Light your fire.™
Western Oregon University
"The mind is not a vessel that needs filling, but wood that needs igniting." —Plutarch

Learning outcomes: Undergraduate education at WOU

Western Oregon University undergraduate students prepare for 21st century challenges by gaining:

- ### *Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world*
  Through focused study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, histories, languages, and the arts, and by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring

- ### *Intellectual and practical skills*
  including:
  - Inquiry and analysis
  - Critical thinking
  - Creative thinking and practice
  - Written and oral/signed communication
  - Quantitative literacy
  - Information literacy
  - Teamwork and problem solving

  Practiced extensively, across the curriculum using appropriate technology, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

- ### *Personal and social responsibility*
  including:
  - Civic knowledge and engagement—local and global
  - Intercultural knowledge and competence
  - Ethical reasoning and action
  - Foundations and skills for lifelong learning

  Anchored through active involvement with diverse communities, real-world challenges, and healthy life course decisions

- ### *Integrative and applied learning*
  Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized study
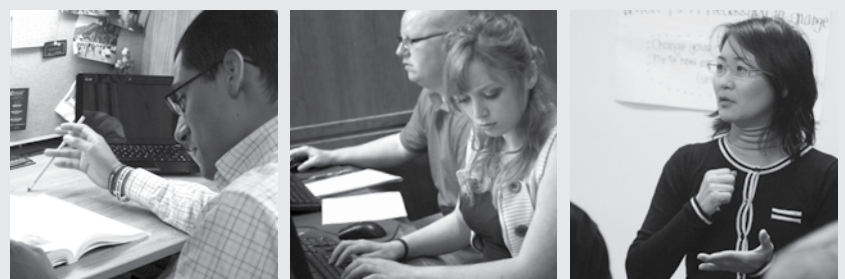
  Demonstrated through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problem

WOU's undergraduate learning outcomes are based on the Liberal Education & America's Promise (LEAP) essential learning outcomes, created by the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

Students develop the knowledge, skills, and capacities through breadth and depth of education including majors, minors, general education and elective coursework. To broaden their academic experience, students are encouraged to take advantage of service learning, research opportunities, international study, internships and student-led co-curricular activities.

Students are responsible for reading and understanding information in this catalog. All students should regularly seek academic advice. Transfer students, in particular, should consult with an advisor in the Academic Advising and Learning Center before enrolling in WOU courses.

Graduation requirements for undergraduates

All undergraduates must satisfy these university requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 180 credits, including at least 62 upper division credits

2. Complete at least 45 of the last 60 credits in Western Oregon University courses

3. Maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) for all work completed at WOU

4. Students are limited to 16 credit hours for each open-ended course set: (199,399) (403) (406,408) (407) (409)

5. Complete a major including at least 36 upper division credits

6. Complete a minor including at least 12 upper division credits, unless the major does not require a minor

7. Complete the general education requirements appropriate for the degree pursued

Major and minor

All undergraduates complete a major. Students also complete a minor (unless the major does not require a minor). Requirements for majors and minors are on pages 44-83. Consult major and minor requirements for recommended general education courses and exceptions.

General education requirements by degree

All undergraduates complete general education requirements. Requirements vary by the degree pursued. Most students pursue general education requirements for a B.A. or B.S. degree. Students must complete WR 135 and the mathematics portion of their general education requirement by the end of their sophomore year at WOU (90 credits).

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) *with B.A. requirements*

Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (54-58 credits)

Writing intensive (6 credits) *See page 35*

Second language *See page 34*

Mathematics/Computer Science (6 credits) *See page 34*

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) *with B.S. requirements*

Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (54-58 credits)

Writing intensive (6 credits) *See page 35*

Cultural diversity (6 credits) *See page 35*

Mathematics/Computer Science (11-12 credits) *See page 34*

Bachelor of Music (B.M.)

