-requisites:	
CURRENT Course Description:		NEW Course Description: (hover over for instructions)	
RISE 2000 is designed for undergraduates with at least 60 earned credits and who are permitted to remain enrolled following a probation academic standing, readmit after suspension, or financial aid SAP appeal. The course provides structured academic recovery support to help advanced students complete their degree and prepare for post-graduation success. Through weekly seminars, facilitated study halls, and targeted assignments, students will engage in strategies for advanced academic management, degree completion planning, financial literacy, and career readiness. Emphasis is placed on aligning major and career goals, strengthening resilience, and developing a professional identity. The course culminates in a recovery and career plan submission to demonstrate progress and preparation for graduation.		RISE 2000 is designed for undergraduates readmitted after suspension or financial aid SAP appeal. The course provides structured academic recovery support to help advanced students complete their degree and prepare for post-graduation success. Through two in person seminars, facilitated study halls, and targeted assignments and 1:1 coaching meetings, students will engage in strategies for advanced academic management, degree completion planning, financial literacy, and career readiness. Emphasis is placed on aligning major and career goals, strengthening resilience, and developing a professional identity. The course culminates in a recovery and career plan submission to demonstrate progress and preparation for graduation.	
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
			Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:

☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☐ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026	<i>Twice per Year</i>
Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:) ☐ Improving student learning outcomes ☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency ☒ Other –				
Request to change the focus of who the RISE course is serving and the delivery of the course.				

Source of Data to Support Change *(select one or more of the following):*

☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes
(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –



Valdosta State University - REVISED COURSE Form

• Request for a REVISED COURSE

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Barrie D. Fitzgerald	Signed by: Barrie D. Fitzgerald EA6C514B51764C4...	05/20/2026
College/Division Executive Committee			
Dean/Director			
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			

***Will this change impact another department?**

☒ No ☐ Yes *[route form to department head of impacted program for signature]*

Department Head's Signature

Signed by:
Barrie D. Fitzgerald
EA6C514B51764C4...

	Valdosta State University Curriculum Form • CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY	Date of Submission:	06/12/2026
<i>*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.</i>			
College:	College of Humanities and Social Sciences	Dept. Initiating Request:	History & INDS
Requestor's Name:	Barney J Rickman	Requestor's Role:	Department Head
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change <i>(Changes to Program/Degree)</i>	☒ Revised Catalog Copy <i>(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)</i>	
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☐ Fall ☐ Spring ☒ Summer	2027
Degree/Program Name:	Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/interdisciplinary-multidisciplinary-studies/ba-interdisciplinary-studies/		
Present Requirements:		Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>	
Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies		Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies	
Course List		Course List	
Code	Title	Code	Title
	Hours		Hours
	Core IMPACTS Curriculum		Core IMPACTS Curriculum
	60		60
	Core IMPACTS Curriculum (See VSU Core Curriculum)		Core IMPACTS Curriculum (See VSU Core Curriculum)
	42		42
	Core Curriculum Field of Study		Core Curriculum Field of Study
	18		18
	Guided Electives ¹		Guided Electives ¹
	INDS 2000		INDS 2000
	Senior College Curriculum		Senior College Curriculum
	60		60
	Major Core		Major Core
	9		9
	Research-based Course from the discipline		Research-based Course from the discipline
	Professional/Technical		Professional/Technical
	Writing/Communication		Writing/Communication
	INDS 4000 Interdisciplinary Studies		INDS 4000 Interdisciplinary Studies
	Capstone		Capstone
	Select Option A or Option B (Below)		Select Option A or Option B (Below)
	51		51
	Total hours required for the degree		Total hours required for the degree
	120		120
¹ Courses appropriate to the major will be chosen in cooperation with the director. If the student chooses, the Honors Option, 6 hours of foreign language and culture courses will be taken in this area.		¹ <i>Courses appropriate to the major will be chosen in cooperation with the director. Any course(s) at the 1000 or 2000 level approved by the academic advisor.</i> If the student chooses, the Honors Option, 6 hours of foreign language and culture courses will be taken in this area.	

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

Currently in DegreeWorks, the Field of Study (FOS) for INDS looks for core IMPACTS courses, and it requires course substitutions for 1000 and 2000 level courses that come in as course title (HIST 2xxx). If the student has credit coming from a USG institution and the course was used in IMPACTS, it automatically goes to INDS FOS without requiring a substitution. Otherwise, a course substitution must be completed. ORGL's FOS uses anything at the 1000 or 2000 level resulting in fewer course substitutions.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes

(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

No change need for assessment, but result should be fewer course substitutions for transfer students.



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Kelly Davidson	DocuSigned by: BBE3EC19B701429...	8/14/2026 2:43 PM
College/Division Executive Committee	Mark Smith	DocuSigned by: 8A153115C828424...	8/16/2026 5:29 PM
Dean/Director	James LaPlant	DocuSigned by: CFD1633B1A51412...	8/17/2026 2:44 PM E
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee	Karen Shepard		
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☒ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			

 Valdosta State University Curriculum Form • CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY		Date of Submission: 06/23/2026																																																																																					
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Requestor's Name:	Barney J Rickman	Requestor's Role:	Department Head																																																																																				
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change <i>(Changes to Program/Degree)</i>		☒ Revised Catalog Copy <i>(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)</i>																																																																																				
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CS 1000	Introduction to Microcomputers and Applications		CS 1000	Introduction to Microcomputers and Applications	
ECON 1500			ECON 1500		
GEOG 1101	Introduction to Human Geography		GEOG 1101	Introduction to Human Geography	
GEOG 1102	World Regional Geography		GEOG 1102	World Regional Geography	
GEOG 1103	Geographic Perspectives on Multiculturalism in the U.S.		GEOG 1103	Geographic Perspectives on Multiculturalism in the U.S.	
MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics		MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics	
PHIL 2010	Fundamentals of Philosophy		PHIL 2010	Fundamentals of Philosophy	
PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation		PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation	
POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science		POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science	
POLS 2401	Introduction to Global Issues		POLS 2401	Introduction to Global Issues	
PSYC 1101	Introduction to General Psychology		PSYC 1101	Introduction to General Psychology	
REL 2020	World Religions		REL 2020	World Religions	
SOCI 1101	Introduction to Sociology		SOCI 1101	Introduction to Sociology	
SOCI 1160	Introduction to Social Problems		SOCI 1160	Introduction to Social Problems	
Senior College Curriculum		60	Senior College Curriculum		60
HIST 3000	Study of History	3	HIST 3000	Study of History	3
Upper division courses in History		30	Upper division courses in History		30
Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:			Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:		
a. European History			a. European History		
b. United States History			b. United States History		
c. World History (beyond solely US or European)			c. World History (beyond solely US or European)		
d. Additional course in either European or World History			d. Additional course in either European or World History		
e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course			e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course		
HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3	HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3
Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)		0-3	Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)		0-3
Minor or Electives		21-24	Minor or Electives		21-24
Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.			Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.		
Total hours required for the degree		120	Total hours required for the degree		120
Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track with a Major in History (History Track--BA degree only)			Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track with a Major in History (History Track--BA degree only)		

Course List			Course List		
Code	Title	Hours	Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum		60	Core Curriculum		60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42	Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42
Core Field of Study ¹			Core Field of Study ¹		
Foreign Language and Culture ²		6	Foreign Language and Culture ²		6
HIST 2111	United States History to 1865	3	HIST 2111	United States History to 1865	3
or HIST 2112	United States History since 1865		or HIST 2112	United States History since 1865	
HIST 1011	History of Civilization I (if taken in Area E, then elective from list below)	0-3	HIST 1011	History of Civilization I (if taken in Area E Social Science Domain , then elective from list below)	0-3
HIST 1012	History of Civilization II (if taken in Area E, then elective from list below)	0-3	HIST 1012	History of Civilization II (if taken in Area E Social Science Domain , then elective from list below)	0-3
HIST 1013	History of Civilization III (if taken in Area E, then elective from list below)	0-3	HIST 1013	History of Civilization III (if taken in Area E Social Science Domain , then elective from list below)	0-3
Electives		0-6	Electives		0-6
Acceptable electives for the Field of Study area:			Acceptable electives for the Field of Study area:		
AFAM/WGST 2020	Race, Class, and Gender		AFAM/WGST 2020	Race, Class, and Gender	
ANTH 1102	Introduction to Anthropology		ANTH 1102	Introduction to Anthropology	
CS 1000	Introduction to Microcomputers and Applications		CS 1000	Introduction to Microcomputers and Applications	
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MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics		MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics	
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Senior College Curriculum		60	Senior College Curriculum		60

HIST 3000	Study of History	3	HIST 3000	Study of History	3
Upper division courses in History		21-27	Upper division courses in History		21-27
Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:			Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:		
a. European History			a. European History		
b. United States History			b. United States History		
c. World History (beyond solely US or European)			c. World History (beyond solely US or European)		
d. Additional course in either European or World History			d. Additional course in either European or World History		
e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course			e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course		
Graduate Courses in History (5000- and/or 6000-level)		3-9	Graduate Courses in History (5000- and/or 6000-level)		3-9
HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3	HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3
Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)		0-3	<i>Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)</i>		<i>0-3</i>
Minor or Electives		21-24	Minor or Electives		<i>21-24</i>
Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.			Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.		
Total hours required for the degree		120	Total hours required for the degree		120
¹			¹		
All courses with the HIST prefix taken in the Citizenship and Field of Study areas must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.			All courses with the HIST prefix taken in the Citizenship and Field of Study areas must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.		
²			²		
Only two of three required courses in a single foreign language can be taken in the Field of Study area. The third course must be taken in the Humanities area or as part of the Senior College Curriculum.			<u>The BA in History requires 6 hours in a single foreign language; if one of the foreign language classes is used in the Humanities domain; then the major will take 9 hours from the Field of Study electives list.</u> <i>Only two of three required courses in a single foreign language can be taken in the Field of Study area. The third course must be taken in the Humanities area or as part of the Senior College Curriculum.</i>		

