

WMU General Education Proposed Revision

Student Pathways

Types of Students

- Marcus has just graduated from high school and is a First Time In Any College (FTIAC) student. He has already chosen his major and minor.
- Anita has just graduated from high school and is also a FTIAC. She has not chosen a major or minor.
- Taylor is a transfer student who has previously studied at KVCC.

Marcus's First Year

- Writing*¹
- Major or minor course(s)
- Communication
- Major or minor courses

Marcus's major is front-loaded and he has little room for Gen Ed courses in his first couple of years. The Writing course is a prerequisite for later courses in the Gen Ed program and it is strongly recommended to take the Communication course early, so he takes only those two courses in his first year.

* = focus on writing

¹ = part of progressive sequence

Marcus's Second Year

- Inquiry & Engagement: Critical Thinking in the Arts & Humanities¹
- Major or minor courses
- Societies & Cultures*²
- Major or minor courses

After taking the Writing and Communication courses in his first year, Marcus can take Inquiry & Engagement and Societies & Cultures in his second in order to be ready for the two Connections courses which require these as prerequisites.

Marcus's Third Year

- Local & National Perspectives*³
- Quantitative Reasoning
- 2-3 Major or minor course(s)
- Global Perspectives*³
- Science & Technology
- World Language & Culture (Marcus chooses to take a culture course)
- 1-2 Major or minor courses

In his third year, Marcus completes the sequential part of the Gen Ed program. All of the other courses can be taken at any point in a student's career.

Marcus's Fourth Year

- Laboratory Science
- Major or minor courses, including baccalaureate-level writing* within major
- Personal Wellness
- Artistic Theory & Practice
- Major or minor courses, including recommended capstone within major

Writing and communication skills continue to be refined and polished as Marcus completes his major. For each of his four years, Marcus has taken at least one course focusing on writing.

Anita's First Year

- Inquiry & Engagement: Critical Thinking in the Arts & Humanities¹
- Quantitative Reasoning
- World Language & Culture, semester 1 (Anita chooses to begin a new language)
- Personal Wellness
- Communication
- Writing*¹
- World Language & Culture, semester 2
- Science & Technology

Anita hasn't chosen a major, so she focuses on the Gen Ed Program in her first year. By taking these courses, which include a wide variety of disciplines, she is gaining experiences, exploring possible majors and minors and developing her perspective.

Anita's Second Year

- Societies & Cultures*²
- Laboratory Science
- 1-2 Major or minor courses or electives
- Global Perspectives*³
- Local & National Perspectives*³
- Artistic Theory & Practice
- Major or minor course or elective

Anita is a strong writer and chooses to take Global Perspectives and Local & National Perspectives in the same semester, completing her Gen Ed program in her second year with room for courses in her major or minor or electives.

Anita's Third and Fourth Years

Anita may take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad. She will continue to refine her writing and presentation skills in her major in the bac-level writing course, and in the capstone if her major has one.

Taylor's First Year at WMU

- Inquiry & Engagement: Critical Thinking in the Arts & Humanities¹
- Societies & Cultures*²
- 3-4 Major or minor courses
- Communication
- Science and Technology
- 1-2 Major or minor courses

Taylor is transferring in credits for the following five Gen Ed course categories: Writing;^{*1} Personal Wellness; Laboratory Science; Artistic Theory & Practice; Quantitative Reasoning. She also passes an exam to demonstrate her proficiency in a second language, meeting the World Language & Culture requirement.

Taylor's Second Year at WMU

- Local & National Perspectives*³
- 3-4 Major or minor courses
- Taylor fulfills the Global Perspectives³ requirement by studying abroad and also earns elective and possible major or minor credits.

Taylor's Third and Final Year at WMU

- Major or minor courses, including baccalaureate-level writing* within major
- Major or minor courses, including recommended capstone within major