Skills and distribution core (42 credits) *See page 34*

Writing intensive (6 credits) *See page 35*

Cultural diversity (6 credits) *See page 35*

Applied Baccalaureate (A.B.)
Special admissions requirements apply

Applied Baccalaureate core (46 credits) *See page 34*

Writing intensive (6 credits) *See page 35*

Cultural diversity (6 credits) *See page 35*

Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (LACC)

The "core" is a major component of general education, and depends on the degree pursued. B.A., B.S. and B.F.A. students complete the LACC.

Consult major and minor requirements for recommended general education courses and exceptions.

B.A. • B.S. • B.F.A.   Credits

Communication   (3)
COM 111

Creative Arts   (9)
Take at least 1 credit from three of the following program areas: art, dance, music, theater.
For qualifying courses, see page 39.

Health and Physical Education   (4)
Take PE 131 plus one additional activity course.
For qualifying courses, see page 40.

Laboratory Science   (12-15)
Take three lab science courses with at least two courses from the same sequence. For qualifying courses, see page 40.

Literature   (8)
For qualifying courses, see page 40.

Philosophy or Religion   (3)
For qualifying courses, see page 40.

Social Science   (11-12)
Take one 8 or 9 credit sequence. An additional 3-4 credit social science course can be any 100- or 200-level social science course including psychology or criminal justice. For qualifying courses, see page 40.

Writing   (4)
WR 135
Complete by the end of sophomore year at WOU (90 credits), see placement policy on page 35.

Courses that satisfy general education requirements may also satisfy major or minor requirements.

Courses that satisfy "core" requirements may also satisfy writing intensive and cultural diversity requirements.

Courses that satisfy major requirements may not be used to satisfy minor requirements.

ACADEMICS

ACADEMICS

Alternative Core Curricula for specialized programs

SKILLS AND DISTRIBUTION CORE

Music (B.M.) students only

	Credits
Creative Arts (other than music)	(8)
For qualifying courses, see page 39.	
Music	(4)
MUS 419	
Health and Physical Education	(2)
PE 131	
Humanities	(8)
For qualifying courses, see page 40.	
Natural Science	(8)
For qualifying courses, see page 40.	
Social Science	(8)
For qualifying courses, see page 40.	
Writing	(4)
WR 135	

Note: Credits in modern language courses can substitute for credits in the areas of creative arts, humanities, and social science.

HONORS LACC

Honors students only

	Credits
Creative Arts	(9)
CA 101H, 102H, 103H	
Literature	(8)
ENG 107H, 108H	
Philosophy	(6)
PHL 207H, 208H	
Natural Science	(12)
GS 201H, 202H, 203H	
Social Science	(11)
Social science sequence approved by the Honors Program director, plus non-honors elective.	

APPLIED BACCALAUREATE CORE

A.B. students only

	Credits
Computer skills	(2)
CS 121 or higher	
Mathematics	(4)
MTH 105 or above. MTH 211/212/213 must all be completed for any to apply toward this requirement.	
Scientific/quantitative/logical thinking	(9)
At least two categories from math, natural sciences, philosophy, or computer science (CS 122 or higher). For qualifying courses, see page 40.	
Social/cultural engagement	(9)
At least two categories from social science, modern languages, religion, or performing arts (dance, music, theater). For qualifying courses, see page 41.	
Technology/life skills	(9)
At least two categories from business, entrepreneurship, computer science (CS 121), health/physical education, psychology, or gerontology. For qualifying courses, see page 41.	
Writing	(4)
WR 135	
Written/visual/communication	(9)
At least two categories from writing, communication studies, English, linguistics, or art. For qualifying courses, see page 42.	