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☒ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

The BA with a Major in History underwent Comprehensive Program Review during the 2025/2026 AY, and we found that the University of West Georgia only requires six hours foreign language in their BA in History (same at Georgia Gwinett College). We also found that Dalton State and Clayton State, for their BA in History programs, six hours of foreign language are suggested, but NOT REQUIRED. ABAC, moreover, has a BA in HIST/POLS combination that requires no foreign language. To remain competitive, we determined that our foreign language requirement should be reduced from a 9-hour requirement to a 6-hour requirement, which is

in line with the University of West Georgia and Georgia Gwinett College and is still a larger foreign language requirement than Dalton State, Clayton State, and ABAC. Within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the BA in Political Science also recently reduced their foreign language requirement from 9-hours to 6-hours.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes

(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
- ☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

This change will not affect the program assessment already in place for the BA with a Major in History program.



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Kelly Davidson	DocuSigned by: Kelly Davidson BBE3EC19B701429...	8/14/2026 2:43 P
College/Division Executive Committee	Mark Smith	DocuSigned by: Mark Smith 8A153115C828424...	8/16/2026 5:29 F
Dean/Director	James LaPlant	DocuSigned by: James LaPlant CFD1633B1A51412...	8/17/2026 2:44 PI
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee	Karen Shepard		
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☒ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			

 Valdosta State University Curriculum Form • CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY		Date of Submission: 06/23/2026	
<i>*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.</i>			
College:	College of Humanities and Social Sciences	Dept. Initiating Request:	History & INDS
Requestor's Name:	Barney J Rickman	Requestor's Role:	Department Head
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change <i>(Changes to Program/Degree)</i>		☒ Revised Catalog Copy <i>(New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)</i>
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2027
Degree/Program Name:	Bachelor of Arts with a Major in History		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/humanities-social-sciences/history/ba-history/		
Present Requirements:		Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>	
Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in History (History Track--B.A. degree only) Senior College Curriculum 60 HIST 3000 Study of History 3 Upper division courses in History 30 Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in: a. European History b. United States History c. World History (beyond solely US or European) d. Additional course in either European or World History e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course HIST 4950 Senior Seminar 3 Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C) 0-3 Minor or Electives 21-24 Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.		Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in History (History Track--B.A. degree only) Senior College Curriculum 60 HIST 3000 Study of History 3 <u>HIST 4810 Internship 3</u> 30 Upper division courses in History Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in: a. European History b. United States History c. World History (beyond solely US or European) d. Additional course in either European or World History e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course HIST 4950 Senior Seminar 3 <i>Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C) 0-3</i> Minor or Electives 21-24 Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.	
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HIST 3000	Study of History	3	HIST 3000	Study of History	3
Upper division courses in History		21-27	<u>HIST 4810</u>	<u>Internship</u>	<u>3</u>
Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:			Upper division courses in History		21-27
a. European History			Courses numbered above 3000, including at least one each in:		
b. United States History			a. European History		
c. World History (beyond solely US or European)			b. United States History		
d. Additional course in either European or World History			c. World History (beyond solely US or European)		
e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course			d. Additional course in either European or World History		
Graduate Courses in History (5000- and/or 6000-level)		3-9	e. For the remaining 18 hours, majors can take any upper division HIST course		
HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3	Graduate Courses in History (5000- and/or 6000-level)		3-9
Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)		0-3	HIST 4950	Senior Seminar	3
Minor or Electives		21-24	<i>Foreign Language and Culture (if not taken in Area C)</i>		
Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.			Minor or Electives		21-24
			Must include at least six (6) semester hours in courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside the history major.		

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☒ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

The BA with a Major in History underwent Comprehensive Program Review during the 2025/2026 AY, and we determined that making HIST 4810: Internship a required course would facilitate graduates being more “career ready” upon degree completion. Making HIST 4810: Internship a required class will also increase the amount of experiential learning embedded in the program (completion of HIST 3000 & HIST 4950 provide graduates with 3 EL units; making HIST 4810: Internship a required class adds an additional 3 EL units for a total of at least 6 EL units upon degree completion for every major in the BA with a Major in History program).

Increasing the total upper-division hours required in the BA with a Major in HIST program also makes sense because, from CPR, we discovered that other majors in the CHSS (ENGL, POLS, PSYC) required 39 hours of upper-division courses in the major field, but the HIST major was only requiring 36 hours. By adding HIST 4810 as a required class, the BA with a Major in HIST program will require 39 hours of upper-division courses in the major field and will be more in line with other majors in the CHSS.

Even with this revision, HIST majors will still be able to pursue a minor because they will have 15 hours of free electives as well as the required 6-hours in an upper-level discipline outside of HIST.

NOTE: The requirement for HIST 4810: Internship will NOT apply to students pursuing the **Bachelor of Arts in History / Bachelor of Science in Education with a Major in Secondary Education: History Education Track** (<http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/humanities-social-sciences/history/ba-history/>) as Dual Degree majors attain their internship activities by way of successful completion of the required student teaching class, SEED 4790: Clinical Practice in Secondary Education (10 credit hours).

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes

(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☐ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☒ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
- ☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

This change will not affect the program assessment already in place for the BA with a Major in History program.



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• **CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY**

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Kelly Davidson	DocuSigned by: <i>Kelly Davidson</i> BBE3EC19B701429	8/14/2026 2:43 PM
College/Division Executive Committee	Mark Smith	DocuSigned by: <i>Mark Smith</i> 8A153115C828424...	8/16/2026 5:29 PM
Dean/Director	James LaPlant	DocuSigned by: <i>James LaPlant</i> CFD1633B1A51412...	8/17/2026 2:44 PM
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee	Karen Shepard		
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☒ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• Request for a NEW COURSE

Date of Submission:

08/10/2026

**Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.*

College:	College of Humanities and Social Sciences	Dept. Initiating Request:	Psychological Science
Requestor's Name:	Haley Sherman	Requestor's Role:	Faculty

Proposed NEW Course Prefix: (Consult abbreviations in the catalog)	PSYC	NEW Course Number: (Consult #s in the catalog)	4890
Proposed NEW Course Title:	Internship in Psychology		
NEW Course Title Abbreviation: (Limit to 30 character spaces)	Internship in Psychology		
Prerequisite(s):	PSYC 1101 with a grade of "C" or better and approval of instructor and Head of the Department.		
Lecture Hours:		Lab/Contact Hours:	Credit Hours: 3

Proposed NEW Course Description: (Limit to 50 words. Include requisites, cross listings, special requirements, etc.)*

Graded "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory." A structured field experience in a supervised professional setting related to the field of psychology. May be repeated for up to 12 credit hours.

Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:	Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☐ Major Requirement ☒ Elective	☒ Fall ☒ Spring ☐ Summer	2027	Once per Year

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Improving student learning outcomes | ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency |
| ☒ Adopting current best practice(s) in field | ☐ Other – |

This new course provides the opportunity for Valdosta State Online students to earn Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) as they enter the degree program. It also provides face-to-face psychology students the opportunity to complete internships.

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ****

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes

(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
- ☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
- ☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ******Valdosta State University – NEW COURSE Form**• **Request for a NEW COURSE**

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	David Monetti	DocuSigned by: David Monetti	8/21/2026 2:11 PM
College/Division Executive Committee	Mark Smith	DocuSigned by: Mark Smith	8/22/2026 6:00 PM
Dean/Director	James LaPlant	DocuSigned by: James LaPlant	8/22/2026 9:02 PM
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee	Karen Shepard		
*Will this change impact another department?		☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Date of Submission:

03/5/2026

*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.

