

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

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The Undergraduate Curriculum in Arts and Sciences

The University of Mary Washington's undergraduate curriculum represents a distinctive academic experience which prepares graduates to make choices that lead to fulfilling lives as responsible, contributing members of local, national, and global communities. Three interrelated components make up this experience: General Education, the Major, and Electives.

General Education is the foundation of a liberal arts and sciences education and is designed to cultivate the skills, knowledge, and habits of mind that are essential in every field of study and which enable graduates to make effective decisions as citizens of a rapidly changing, richly diverse, and increasingly interconnected world. The University's General Education requirements introduce students to a variety of learning perspectives and methods of inquiry that combine to foster an appreciation for different ways of viewing, knowing, and engaging the world. General Education facilitates collaborative learning, individual intellectual development, and constitutes the basis for lifelong learning.

The Major develops expertise in a specialized area of study resulting from focused investigation in a particular academic discipline or disciplines (in the case of an interdisciplinary major). Majors are organized areas of inquiry and knowledge with defined learning goals and methodologies. Major requirements complement, reinforce, and extend the objectives of General Education while adding depth of study in course work, individualized learning, and co-curricular experiences.

Electives offer students opportunities to explore personal interests, add variety to one's studies, and advance particular academic, career, or professional goals (such as preparation for law or medical school). Electives also enable the study of an area of knowledge in greater depth through individually selected courses or experiences that build on a Major's formal requirements. The combination of experiences provided through General Education, the Major, and Electives enable students to achieve the following learning goals and to emerge fully prepared to contribute to the world beyond the University.

Visit the College of Arts and Sciences website (<http://cas.umw.edu/>) for additional details.

Majors

- American Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/american-studies/>)
- Anthropology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/anthropology/>)
- Applied Environmental Science (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/applied-environmental-science/>)
- Applied Physics (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/applied-physics/>)
- Art History (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/art-history/>)
- Biochemistry (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/biochemistry/>)
- Biology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/biology/>)
- Biomedical Sciences (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/biomedicalsciences/>)
- Chemistry (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/chemistry/>)
- Classical Archaeology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/classical-archaeology/>)
- Classical Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/classical-studies/>)
- Communication and Digital Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/communication-digital-studies/>)
- Conservation Biology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/conservation-biology/>)
- English (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/english/>)
- English: Creative Writing (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/english-creative-writing-concentration/>)
- Environmental Geology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/environmental-geology/>)
- Environmental Sustainability and Policy (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/environmental-sustainability-and-policy/>)
- French (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/french/>)
- Geography (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/geography/>)
- Geology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/geology/>)
- Geospatial Analysis (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/geospatial-analysis/>)
- German (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/german/>)
- Historic Preservation (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/historic-preservation/>)
- History (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/history/>)
- International Affairs (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/international-affairs/>)
- Leadership and Management Studies (BLS Only) (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/leadership-management-studies-bls-only/>)
- Music (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/music/>)
- Philosophy (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/philosophy/>)
- Philosophy: Pre-Law (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/philosophy-pre-law-concentration/>)
- Physics (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/physics/>)
- Political Science (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/political-science/>)
- Psychology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/psychology/>)
- Religious Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/religious-studies/>)
- Sociology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/sociology/>)
- Spanish (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/spanish/>)
- Studio Art (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/studio-art/>)

- Theatre (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/theatre/>)
- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/majors/womens-gender-studies/>)

Minors

- African American Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/african-american-studies/>)
- Arabic Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/arabic-studies/>)
- Arts Administration (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/arts-administration/>)
- Asian Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/asian-studies/>)
- Biology (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/biology/>)
- Business French (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/business-french/>)
- Business German (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/business-german/>)
- Business Spanish (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/business-spanish/>)
- Chemistry (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/chemistry/>)
- Climate Science (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/climate-science/>)
- Contemplative Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/contemplative-studies/>)
- Digital Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/digital-studies/>)
- English Literature (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/english-literature/>)
- Environmental Sustainability (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/environmental-sustainability/>)
- French (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/french/>)
- German (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/german/>)
- Global History (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/global-history/>)
- History (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/history/>)
- Journalism (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/journalism/>)
- Latin American Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/latin-american-studies/>)
- Law and Philosophy (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/law-and-philosophy/>)
- Linguistics (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/linguistics/>)
- Middle Eastern Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/middle-eastern-studies/>)
- Museum Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/museum-studies/>)
- Music (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/music/>)
- Musical Theatre (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/musical-theatre/>)
- Neuroscience (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/neuroscience/>)
- Physics (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/physics/>)

- Practical Ethics (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/practical-ethics/>)
- Pre-Preservation in Fine Art Minor (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/pre-conservation-fine-art/>)
- Professional Writing (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/professional-writing/>)
- Security and Conflict Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/security-conflict-studies/>)
- Social Justice (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/social-justice/>)
- Spanish (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/spanish/>)
- Urban Studies (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/urban-studies/>)

Certificates

- Geographic Information Science Certificate (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/geographic-information-science-certificate/>)
- Spanish for Health Care Professionals Certificate (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/spanish-for-healthcare-professionals-certificate/>)

Learning Goals in Arts and Sciences

- University of Mary Washington graduates should be able to write and speak effectively in a variety of contexts;
- University of Mary Washington undergraduates, regardless of major, should acquire specific knowledge of and appreciation for the problems, methods, and contributions of the fine and performing arts, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and mathematics;
- The University of Mary Washington academic experience should be characterized by intellectual rigor, integrity, disciplinary depth, and attention to the individual student;
- The University of Mary Washington academic experience should include diverse learning experiences provided by the entire undergraduate course of study: General Education, the Major, and Electives;
- The University of Mary Washington academic experience should offer students an informed understanding of and engagement with global issues, thereby enabling them to graduate fully prepared to contribute in positive and substantive ways to the complicated and changing world beyond the university.
- The University of Mary Washington academic experience should provide students with classroom-based and other educational opportunities to critically examine issues of identity (such as race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and nation), including explorations of how they relate to value systems, structured inequality, and cultural and institutional power. In addition to preparing Mary Washington students to contribute thoughtfully to the world beyond the university, a focus on issues of power and inequality is a critical component of the University of Mary Washington's commitment to campus diversity.
- The University of Mary Washington academic experience should ensure that students are in command of the technologies that define

not only 21st-century communication but the emerging tools of different disciplines.