Mathematics/computer science requirement

- Applies to students pursuing B.A., B.S., B.F.A. with B.A. general education requirements, and B.F.A. with B.S. general education requirements.
- Students must complete the mathematics portion of their graduation requirements by the end of the sophomore year (90 credits); students who fail to meet this requirement will be put on mathematics notice.
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) students complete a 4 credit mathematics course (MTH 105 or above) and a 2 credit computer science course (CS 101 or above).
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) students will complete a combined total of 11-12 credit hours in mathematics, computer science, and/or designated quantitative literacy courses. A minimum of one course in mathematics at the level of MTH 111 or above and one course in computer science (CS 121 or above) is required. The remaining required credit hours may be from either discipline, or designated quantitative literacy courses. To enroll in MTH 111, students must complete MTH 095 with a grade of C- or better, receive a satisfactory score on WOU's math placement test or present an adequate SAT or ACT score.
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) students will complete the math, computer science, and/or quantitative literacy requirements required by the general education path (B.A., B.S.).
- If any of MTH 211, 212, 213 are to be applied toward graduation requirements, the entire sequence must be completed.
- For qualifying quantitative literacy courses, see page 36.

Second language requirement

- Applies only to students pursuing B.A. and B.F.A. with B.A. general education requirements.
- Proficiency through the third term (second semester) of the second year (usually 24 credit hours) of college work, or the equivalent, in a second language. Proficiency is demonstrated by achieving a C- or better in 203 (the last course in second year language study). Students who do not meet this standard, including transfer students from accredited and unaccredited U.S. institutions, can show proficiency by passing the departmental proficiency exam with 80 percent. Native speakers who have attended high school in their own language may not use that language to fulfill this requirement.
- International students whose first language is not English must provide high school or college transcripts as evidence of formal training in the native language and a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of at least 500 (paper based) or a score of at least 61 (internet-based) or a IELTS score of at least 5.0 to the International Education and Development Office. International

students must also meet all special graduation requirements related to writing intensive coursework.

First-year writing placement requirement

- Students scoring **below 500** on the SAT Writing Test (20 ACT) who have no other college credits in writing will enroll in WR 115.
- Students who score **below 500/20 and** have at least a C for WR 115 or 121 (or its equivalent) may enroll in WR 135.
- Students scoring **500 and above** on the SAT Writing Test (21 ACT) (55 percentile) who do not have WR 122 credits (or its equivalent) will enroll in WR 135.
- Students scoring **above 700** on the SAT Writing Test (31 ACT) (96 percentile) have the option to place out of WR 135 and satisfy this requirement.
- Students who are admitted to WOU without a test score, known as "Alternately Admitted Students," will enroll in WR 115.

Challenge exams are available on the following basis:
- SAT score of 480 or 490 or an ACT score of 19 is eligible to challenge placement in WR 115.
  Students must earn two (2) scores of at least "2+" (2.75) on the WOU First Year Writing "Trait-Based Rubric for Academic Essays" in order to place into WR 135.
- SAT score of 680 or 690 or an ACT score of 30 is eligible to challenge placing out of WR 135.
  Students must earn two (2) scores of "4" on the WOU First Year Writing "Trait-Based Rubric for Academic Essays" in order to test out of WR 135 and satisfy the requirement.

Challenge exams will be offered twice a year at WOU and administered by the English Department during New Student Week before classes start in the fall and during week one of winter term.

Writing intensive requirement

- Applies to all students.
- Students will satisfy this requirement by completing six credits of "writing intensive" coursework taken from within any portion of the student's major or minor program. Writing intensive courses carry a "W" designation. If the course also meets the cultural diversity requirements, it will carry a "C" designation.
- Three credits of this requirement may be met by any upper division non-creative writing course (WR prefix) even if the class does not carry the "W" designation.
- Students must complete WR 135 (or its transfer equivalent) before enrolling in upper division writing intensive courses. Must be passed with a grade of C- or better to meet the LACC requirement.

- For qualifying writing intensive courses, see page 36.