College:	College of Science and Mathematics	Dept. Initiating Request:	Chemistry and Geosciences
Requestor's Name:	Jason Allard	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change (Changes to Program/Degree) ☐ Revised Catalog Copy (New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)		
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☒ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026
Degree/Program Name:	Environmental Geosciences – Environmental and Climate Sciences		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/sciences-mathematics/chemistry-geoscience/bs-environmental-geosciences/		

Present Requirements:		Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>	
Core Curriculum	60	Core Curriculum	60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹	42	Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹	42
Core Field of Study ²	18	Core Field of Study ²	18
GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate	4	GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate	4
GEOG 1113 Introduction to Landforms	4	GEOG 1113 Introduction to Landforms	4
& 1113L and Introduction to Landforms Lab	4	& 1113L and Introduction to Landforms Lab	4
GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience	3	GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience	3
BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I	3	BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I	3
& 1107L and Principles of Biology Laboratory I	3	& 1107L and Principles of Biology Laboratory I	3 4
CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I	3	CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I	3
& 1211L and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I	3	& 1211L and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I	3 4
PHSC 1100 The Universe of Energy	3	<u>GEOG 1120</u> <u>Introductory Oceanography</u>	3
MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics	3	PHSC 1100 The Universe of Energy	3
MATH 2261 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	4	MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics	3
Senior College Curriculum	60	MATH 2261 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	4
Required upper-level courses	25	Senior College Curriculum	60
GEOG 3020 Global Climate Change	3	Required upper-level courses	22 25
GEOG 3050 Computer Cartography and Image Analysis	3	GEOG 3020 Global Climate Change	3
GEOG 3210 Introduction to Hydrology	4	GEOG 3050 Computer Cartography and Image Analysis	3
GEOG 4900 Special Topics in Geography	1-6	GEOG 3210 Introduction to Hydrology	4
GEOG 4860 Geosciences Senior Seminar	1	<u>GEOG 3700</u> <u>Human Impacts on the Environment</u>	3
GEOG 4861 Senior Thesis	3	GEOG 4900 Special Topics in Geography	1-6 3
GEOG 4862 Thesis Presentation	2	GEOG 4860 Geosciences Senior Seminar	1
Upper-level electives	6		

Additional Geoscience electives above 3000	8	<i>GEOG 4861 Senior Thesis</i>	3
Other Supporting Courses	21	<i>GEOG 4862 Thesis Presentation</i>	2
GEOG 1120 Introductory Oceanography	3	<u>One of the following sequences of two courses:</u>	5
GEOG 2011 Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3	<u>GEOG 4861: Senior Thesis and</u>	
Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)	3-6	<u>GEOG 4862: Thesis Presentation</u>	
Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)	9-12	<u>or</u>	
Total hours required for the degree	120	<u>GEOG 4800: Internship in Environmental Geosciences and Upper-level GEOG or GEOL course</u>	
		Upper-level electives	6 9
		Additional Geoscience electives above 3000	8
		Other Supporting Courses	21
		<i>GEOG 1120 Introductory Oceanography</i>	3
		GEOG 2011 Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3
		Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)	3-6
		Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)	9-12 12-15
		Total hours required for the degree	120

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

PHSC 1100 – Universe of Energy is only offered once in the summer. It is no longer a viable choice for a requirement. GEOG 1120 – Introductory Oceanography was moved from Supporting Courses to replace PHSC 1100 (and those 3 credit hours moved to Other Guided Electives).

When the Environmental and Climate Sciences track was created, an upper-level course was included as GEOG 4900 – Special Topics in Geography for required environmental geosciences course because there were no preexisting courses suitable. An upper-level course has now been created (GEOG 3700), so the curriculum is being updated to reflect the new course in place of GEOG 4900.

The experiential learning capstone for environmental geosciences majors was completing a two semester course sequences (GEOG 4861 and 4862) that lead to a senior thesis. The options have been expanded to include the successful completion of an internship. Therefore, majors have the option of completing GEOG 4861 and 4862, OR GEOG 4800 Internship in Environmental Geosciences and an upper-level GEOG/GEOL course.

The total hours of Required Upper-Level Courses were incorrect at 25. Changed to 22. Required changing Upper-Level Electives to 9 from 6 to complete 39 hours requirement.

Incorrect credit hours for CHEM 1211/1211L and BIOL 1107/1107L updated.

Other Guided Electives credit hours updated to reflect changes.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTANI	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Cornely	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☐ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☐ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Date of Submission:

03/3/2026

*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.

College:	College of Science and Mathematics	Dept. Initiating Request:	Chemistry and Geosciences
Requestor's Name:	Jason Allard	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change (Changes to Program/Degree) ☐ Revised Catalog Copy (New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)		
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☒ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026
Degree/Program Name:	Environmental Geosciences – Environmental Sustainability		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/sciences-mathematics/chemistry-geoscience/bs-environmental-geosciences/		

Present Requirements:		Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>	
Core Curriculum	60	Core Curriculum	60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42	Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)	42
Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Tehcnology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Environmental Geosciences majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take BIOL 1107K and CHEM 1211 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences.		Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Tehcnology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Environmental Geosciences majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take BIOL 1107K and CHEM 1211 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences.	
Core Field of Study ^{1,2}		Core Field of Study ^{1,2}	
GEOG 1112K	Introduction to Weather and Climate 4	GEOG 1112K	Introduction to Weather and Climate 4
GEOG 1113K	4	<u>GEOG 1113 & 1113L</u>	<u>Introduction to Landforms and Introduction to Landforms Lab</u> 4
GEOG 2010	Tools of Environmental Geoscience 3	GEOG 2010	Tools of Environmental Geoscience 3
BIOL 1107 & 1107L	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences) 3	BIOL 1107 & 1107L	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences) <u>3</u> <u>4</u>
CHEM 1211 & 1211L	Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences) 3	CHEM 1211 & 1211L	Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences) <u>3</u> <u>4</u>
ECON 1500	(if not taken in Social Sciences) 3	ECON 1500	(if not taken in Social Sciences) 3
MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics 3	MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics 3

MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	4	MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	4
Senior College Curriculum--Environmental Sustainability Track		60	Senior College Curriculum--Environmental Sustainability Track		60
Required Upper-Level Courses		27	Required Upper-Level Courses		27
GEOG 3020	Global Climate Change	3	GEOG 3020	Global Climate Change	3
GEOL 3010	Environmental Geology	3	GEOL 3010	Environmental Geology	3
GEOG 3100	Regional Planning and Environmental Management	3	GEOG 3100	Regional Planning and Environmental Management	3
GEOG 3510	Urban Community Planning	3	GEOG 3510	Urban Community Planning	3
GEOG 3052	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	3	GEOG 3052	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	3
GEOG 4900	Special Topics in Geography (Human Environmental Impact Analysis)	3	<u>GEOG 3700</u>	<u>Human Impacts on the Environment</u>	<u>3</u>
GEOG 4900	Special Topics in Geography (Natural Resource Sustainability and Conservation)	3	<u>GEOG 3720</u>	<u>Environmental Sustainability and Management</u>	<u>3</u>
GEOG 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar	1	<i>GEOG 4900</i>	<i>Special Topics in Geography (Human Environmental Impact Analysis)</i>	<i>3</i>
GEOG 4861	Senior Thesis	3	<i>GEOG 4900</i>	<i>Special Topics in Geography (Natural Resource Sustainability and Conservation)</i>	<i>3</i>
GEOG 4862	Thesis Presentation	2	GEOG 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar	1
Upper Level Electives		12	<i>GEOG 4861</i>	<i>Senior Thesis</i>	<i>3</i>
Must complete at least one class from each category:			<i>GEOG 4862</i>	<i>Thesis Presentation</i>	<i>2</i>
Environmental Analysis			<u>One of the following sequences of two courses:</u>		<u>5</u>
GEOG 3050	Computer Cartography and Image Analysis		<u>GEOG 4861: Senior Thesis and</u>		
GEOG 3053	Application Issues in Geographic Information Systems		<u>GEOG 4862: Thesis Presentation</u>		
GEOG 4710	Statistics for Geoscientists		<u>or</u>		
Earth's Natural Systems			<u>GEOG 4800: Internship in</u>		
BIOL 3810	Introduction to Biogeography		<u>Environmental Geosciences and</u>		
CHEM 3320	Environmental Chemistry		<u>Upper-level GEOG or GEOL course</u>		
GEOG 3150	Meteorology and Climatology		Upper Level Electives		12
GEOG 3210	Introduction to Hydrology		Must complete at least one class from each category:		
GEOG 3710	Environmental Soil Science		Environmental Analysis		
GEOG 3330	Geology, Hydrogeology, and Environmental Issues in Georgia		GEOG 3050	Computer Cartography and Image Analysis	
Human Systems			GEOG 3053	Application Issues in Geographic Information Systems	
ECON 3800	Environmental Economics		GEOG 4710	Statistics for Geoscientists	
GEOG 3410	Cultural Geography		Earth's Natural Systems		
PHIL 3640	Environmental Philosophy		BIOL 3810	Introduction to Biogeography	
PHIL 3180	Ethics and the Environment		CHEM 3320	Environmental Chemistry	
POLS 4450	Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy		GEOG 3150	Meteorology and Climatology	
POLS 4820	Special Topics in U.S. Government and Politics (Environmental Law)		GEOG 3210	Introduction to Hydrology	
Other Supporting Courses		21	GEOG 3710	Environmental Soil Science	
			GEOG 3330	Geology, Hydrogeology, and Environmental Issues in Georgia	

GEO 1121K	Principles of Physical Geology	4	Human Systems		
GEO 1125	Resources, Society, and Environment	3	ECON 3800	Environmental Economics	
GEO 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3	GEO 3410	Cultural Geography	
Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6	PHIL 3640	Environmental Philosophy	
Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)		8-15	PHIL 3180	Ethics and the Environment	
Total hours required for the degree		120	POLS 4450	Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy	
			POLS 4820	Special Topics in U.S. Government and Politics (Environmental Law)	
			Other Supporting Courses		21
			GEO 1121K	Principles of Physical Geology	4
			GEO 1125	Resources, Society, and Environment	3
			GEO 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3
			Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6
			Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)		8-15
					5-8
			Total hours required for the degree		120

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

When the Environmental Sustainability track was created, two upper-level courses were included as GEOG 4900 – Special Topics in Geography for required environmental geosciences course because there were no preexisting courses suitable. Upper-level courses have now been created (GEOG 3700 and 3720), so the curriculum is being updated to reflect the new courses in place of GEOG 4900.

