

Faculty Senate Update, Spring 2023



**WESTERN
MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

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WMU Essential Studies

WES Current State – Spring 2023



WMU Essential Studies

- Level 3: Connections
- Level 2: Discovery Exploration
- Level 1: Foundations

Overall WES Course Portfolio

Total Courses: 390					
Level 1: 82		Level 2: 210		Level 3: 98	
CAS: 264	CoA: 2	CEHD: 23	CEAS: 23		
CFA: 27	CHHS: 24	HCOB: 15	LHC: 12		

WES Course Spring 2023 Enrollment

(Sections) Seats-filled:		(Sections) SCH Produced:			
(595) 20,879		(595) 66,088			
Level 1:		Level 2:		Level 3:	
(206) 21,710		(293) 36,744		(96) 7,634	
CAS:	CoA:	CEHD:	CEAS:		
(383) 41,727	(1) 108	(53) 3,823	(31) 2,685		
CFA:	CHHS:	HCOB:	LHC:		
(24) 6,384	(56) 5,832	(40) 5,142	(7) 387		

In Spring 2023, WES courses produced **47%** of total WMU undergraduate student credit hours (SCH) **(73,844/157,182)**.

Data analysis courtesy of Ewa Urban, Merze Tate College.

Current WES Work: Building the Administrative and Assessment Rhythm

- **WES Executive Advisory Committee** (Dr. Brian Tripp, Chair)
 - Developing criteria and model for annual WES report
 - (Additional for AY 23-24): Preparing for 4th year review
- **WES Course Review and Approval Committee (CRAC)** (Dr. Carol Weideman, Chair)
 - Reviewing new/revised course proposals
 - Overseeing cyclic reviews
- **WMUx & Merze Tate College Support** (Dr. Randy Ott & Staff)
 - Providing and coordinating all assessment processes
 - Recruitment and external communication
- **WES Faculty Director** (Dr. Jonathan Bush)
 - Coordinating agent for all WES work
 - Faculty and departmental guide and advocate





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WES Growth: Our Two Guiding Concepts

- Two concepts drive all our WES work.
- **Short-Range/Current:**
 - Build the **infrastructure and procedures for ongoing assessment, shaping, and growth** in WES: Courses and Overall Program.
- **Long-Range:**
 - Communicate with current and future students and build WMU Essential Studies as a key selling point for **choosing WMU** and an important element in **current student success and intellectual engagement**.



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The 4th year WES review involves both **COURSE** and **PROGRAM** assessment.

WES Assessment: **Continual Improvement**

- The model includes a cyclic course review process that leads into a comprehensive **4th year program review**.
- We are currently in the 2nd year of the 4-year review cycle.
- **The 4th year WES review will occur in AY 24-25.**

Y1 (2021-22)	Y2 (22-23)	Y3 (23-24)	Y4 (24-25) Program Review
Writing	Local/National	Global Perspectives	Program review team will include a subcommittee: members of Executive Advisory, CRAC, UG Studies Council
Societies and Culture	Science/Tech with lab	Artistic Theory & Practice	
World Languages/Cultures	Science/Tech	Personal Wellness	
Oral/Digital	Inquiry/Engagement	Quantitative Reasoning	

- Sustainability and D/I SLO's reviewed during the regular review



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SLO student performance is only used to provide information on program shaping and improvement.

4th Year Review: **WES Course Assessment:**

- All WES courses will be reviewed during the **4th year review**
- Key questions for all WES courses:
 - **Course offering information** (Is the course being offered regularly?)
 - **Cyclic Review materials** (Is the department adequately administering and monitoring the course?)
 - **Ongoing Elearning Assessment submissions** (Are instructors completing ongoing assessments in accordance with the assessment plan?).
- Result in a recommendation for each course:
 - Continue Course in WES
 - Revise or Move WES Course (category/SLOs/Levels)
 - Remove course from WES.

4th Year Review: **WES Program Assessment:**

- **WES Program Shaping: questions including the following:**
 - Do we have the right categories and levels?
 - Do we have the right SLOs?
 - Do we need additional SLOs?
 - Do we have the right rubrics?
 - Do we have the right mix of courses in each category/level?
 - Are there gaps where we want to encourage new courses?
- **WES SLO Trends: questions including the following:**
 - Where do students perform well?
 - Where are there SLO gaps or needs?
 - What SLOs are utilized/under-utilized by students?
 - How do our students progress through levels/areas/SLOs?



Results will be used to shape and guide future WES program decisions.



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For more information, email
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Preparing and Planning: **Upcoming WES Event**

WES Governance Workshop: Moving Forward into the 4th Year Review

3025 Brown Hall
Friday, April 21
8:30-12:00

Attendees: WES Executive Advisory Committee, WES Course Review and Approval Committee (CRAC), & additional members of Faculty Senate and WMU administration/staff

During the workshop, we will,

- Discuss the current state of WES and review the AY 2022-2023 WES Annual Report
- Update and define WES EA and CRAC responsibilities
- Articulate and refine initial 4th WES year review models and plans
- Build committee and administrative infrastructure for ongoing program improvement leading into the 4th year review process.