Cultural diversity requirement

- Applies only to students pursuing B.S., B.M., B.F.A. with B.S. requirements, and A.B degree (without a second language).
- Students will satisfy this requirement by successfully completing six credits of coursework that emphasizes a topic or subject dealing with cultural diversity from within any portion of the student's degree plan. Cultural diversity courses used to complete this requirement carry a special "D" designation. If the course also meets the writing intensive requirements, it will carry a special "C" designation.
- Students meeting the second language requirement for a B.A. degree will have satisfied this requirement.
- Students earning six credits through a WOU study abroad program or international internship will have met the WOU cultural diversity requirement.
- International students seeking a degree at WOU will have met the cultural diversity requirement.
- For qualifying cultural diversity courses, see page 37.

Applied Baccalaureate (A.B.)

A.B. degrees serve the needs of individuals with a terminal or non-transfer associate's degree who wish to pursue a bachelor's degree to advance in their careers, change careers, or who may seek to pursue graduate education.

A.B. degrees are presently offered in psychology, gerontology, computer science, information science, and economics.

Eligibility for the A.B. Baccalaureate degree program

The A.B. degree is not open to traditional students currently enrolled at WOU (e.g., students who started college at WOU or came to WOU with a transfer degree such as the AAOT). A.B. students must meet the following criteria: have completed an A.A.S. degree (or other terminal/non-transfer associate degree) or have completed a minimum of 60 quarter credits toward an A.A.S. degree (or other terminal/non-transfer associate degree).

Students who have pursued and/or completed an Oregon Transfer Module (OTM), Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer (AAOT) degree, Associate of Science Oregon Transfer Business degree, Associate of Science degree or Associate of General Studies degree (AGS) are not eligible for admission into the A.B. track. They will be admitted into our traditional B.A., B.S., B.F.A. and B.M. degrees.

Academic advising

Placement of transfer credit units into the A.B. curriculum will be determined in consultation with the academic advisor for the specific A.B. program.

Honors Program

WOU's Honors Program offers an alternative LACC to students who have demonstrated outstanding ability, motivation, and academic achievement. Through the sustained contact the curriculum provides between students and teachers, the Honors Program forges a learning community committed to scholarly inquiry and the life of the mind. Upon completion of the honors curriculum, Honors students are ideally prepared to excel in their academic major and minor courses. Each Honors student integrates his or her learning into a thesis/major project that is publicly presented during senior year.

Honors Program courses are open only to students enrolled in the WOU Honors Program. Students interested in exploring the challenge of the Honors Program should contact the honors director as soon as they begin to consider this opportunity. Although acceptance usually occurs before the student attends WOU, a limited number of students can be admitted before the start of their second year. Where appropriate and approved by the Honors Program director, AP, IB, and transfer credits will count towards satisfying Honors requirements.

In addition to the Honors Program, LACC courses (see page XX), graduation in the Honors Program requires the following additional courses:

Honors colloquia (approved by Honors Program director) (9 credits)
H 303 Thesis Orientation (1-2)
H 353 Thesis Development (1-2)
H 403 Honors Thesis/Senior Project (3-6)

Completion of the honors curriculum satisfies WOU's writing intensive and cultural diversity requirements.

Transfer policies

1. WOU will accept, as satisfying any one of its LACC requirements, coursework satisfactorily completed at any accredited institution if such course(s) bears the same prefix and number as the required course(s) in WOU's LACC statement.

2. WOU will accept, as satisfying any of its sequence requirements, sequenced coursework which is satisfactorily completed at an accredited institution if it parallels the nature of the WOU sequence. As an example, a 12 credit transfer sequence in astronomy (with lab) will meet the LACC laboratory science sequence requirement, even though WOU does not offer a sequence in this subject.

3. Only courses with a letter prefix and numbered 100-level or above may be used to meet LACC, graduation requirements, major or minor requirements. Grading must be on an A-F basis as opposed to pass/no credit or satisfactory/no credit basis (with the exception of PE activity courses).

4. Students who have earned an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science in Business