Update to online undergraduate catalog. GEOG 1113K was converted to GEOG 1113 and 1113L.

The experiential learning capstone for environmental geosciences majors was completing a two semester course sequences (GEOG 4861 and 4862) that lead to a senior thesis. The options have been expanded to include the successful completion of an internship. Therefore, majors have the option of completing GEOG 4861 and 4862, OR GEOG 4800 Internship in Environmental Geosciences and an upper-level GEOG/GEO 4800 course.

Incorrect credit hours for CHEM 1211/1211L and BIOL 1107/1107L updated.

Other Guided Electives credit hours updated to reflect changes.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALLESTANI	<i>Cristina Callestani</i>	4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Corudy	<i>Pierre-Richard Corudy</i>	4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			

*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?	☐ No ☐ Yes
*Will this change impact another department?	☐ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]
Department Head's Signature	



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE or REVISED CATALOG COPY

Date of Submission:

03/5/2026

*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.

College:	College of Science and Mathematics	Dept. Initiating Request:	Chemistry and Geosciences
Requestor's Name:	Jason Allard	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change (Changes to Program/Degree) ☐ Revised Catalog Copy (New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)		
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026
Degree/Program Name:	Environmental Geosciences - Geography		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/sciences-mathematics/chemistry-geoscience/bs-environmental-geosciences/		
Present Requirements:		Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>	
Core Curriculum 60 Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹ 42 Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate (Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E.) ⁴		Core Curriculum 60 Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹ 42 Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate (Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E.) ⁴	

(Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences.)		(Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Geography Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take BIOL 1107/BIOL 1107L and CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences.)	
GEOG 1113K		GEOG 1113 & 1113L	
GEOG 2010	Tools of Environmental Geoscience	GEOG 2010	Tools of Environmental Geoscience
BIOL 1107 & 1107L	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I	BIOL 1107 & 1107L	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I
CHEM 1211 & 1211L	Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	CHEM 1211 & 1211L	Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)
MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)
MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics	MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics
PHSC 1100	The Universe of Energy	GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science 3
Senior College Curriculum- Geography Track	60	<i>PHSC 1100</i>	<i>The Universe of Energy</i>
Required upper-level geography courses		Senior College Curriculum- Geography Track	60
GEOG 3050	Computer Cartography and Image Analysis	Required upper-level geography courses	
GEOG 3052	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	GEOG 3050	Computer Cartography and Image Analysis
GEOG 3210	Introduction to Hydrology	GEOG 3052	Advanced Geographic Information Systems
GEOG 3300	Process Geomorphology	GEOG 3210	Introduction to Hydrology
GEOG 3410	Cultural Geography	GEOG 3300	Process Geomorphology
GEOG 4710	Statistics for Geoscientists	<i>GEOG 3410</i>	<i>Cultural Geography</i> 3
GEOG 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar	Choose one of the following	3
GEOG 4861	Senior Thesis	GEOG 3100	Regional Planning and Environmental Management
GEOG 4862	Thesis Presentation	GEOG 3410	Cultural Geography
Upper-level electives	6	GEOG 3510	Urban Community Planning
Additional Geosciences Electives above 3000	7	ANTH 3130	Indians of North America
Other Supporting Courses		HIST 4210	History of Georgia
GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	POLS 3400	International Relations
GEOL 1121K	Principles of Physical Geology (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	GEOG 4710	Statistics for Geoscientists
Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)	3-6	GEOG 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar
Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)	8-15	<i>GEOG 4861</i>	<i>Senior Thesis</i> 3
		<i>GEOG 4862</i>	<i>Thesis Presentation</i> 2
		One of the following sequences of two courses:	5

Total hours required for the degree	120	GEOG 4861: Senior Thesis and GEOG 4862: Thesis Presentation or GEOG 4800: Internship in Environmental Geosciences and Upper-level GEOG or GEOL course
		Upper-level electives 6
		Additional Geosciences Electives above 3000 7
		Other Supporting Courses <u>21</u>
		<i>GEOG 2011 Introduction to Geographic Information Science 3</i>
		Principles of Physical Geology (if not GEOL 1121K taken in Technology, Mathematics, and 0-4 Sciences)
		Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics) 3-6
		Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study) 8- <u>15</u> <u>11-</u> <u>18</u>
		Total hours required for the degree 120

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
☒ Other –

PHSC 1100 – Universe of Energy is only offered once in the summer. It is no longer a viable choice for a requirement. GEOG 2011 – Introduction to Geographic Information Science was moved from Supporting Courses to replace PHSC 1100 (and those 3 credit hours moved to Other Guided Electives).

GEOG 3410 is not currently offered due to departure of faculty member. Other options are now being provided. The possibility of hiring an adjunct to teach GEOG 3410 is being explored, so it is not being removed entirely from the curriculum.

The experiential learning capstone for environmental geosciences majors was completing a two semester course sequences (GEOG 4861 and 4862) that lead to a senior thesis. The options have been expanded to include the successful completion of an internship. Therefore, majors have the option of completing GEOG 4861 and 4862, OR GEOG 4800 Internship in Environmental Geosciences and an upper-level GEOG/GEOL course.

Update to online undergraduate catalog. GEOG 1113K was converted to GEOG 1113 and 1113L.

Other Guided Electives credit hours updated to reflect changes.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following): ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc. ☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below): ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc. ☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.) ☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

 Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form • CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY			
Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTANI	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Cornely	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☐ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☐ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]	
Department Head's Signature			

**Valdosta State University Curriculum Form**• **CURRICULUM CHANGE** or **REVISED CATALOG COPY****Date of Submission:**

03/5/2026

**Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.*

College:	College of Science and Mathematics	Dept. Initiating Request:	Chemistry and Geosciences
Requestor's Name:	Jason Allard	Requestor's Role:	Faculty
Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change (Changes to Program/Degree)		
	☐ Revised Catalog Copy (New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)		
Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☐ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026
Degree/Program Name:	Environmental Geosciences - Geology		
Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/sciences-mathematics/chemistry-geoscience/bs-environmental-geosciences/		

Present Requirements:	Proposed Requirements: <u>(hover over for instructions)</u>
Core Curriculum 60 Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹ Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geology Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L and CHEM 1212/CHEM 1212L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Geology Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L and CHEM 1212/CHEM 1212L in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences. GEOL 1122K Principles of Historical Geology GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience CHEM 1211 & 1211L Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	Core Curriculum 60 Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹ Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Geology Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L and CHEM 1212/CHEM 1212L in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E. Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Mathematics and Quantitative Skills and MATH 2261 in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences. Geology Track majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics. They are advised to take CHEM 1211/CHEM 1211L and CHEM 1212/CHEM 1212L in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Social Sciences. GEOL 1122K Principles of Historical Geology GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience CHEM 1211 & 1211L Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)

CHEM 1212 & 1212L	Principles of Chemistry II and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory II (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)		CHEM 1212 & 1212L	Principles of Chemistry II and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory II (if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	
MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)		MATH 2261	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (1 hour left over from Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	
MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics		MATH 1401	Elementary Statistics	
PHYS 1111K	Introductory Physics I (the 4th hour will count in Other Supporting Courses in the Senior Curriculum)		PHYS 1111K	Introductory Physics I (the 4th hour will count in Other Supporting Courses in the Senior Curriculum)	
Senior College Curriculum—Geology Track		60	Senior College Curriculum—Geology Track		60
Required Departmental Courses			Required Departmental Courses		
GEOL 3101	Mineralogy	3	GEOL 3101	Mineralogy	3
GEOL 3102	Petrology	3	GEOL 3102	Petrology	3
GEOL 3200	History of Life	3	GEOL 3200	History of Life	3
GEOL 3410	Structural Geology	4	GEOL 3410	Structural Geology	4
GEOL 3500	Principles of Geochemistry	3	GEOL 3500	Principles of Geochemistry	3
GEOL 4110	Principles of Sedimentation and Stratigraphy	4	GEOL 4110	Principles of Sedimentation and Stratigraphy	4
GEOL 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar	1	GEOL 4860	Geosciences Senior Seminar	1
GEOL 4861	Senior Thesis	3	GEOL 4861	Senior Thesis	3
GEOL 4862	Thesis Presentation	2	GEOL 4862	Thesis Presentation	2
Upper-level Electives in a Single Discipline outside of GEOL		6	<u>One of the following sequences of two courses:</u> 5		
Additional Geoscience Electives above 3000		7	<u>GEOL 4861: Senior Thesis and</u>		
Other Supporting Courses			<u>GEOL 4862: Thesis Presentation</u>		
GEOG 1113K	(if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	0-4	<u>or</u>		
GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3	<u>GEOL 4800: Internship in</u>		
Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6	<u>Environmental Geosciences and</u>		
Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from core Field of Study area)		9-12	<u>Upper-level GEOG or GEOL course</u>		
Total hours required for the degree		120	Upper-level Electives in a Single Discipline outside of GEOL		6
			Additional Geoscience Electives above 3000		7
			Other Supporting Courses		<u>21</u>
			<u>GEOG 1113 & 1113L</u>	(if not taken in Technology, Mathematics, and Sciences)	0-4
			GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3
			Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6
					9-
			Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from core Field of Study area)		12
					<u>8-</u>
					<u>15</u>
			Total hours required for the degree		120

Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?	☐ No ☐ Yes		
*Will this change impact another department?	☐ No ☐ Yes <i>(route form to department head of impacted program for signature)</i>		
Department Head's Signature			

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Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☐ Improving student learning outcomes
 ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
 ☒ Other –

The experiential learning capstone for environmental geosciences majors was completing a two semester course sequences (GEOL 4861 and 4862) that lead to a senior thesis. The options have been expanded to include the successful completion of an internship. Therefore, majors have the option of completing GEOL 4861 and 4862, OR GEOL 4800 Internship in Environmental Geosciences and an upper-level GEOG/GEOL course.

Update to online undergraduate catalog. GEOG 1113K was converted to GEOG 1113 and 1113L.

Error in Other Guided Electives credit hours updated.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes
(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

 Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form • CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY			
Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami		4/13/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTANI		4/13/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Cornely		4/13/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Date of Submission:

03/5/2026

*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.

College:	College of Science and Mathematics	Dept. Initiating Request:	Chemistry and Geosciences
Requestor's Name:	Jason Allard	Requestor's Role:	Faculty

Check One Option:	☒ Curriculum Change (Changes to Program/Degree)	☐ Revised Catalog Copy (New Learning Outcomes, Admissions/Program Policies, Narrative, etc.)
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Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☒ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026

Degree/Program Name:	Environmental Geosciences – Natural Hazard Management
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Current Catalog URL:	http://catalog.valdosta.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs/sciences-mathematics/chemistry-geoscience/bs-environmental-geosciences/
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Present Requirements:

Core Curriculum	60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹	42
Core Field of Study ²	18
GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate	4
GEOG 1113 Introduction to Landforms and Introduction to Landforms Lab	4
GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience	3
BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I	4
CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I	3
PHSC 1100 The Universe of Energy	3
MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics	3
MATH 2261 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	4
Senior College Curriculum	60
Required upper-level courses	25
GEOG 3020 Global Climate Change	3
GEOG 3052 Advanced Geographic Information Systems	3
GEOG 3210 Introduction to Hydrology	4
GEOG 4900 Special Topics in Geography	1-6
GEOG 4860 Geosciences Senior Seminar	1
GEOG 4861 Senior Thesis	3
GEOG 4862 Thesis Presentation	2
Choose one of the following	3

Proposed Requirements: (hover over for instructions)

Core Curriculum	60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum) ¹	42
Core Field of Study ²	18
GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate	4
GEOG 1113 Introduction to Landforms and Introduction to Landforms Lab	4
GEOG 2010 Tools of Environmental Geoscience	3
BIOL 1107 Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology Laboratory I	4
CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory I	3 4
PHSC 1100 The Universe of Energy	3
GEOG 1110 Our Hazardous Environment	3
MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics	3
MATH 2261 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I	4
Senior College Curriculum	60
Required upper-level courses	25
GEOG 3020 Global Climate Change	3
GEOG 3052 Advanced Geographic Information Systems	3
GEOG 3210 Introduction to Hydrology	4
GEOG 4900 Special Topics in Geography	1-6
GEOG 4860 Geosciences Senior Seminar	1
GEOG 4861 Senior Thesis	3
GEOG 4862 Thesis Presentation	2

GEOG 3100	Regional Planning and Environmental Management		Choose one of the following	3	
GEOG 3510	Urban Community Planning		GEOG 3100	Regional Planning and Environmental Management	
Upper-level electives		6	GEOG 3510	Urban Community Planning	
Additional Geoscience electives above 3000		8	<u>One of the following sequences of two courses:</u>		5
Other Supporting Courses		21	<u>GEOG 4861: Senior Thesis and</u>		
GEOG 1110	Our Hazardous Environment		<u>GEOG 4862: Thesis Presentation</u>		
GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science		<u>or</u>		
Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6	<u>GEOG 4800: Internship in</u>		
Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)		5-8	<u>Environmental Geosciences and</u>		
Total hour required for the degree		120	<u>Upper-level GEOG or GEOL course</u>		
GEOL 1121K	Principles of Physical Geology		Upper-level electives		6
			Additional Geoscience electives above 3000		8
			Other Supporting Courses		21
			<i>GEOG 1110</i>	<i>Our Hazardous Environment</i>	
			<u>GEOL 1121K</u>	<u>Principles of Physical Geology</u>	4
			GEOG 2011	Introduction to Geographic Information Science	3
			Modern Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Arts, Humanities, and Ethics)		3-6
			Other Guided Electives (includes hours which carry over from Core Field of Study)		5-8
			Total hour required for the degree		120
			<i>GEOL 1121K</i>	<i>Principles of Physical Geology</i>	

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Improving student learning outcomes | ☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency |
| ☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field | ☒ Other – |

PHSC 1100 – Universe of Energy is only offered once in the summer. It is no longer a viable choice for a requirement. GEOG 1110 – Our Hazardous Environment was moved from Supporting Courses to replace PHSC 1100 (and those 3 credit hours moved to Other Guided Electives).

GEOL 1121K located in wrong location in online catalog.

The experiential learning capstone for environmental geosciences majors was completing a two semester course sequences (GEOG 4861 and 4862) that lead to a senior thesis. The options have been expanded to include the successful completion of an internship. Therefore, majors have the option of completing GEOG 4861 and 4862, OR GEOG 4800 Internship in Environmental Geosciences and an upper-level GEOG/GEOL course.

Incorrect credit hours for CHEM 1211/1211L updated.

Other Guided Electives credit hours updated to reflect changes.

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

- ☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)
☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –



Valdosta State University – Curriculum Change or Revised Catalog Copy Form

• CURRICULUM CHANGE OR REVISED CATALOG COPY

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salame		4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTANI	Cristina Calestani	4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Cornely	Pierre-Richard Cornely	4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			

Academic Committee			
*Has an updated degree map with crosswalks linking courses and programs to workforce needs been prepared?		☐ No ☐ Yes	
*Will this change impact another department?		☐ No ☐ Yes <i>[route form to department head of impacted program for signature]</i>	
Department Head's Signature			



Valdosta State University Curriculum Form

• Request for a NEW COURSE

Date of Submission:

03/5/2026

*Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.

College: College of Science and Mathematics

Dept. Initiating Request: Chemistry and Geosciences

Requestor's Name: Jason Allard

Requestor's Role: Faculty

Proposed NEW Course Prefix:
(Consult abbreviations in the catalog)

GEOG

NEW Course Number:
(Consult #s in the catalog)

3700

Proposed NEW Course Title: Human Impacts on the Environment

NEW Course Title Abbreviation:
(Limit to 30 character spaces)

Human Impacts Environment

Prerequisite(s):

Junior standing or permission of the instructor

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Contact Hours: 0

Credit Hours: 3

Proposed NEW Course Description: (Limit to 50 words. Include requisites, cross listings, special requirements, etc.)*

This course examines human impact on the environment. through the lens of geography from historical and current perspectives. The course examines issues such as the history of environmentalism, population growth, biodiversity, food, energy, deforestation, pollution (of air, land, and water), water resources, and climate change.

Program Level:	Course Classification:	Semester to be Effective:	Year to be Effective:	Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:
☒ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate	☐ Core IMPACTS ☒ Major Requirement ☒ Elective	☒ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer	2026	Every other Year

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)

- ☒ Improving student learning outcomes
☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field
☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency
☒ Other –

The Environmental Geosciences program has introduced four new tracks/options over the past few years. New courses needed to be developed for those tracks. Course have been first offered as GEOG 4900: Special Topics in Geography so that they could be introduced quickly, and so that we could ensure that the course was successful. GEOG 3700: Human Impacts on the Environment is one such course. The course has already been developed and taught, and is now being assigned a course number.

This course has been offered previously as a special topics course that is already in the course rotation. No additional personnel or resources will be needed.

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ****

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes
(select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

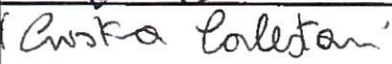
☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ****

 **Valdosta State University – NEW COURSE Form**
• **Request for a NEW COURSE**

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami		4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTAN		4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Cornely		4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			

***Will this change impact another department?** ☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]

Department Head's Signature

GEOGRAPHY 3700 Section A: Spring 2026, 3-0-3
Human Impacts on the Environment

Instructor: Dr. Jason Allard

Office: Nevins Hall, Room 3023

Office phone: 229-249-2745

E-mail: jmallard@valdosta.edu

Office hours: Monday & Wednesday, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm; Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm;
or by Appointment

Mailbox: Nevins Hall, Room 2006

Lecture: Monday and Wednesday, 3:30 – 4:45 pm, NH 2075

Course Overview:

Course Description: This course examines human impact on the environment through the lens of geography from historical and current perspectives. The course examines issues such as the history of environmentalism, population growth, biodiversity, food, energy, deforestation, pollution (of air, land, and water), water resources, and climate change.

Course Format: This course uses a learning format that integrates face-to-face lectures, assigned videos and readings, and structured discussions. The course is designed to put major emphasis on active learning, critical thinking, and the examination of real-world weather events in a historical context.

Prerequisites: Junior standing or permission of the instructor

Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Examine the history of views of the environment
- Analyze how population growth, consumption patterns, and technology drive environmental change.
- Examine biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.
- Analyze land-use change, deforestation, and desertification using regional examples.
- Evaluate freshwater resource depletion and pollution.
- Assess marine and coastal impacts, including overfishing and plastic pollution.
- Compare renewable and nonrenewable energy systems and their environmental trade-offs.
- Critically assess the causes and consequences of climate change
- Interpret environmental data (e.g., carbon footprints, ecological footprints, life-cycle assessments).
- Apply environmental justice frameworks to assess disproportionate impacts on vulnerable communities.
- Propose evidence-based mitigation and adaptation strategies for sustainability challenges.
- Communicate environmental issues effectively in written, visual, and oral formats for diverse audiences.

Course Outcomes: The Objectives and Outcomes of this course address Environmental Geosciences Major Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 as shown in the 2025-2026 Undergraduate Catalog.

- To provide a working knowledge of the basic research tools in physical and cultural geography, environmental research, and in digital cartography.
- To provide the knowledge required to evaluate and interpret environmental data, address and analyze regional environmental questions and synthesize and recommend solutions to a range of environmental problems.
- To provide the analytical and technical skills necessary for geographical research including: spatial and temporal analysis; digital and conventional mapping; and analysis and interpretation of data.

Optional Textbook:

Principles of Environmental Science: Inquiry and Applications, 10th Edition
by Cunningham and Cunningham
ISBN: 978-1-266-55664-7

Other book chapters and articles may be required supplemental reading. Readings for upcoming classes will be indicated before the class in question, and students are expected to complete all readings by class time.

Attendance:

Regular attendance and participation are essential for success in class. You will be expected to physically attend all scheduled course sessions, to complete and submit assignments on time, to participate in ongoing discussions, and to interact with other students and your instructor regularly. Be sure to read and observe the following expectations:

- Submit work on time.
- Keep your instructor informed of your status.
- Review your instructor's feedback carefully and learn from it.
- In any course, problems associated with attendance or completion of assignments may arise. Unless you make prior arrangements with your instructor, you should be prepared to submit work on time. Students who turn in late work may be subject to penalties. Whether online or face-to-face, a student who misses or does not participate in more than 20% of the scheduled course or course activities could be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course.

Assessment:

This course grade will consist of three tests (the last being the final exam), an applied climatology project, a research paper, and homework. There will be no additional course credit offered (i.e., no extra credit). Remember that you most likely will not attain a high grade if you do not regularly attend classes. Here's the weighting of points and the tentative dates of the three tests:

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Weeks Covered</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>1st Test</i>	February 16	1-5	20%
<i>2nd Test</i>	March 25	6-10	20%
<i>Final Exam</i>	May 2	all, esp. wks. 11-16	20%
<i>Research Topic</i>	March 30		1%
<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>	April 8		4%
<i>Research Paper</i>	May 7		10%
<i>Short Papers/Presentations</i>			10%
<i>Assigned Participation</i>			5%
<i>Attendance</i>			5%
<i>Participation</i>			5%
Total course points:			100%

Letter Grades:

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following percentage scores:

- A = 90% - 100%
- B = 80% - 89.9%
- C = 70% - 79.9%
- D = 60% - 69.9%
- F = < 59.9%

Exams: Exams will be based on material covered in the textbook lectures, and PowerPoint slides in BlazeVIEW. Be sure that you examine and understand the concepts, ideas, and terms for each chapter; some of these will be discussed in slides, but others will be in the textbook only. Exams will consist of multiple choice and/or true-false questions, fill-in-the-blank, and short essays. The midterm exam and the final exam will each include 75 questions totaling 150 points each.

Research Topic: A research paper will be completed by the end of the semester. To make sure that everybody has a different topic, and to ensure you are considering what you will research, the topics selection is required by March 30.

Annotated Bibliography: To continue progress towards the research paper, an annotated bibliography is required. This serves the purpose of ensuring progress towards the final paper, but also that reference resources are legitimate (e.g., peer-reviewed articles).

Research Paper: You must write a paper on a topic of your choice that is related to human impacts on the environment. Your topic must be approved by the instructor by March 30 (graded). An annotated bibliography is due on April 8, and the final paper is due on May 7.

Short Papers/Presentations: Throughout the semester, short papers and presentations will be due on topics specific to that week's topic. Additional instructions for each assignment will be provided, and at least one-week notice will be provided for each assignment.

Assigned Participation: Throughout the semester, you will be responsible for preparing to discuss specific topics during lectures. You will be responsible for completing the reading assignments, and actively engaging in the class discussion on that topic.

Attendance: Regular attendance and participation are essential for success in class. You will be expected to physically attend all scheduled course sessions.

Participation: It is expected that you will participate in lectures beyond the assigned participation. This could include asking questions about the material being discussed or responding to questions that are asked by the instructor. Participation can come in different forms, but you should be engaging in the course with constructive comments.

Course Outcomes:

The Objectives and Outcomes of this course address Environmental Geosciences Major Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 as shown in the 2025-2026 Undergraduate Catalog.

- To provide a working knowledge of the basic research tools in physical and cultural geography, environmental research, and in digital cartography.
- To provide the knowledge required to evaluate and interpret environmental data, address and analyze regional environmental questions and synthesize and recommend solutions to a range of environmental problems.
- To provide the analytical and technical skills necessary for geographical research including: spatial and temporal analysis; digital and conventional mapping; and analysis and interpretation of data.

Policies:

University and Department Policies

Please read the following carefully:

- **Accommodations Statement:** Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/>) for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in University Center Room 4136 Entrance 5. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871. For more information, visit VSU's Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu. To request reasonable accommodations for pregnancy and childbirth, contact Ms. Myia Miller, Title IX Compliance Officer, at maburden@valdosta.edu. Please note, you will be required to provide documentation from an appropriately licensed medical professional indicating the requested accommodations are medically necessary.
- **Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and students. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the [Academic Integrity Policy](#) as set forth in the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and this syllabus. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics. Any violations of this policy may result in the

academic penalties outlined in the syllabus and may also be referred to Student Affairs for further disciplinary action.

VSU's Academic Student Conduct Code states that "no student shall engage in plagiarism, which is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were the student's own." Content generated by an Artificial Intelligence third-party service or site (AI-generated content) without proper citation is another form of plagiarism. If you are unsure about whether something may be plagiarism or another form of academic dishonesty, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of Turnitin at VSU see Turnitin for Students (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/turnitin-for-students.php>).

Materials in this course are presented to students in an educational context for their personal use and study only and should not be shared, distributed, or sold in print, or digital formats, outside the course without the express written permission of the instructor.

- **Non-Discrimination and Title IX Policy:** Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued, respected, and included. Valdosta State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, disability, genetic information, political affiliation or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other applicable laws.

The individual designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: Selenscia Holmes, Director of Student Conduct & Title IX. Please submit Title IX questions and concerns by emailing saholmes@valdosta.edu, calling 229-333-5409, or walking into the office located on the second floor of the Student Health Center at 200 Georgia Ave, Valdosta, Georgia 31698. Reports may also be submitted online at https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?ValdostaStateUniv&layout_id=7.

- **Academic Support Center Statement:** The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides unlimited, in-person, free peer tutoring in core courses such as math, English/writing, sciences, social sciences, and languages. Students looking for additional assistance outside of the classroom are advised to consider working with a peer tutor through Knack. VSU has partnered with Knack to provide students with access to verified peer tutors who have previously aced this course. To view available tutors, visit vsu.joinknack.com and sign in with your student account. Please drop by our space in Odum Library, 2nd floor, or call 229-333-7570, email asc@valdosta.edu, or visit the website www.valdosta.edu/asc for more information.
- **Course Technology Requirements:** In this class, students will regularly use the following applications:
 - Office 365 for access to VSU email and to Microsoft applications that we will use regularly (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)

- **BlazeVIEW**

To use these applications, students must have access to a laptop or computer. While it is possible for students to complete some work on their smartphones, this will not be sufficient in all instances, given the limitations of mobile devices. Note that the University maintains a number of computer labs, which are available for student use. Laptops are also available for check-out on a first-come, first-served basis from the New Media Center in Odum Library.

- **SOI Statement:** At the end of the term, all students will be expected to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available through SmartEvals. Students will receive an email notification through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous to instructors/administrators, and they will be able to access results only after they have submitted final grades. Before final grade submission, instructors will not be able to see any responses, but they can see the percentage of students who have or have not completed their SOIs. While instructors will not be able to see student names, an automated system will send a reminder email to those who have yet to complete their SOIs. Complete information about the SOIs, including how to access the survey, is available on the [SOI Procedures webpage](https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/sois/) (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/sois/>).

Class Policies

Please read the following carefully:

- **Make-up exams** are given only if there is a valid excuse for missing the regularly scheduled exam. If you miss one of the exams because of illness or injury, you must give me a valid written excuse from a local physician (note that an appointment with a doctor is not a valid excuse for missing an exam) or from the Division of Student Affairs to be eligible to take a make-up exam. If you do not give me a valid written excuse, you will be assigned a score of "0" for that exam. The make-up text may be an essay-type test. A student that misses two or more exams will receive an "F" for the course.

Make-Up Work: Make-up work or alternative assignments will be determined by the professor and at the sole discretion of the professor. These assignments may or may not exactly duplicate the original and will not entitle other students to the same alternatives since they may not have experienced the same situations.

- **Cell phones** are a problem. Cell phones should be turned off during the class period. Any misuse of the cell phone may result in it being confiscated for the class period. The instructor will hold no responsibility for the confiscated cell phone. Emergency phone calls are an exception.
- **Please respect your classmates!** Please refrain from any disruptive behavior during class. Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to: text messaging, talking on a cell phone, cheating on quizzes/tests, talking in class, arriving after class starts or leaving before class ends, disruptive comments during lectures, and any non-class related activity such as studying for an exam or surfing the web. Note: when the instructor is lecturing, do not attempt to hold a non-course related conversation with the instructor. Disruptive behavior may result in your expulsion from class for that day. Six (6) such expulsions will trigger the absence regulations outlined above and result in an "F" for the course.

Department of Chemistry and Geosciences; College of Science and Mathematics; Valdosta State University

**Valdosta State University Curriculum Form**• **Request for a NEW COURSE****Date of Submission:**

03/5/2026

Course/curriculum change or addition originates with a faculty member or curriculum committee in the Academic Program.*College:** College of Science and Mathematics**Dept. Initiating Request:** Chemistry and Geosciences**Requestor's Name:** Debasree Chatterjee**Requestor's Role:** Faculty**Proposed NEW Course Prefix:**
(Consult abbreviations in the catalog)

GEOG

NEW Course Number:
(Consult #s in the catalog)

3720

Proposed NEW Course Title: Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management**NEW Course Title Abbreviation:**
(Limit to 30 character spaces)

Env Sustain & Mgmt

Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of the instructor**Lecture Hours:** 3**Lab/Contact Hours:** 0**Credit Hours:** 3**Proposed NEW Course Description:** (Limit to 50 words. Include requisites, cross listings, special requirements, etc.)*

This course introduces Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management as an interdisciplinary field focused on environmental challenges and sustainable resource use. Integrating physical and social sciences, it examines global issues such as agriculture, pollution, climate change, and resource management using a systems approach to analyze complex problems and solutions.

Program Level:**Course Classification:****Semester to be Effective:****Year to be Effective:****Estimated Frequency of Course Offering:**
☒ Undergraduate
☐ Graduate

☐ Core IMPACTS
☒ Major Requirement
☒ Elective

☒ Fall
☐ Spring
☐ Summer

2026

Every other Year

Justification: (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below:)☒ Improving student learning outcomes☐ Mandate of State/Federal/Accrediting Agency☐ Adopting current best practice(s) in field☒ Other –

The Environmental Geosciences program has introduced four new tracks/options over the past few years. New courses needed to be developed for those tracks. Course have been first offered as GEOG 4900: Special Topics in Geography so that they could be introduced quickly, and so that we could ensure that the course was successful. GEOG 3720: Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management is one such course. The course has already been developed and taught, and is now being assigned a course number.

This course has been offered previously as a special topics course that is already in the course rotation. No additional personnel or resources will be needed.

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ****

Source of Data to Support Change (select one or more of the following):

☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

Plans for assessing course effectiveness/meeting program learning outcomes (select one or more of the following and provide appropriate narrative below):

☒ Indirect Measures; SOIs, student/employer/alumni surveys, etc.

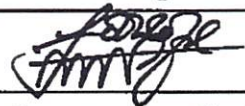
☐ Direct Measures; Materials collected/evaluated for program assessment (tests/portfolios/assignments, etc.)

☐ Other Data Source Descriptions –

**** Attach General Course Syllabus/Support documents with course outcomes/assessments ****

 **Valdosta State University – NEW COURSE Form**

• **Request for a NEW COURSE**

Approvals	Print	Signature	Date
Department Head	Toluwalope Salami		4/3/26
College/Division Executive Committee	CRISTINA CALESTANI	Cristina Calesta	4/3/26
Dean/Director	Pierre-Richard Corneley	Pierre-Richard Corneley	4/3/26
Graduate Executive Committee (for graduate course)			
Graduate Dean (for graduate course)			
Academic Committee			

***Will this change impact another department?** ☒ No ☐ Yes [route form to department head of impacted program for signature]

Department Head's Signature



Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management

GEOG 3720

Spring 2025

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Debasree Chatterjee
Email: dchatterjee@valdosta.edu
Physical Office: Nevins Hall Room #2216
Office Phone: 229-333-7143
Mailbox: Nevins Hall, Room #2006

Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 12:00 am – 1:00 pm & Friday 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Lecture: Tuesday & Thursday: 9:30 -10:45 am, NH Room #2032

Course Overview

Course Description: This course introduces Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management as an interdisciplinary field focused on environmental challenges and sustainable resource use. Integrating physical and social sciences, it examines global issues such as agriculture, pollution, climate change, and resource management using a systems approach to analyze complex problems and solutions.

Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will be able to

- Recognize the languages of environmental sustainability, including physical, social, health, food and agricultural sciences, public policy, economics, and biology, thereby becoming articulate about environmental sustainability.
- Identify interconnections between specific human activities/lifestyles and impacts upon the natural environment, thereby acquiring intellectual breadth in scientific, public policy, and economic facets of sustainability.
- Conduct necessary background knowledge for a given environmental issue, thereby acquiring skills to continue the acquisition and use of knowledge towards sustainability and management.
- Perform critical evaluation of environmental problems using reasoned judgment and logical arguments, thereby acquiring critical judgment about environmental sustainability.
- Demonstrate moral sensitivity about global societies and future generations, thereby acquiring awareness of their era and society regarding global climate change and environmental degradation through all topics, and increasing awareness of cultural diversity.

Course Format: This course uses a learning format that integrates face-to-face lectures, readings, homework, participation in class activities, data analysis on environmental issues, a community project related to local environmental issues, and a final research project related to the state you live in. The course is designed to put major emphasis on active participation in identifying a vital environmental issue at a local or regional scale.

Prerequisites: Junior standing or permission of the instructor

Course Outcomes

The Objectives and Outcomes of this course address Environmental Geosciences Major Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 as shown in the Undergraduate Catalog.

- To provide a working knowledge of the basic research tools in physical and cultural geography, environmental research, and in digital cartography.
- To provide the knowledge required to evaluate and interpret environmental data, address and analyze regional environmental questions, and synthesize and recommend solutions to a range of environmental problems.
- To provide the analytical and technical skills necessary for geographical research including spatial and temporal analysis, digital and conventional mapping, and analysis and interpretation of data.

Course Material

- Required Text: Cunningham, W. P., William, M. A., & O'Reilly, C.M. (2023). Principles of Environmental Science- Inquiry and Application. McGraw Hills.
- Access to McGraw-Hill CONNECT platform for reading and weekly homework (available for Day1 Access)
- Additional reading materials will be provided in BV.

Attendance Policy

Attendance: We will meet twice each week, so regular attendance is mandatory. Your attendance in community work and participation in this class is expected.

In any course, problems associated with attendance or completion of assignments may arise. Unless you make prior arrangements with your instructor, you should be prepared to submit work on time. Students who turn in late work may be subject to penalties. Whether online or face-to-face, a student who misses or does not participate in more than 20% of the scheduled course or course activities could be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course.

Class Policies

Missed Exam Policy: It is most desirable for all students to take the exam at the regularly appointed time. However, certain circumstances arise that keep a student from taking the exam at that time. In such conditions, please contact your professor so that I will be aware of the situation. If some instance arises where the student knows they will have to miss an exam, the instructor is more than willing to let them take the exam ahead of time with a proctored facility.

Assignment Late Policy: Most assignments will need to be submitted to BlazeVIEW. Late work will be accepted with the consent of the professor. No assignments will be accepted after 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, May 5, 2025 (due to final grading and preparation for finals).

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI): No student shall use AI, unless assigned by your professor, to generate text, summaries, images, or other materials and submit them as their own work. Content generated by an Artificial Intelligence third-party service or site (AI-generated content) without proper citation is another

form of plagiarism.

Grading Criteria

Class Participation:	10%
Homework:	30%
Exams:	30%
Final Exam/Community Project	15%
Final Project:	15%

Letter Grades: Letter grades will be assigned according to the following percentage scores:

A = 90% - 100%
B = 80% - 89.9%
C = 70% - 79.9%
D = 60% - 69.9%
F = < 59.9%

Assessment

Class Participation: There will be some active learning activities in class on selected topics. It is aimed at implementing the concepts you learned in the lectures. These activities include concept questions using open-sourced data and a spatial analysis assignment on sustainability issues using ArcGIS Pro.

Homework: Weekly homework includes chapter quizzes on CONNECT. They are intended to further enhance your fundamental understanding of the concepts.

Exams: There are two exams throughout the semester. Each covers several chapters, and you would take these exams in class. The first exam will be before the midterm, and the last one will be a few weeks before the finals week. There is no cumulative final exam.

Community Project: It is a student-centered project on community involvement. You will brainstorm a vital issue in our local community or on VSU campus community. We will discuss the topic after the midterm.

Final Project: It is a student-centered project on an environmental issue. I will assign one class to discuss your ideas, acquire data, and finalize the topic after the midterm. However, I will be there to give you some solutions to finding relevant data or any obstacles in spatial analysis in ArcGIS Pro. The first draft is due a week before the final presentation day. The final submission is due on May 5.

Policies

University and Department Policies

Please read the following carefully:

- **Accommodations Statement:** Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/>) for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in University Center Room 4136 Entrance 5. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871. For more information, visit VSU's Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu. To request reasonable accommodations for pregnancy and childbirth, contact Ms. Myia Miller, Title IX Compliance Officer, at maburden@valdosta.edu. Please note, you will be required to provide

Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy



Valdosta State University's Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy:

- 1) defines a credit hour,
- 2) provides direction for determining credit hours for courses, and
- 3) ensures credit hours are properly applied and assigned to courses to conform with commonly accepted practices in higher education.

VSU's academic operations continuously demonstrate compliance with Federal Regulation Program Integrity Rules,¹ University System of Georgia (USG) Policy 03.04, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Standard 10.7, and the guidance in Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges *Policy Statement on Credit Hours*.²

FEDERAL DEFINITION OF THE CREDIT HOUR:

Part 600, Institutional Eligibility under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides the following definition:

"A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than--

(1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or

(2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours." (34 CFR Part 600.2).

The U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) defines a credit hour as "A unit of measure representing the equivalent of an hour (50 minutes) of instruction per week over the entire term. It is applied toward the total number of credit hours needed for completing the requirements of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other formal award."

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA DEFINITIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

"The academic calendar for each USG institution shall consist of two semesters, each with at least 15 weeks of instructional time, as defined by federal regulations. The 15 weeks of instructional time shall not include registration or scheduled breaks.....A minimum of 750 minutes of instruction or equivalent is required for each semester credit hour. A course offered in fewer than 15 instructional weeks shall contain the same total hours (contact hours, preparation time, content, and requirements) as the same course offered in the standard 15-week semester." (USG Policy Manual Section 03.04³)

¹ Program Integrity Rules, Federal Register Vol. 75 Number 209, page 66831 (October 29, 2010, effective July 1, 2011).

² <https://sacscoc.org/app/uploads/2019/08/Credit-Hours.pdf>

³ <https://usg.policystat.com/policy/19463191/latest/>

Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy



POLICY:

This credit hour policy applies to all courses at all levels (undergraduate, graduate, and professional) that award academic credit on an official transcript regardless of the mode of delivery including, but not limited to, fully online, hybrid, lecture, seminar, laboratory, studio, directed study, or study abroad. Academic units are responsible for ensuring that credit hours are awarded only for work that meets the requirements outlined in this policy.

Valdosta State University utilizes the federal definition of the credit hour as a basis for determining the amount of credit assigned for student work. The VSU Academic Committee of the Faculty Senate is responsible for ensuring that credit hours are appropriately approved for course work, and the VSU Registrar's Office ensures that credit hours are accurately attached to courses in the student information system. The Registrar's Office ensures that the number of class minutes for lecture- and laboratory-based courses have been accounted for during the scheduling of courses. The following methodology guides credit hours assignments.

Lecture Courses:

Traditional lecture-based courses that meet only in a face-to-face format must meet for 750 minutes for each semester credit hour, whether offered in a full-semester, half-semester, or other format. In addition, it is expected that students will spend a **minimum** of two hours in out-of-class preparation for every hour spent in class. Therefore, a one credit hour course must require a minimum of 750 class meeting minutes and 1500 out-of-class preparation minutes. All courses will require a **minimum** of 2250 engaged minutes per semester hour.

When courses are offered in hybrid or fully online format, 2250 engaged minutes are still required and expected for each hour of credit. Because it is difficult to measure engaged minutes for courses offered in hybrid or online formats, course content and learning outcomes should be matched to those established in face-to-face sections of the same courses. Face-to-face courses may be conducted through in-person delivery or through electronic delivery whether synchronous or asynchronous.

Laboratory/Studio/Clinical Courses:

Standard academic practice specifies that a **minimum** of 2250 engaged minutes must be required for each semester credit hour. In the case of laboratory, studio, or clinical courses, most of these engaged minutes will be spent in the actual execution of the laboratory, studio, or clinical exercises. Students may also be expected to spend out-of-class time preparing for laboratory, studio, or clinical exercises. In all cases, class time plus expected out-of-class preparation time must add up to a **minimum** of 2250 engaged minutes per semester credit hour for the specified course.

Courses that blend activity/laboratory/studio/clinical and lecture components:

Courses that blend lecture components with laboratory, studio, or clinical components pose challenges in making the correct credit hour determination. The standard remains that a **minimum** of 2250 engaged minutes must be required for each semester credit hour. There are four components in this type of course:

- Lecture component
- Out-of-class preparation for the lecture component



- Activity/laboratory/studio/clinical component
- Out-of-class preparation for the activity/laboratory/studio/clinical component

In general, it is appropriate to expect that students will spend a **minimum** of two hours in out-of-class preparation for every one hour spent in the lecture component of the class. The activity/laboratory/studio/clinical component may exist with or without an expectation of out-of-class preparation. In determining whether the requirement for a minimum of 2250 engaged minutes per semester hour of credit has been met, minutes expected to be spent in class lectures, out-of-class preparation for the lecture component, the activity/laboratory/studio/clinical component, and out-of-class preparation for the activity/laboratory/studio/clinical component should be summed. For internships, the minimum engaged minutes required for awarding academic credit should adhere to the "Guidelines for Granting Academic Credit for Participation in Internship Programs" section of the *Academic Catalog*.

One credit hour (unit) should involve an input of approximately three hours per week, or the equivalent amount of work for other instructional formats, for the average student (e.g., one hour of scheduled class and two hours of out-of-class preparation). Typically, a three semester credit hour course meets for three 50-minute (or two 75-minute) sessions per week for fifteen weeks. Irrespective of course instruction type or delivery method, all courses require a minimum of 2,250 engaged minutes per semester hour. This basic measure may be adjusted proportionately to reflect modified academic calendars and formats of study. Regardless of the format of course content delivery, course workload expectations must align to the stated learning outcomes for students. A contact hour represents the measure of scheduled instruction given to students and is dependent on the instructional format for the course. The contact hours should be calculated on a per week basis. For example, one contact hour per week of lecture for 15 weeks equals one credit hour (e.g., a three semester credit hour course meets for 45 contact hours). Although infrequent, deviations may exist from the prescribed formulas; however, the institution must still account for the expectation that a minimum of 2250 engaged minutes will be required for every semester hour of credit assigned to the course.

For each course, the number of semester hours credit, the number of lecture contact hours (or equivalent) per week, and the number of laboratory or studio contact hours per week are listed in the student information system.⁴

Guidelines for Zero Credit Hour Courses:

Academic departments may develop and offer zero (0) credit courses as a requirement in a degree program to engage students in innovative experiences beyond the classroom. Activities in a zero credit course may include internships, participating in research, experiential learning, career preparation, international experiences, faculty mentoring, capstone exams, certifications, or other learning experiences designated for that particular major. Generally, the course is used for the purposes of tracking student progress at the institution such as the achievement of certain program admission, progression, or completion-related benchmarks or as a prerequisite to other courses.

⁴ When conducting a course search in Banner, select the course number/name and then "View Catalog Entry" to see the credit hours, lecture hours, and laboratory hours.

Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy



Requests for zero credit courses must be submitted through the existing curriculum approval process (Graduate Executive Committee and/or Academic Committee) and should meet these conditions:

- Students will primarily work independently to complete the course activities
- The course does not meet as a class on a regular basis
- The course has a required syllabus with student learning outcome(s)
- The course requires minimal use of university resources (e.g., faculty time involvement, library resources, technology resources)
- The course cannot be offered as a for-credit course
- Evaluation of student work/performance/completion is accomplished with minimal assessment
- The course uses Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading and will be recorded on a student's transcript
- The course will not be included in a student's GPA calculation
- The college dean will assign an instructor of record to successfully monitor student completion

Deviations from these conditions must be clearly justified in writing to be approved by the college's dean and the VSU Academic Committee.

POLICY REVISIONS:

Proposed revisions to this policy should be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the Academic Committee of the Faculty Senate by way of the Office of Academic Affairs or Office of the Registrar.

APPROVAL DATE:

Prepared by Institutional Effectiveness:	November 6, 2012
Graduate Executive Committee Review:	November 29, 2012
Deans' Council Endorsement:	December 12, 2012
Department Heads' Council Information Item:	November 27, 2012
Academic Committee Information Item:	January 14, 2013
Provost and VPAA Approval:	January 31, 2013
Forwarded to Catalog Editor:	March 11, 2013

Sources: Federal Register; USG Policy Manual; SACSCOC Credit Hours Policy; Dr. Barbara L. Brown, GPC.

Revisions

09/12/2018: Updated policy reference numbers to SACSCOC Standard 10.7; updated section of quoted text directly from BOR Policy 3.4; added footnote URL to SACSCOC Policy Statement on Credit Hours; added footnote URL to BOR Policy 3.4

11/11/2019: Revised section links to items in the academic catalog; added paragraph providing more detail about equivalencies. Revisions reviewed and endorsed by Academic Committee on 11/11/2019.

03/08/2022: Revised URL for SACSCOC Credit Hours Policy; updated VSU logo.

01/30/2024: Added guidelines for zero credit hours courses as required by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees' revised Credit Hour Policy Statement approved at the Annual Meeting in December 2023.

Shared with Deans' Council 01/24/2024 and Council of Department Heads 01/30/2024, and an information item on the agendas for Graduate Executive Committee and Academic Committee.

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Effective
Fall 2013

Determination of Credit Hours for Courses Policy



02/03/2026: Revised URL for USG Policy Manual. Revised section on USG Definition of the Credit Hour to match revised USG policy language.