

# Department of Modern and Classical Languages

*Dr. Victoria Soady, Head*  
*Room 128, West Hall*

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages offers the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in French and the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Spanish. French majors may elect to follow the Language and Culture track, the Foreign Language Education track, or the French Language and International Trade track. Spanish majors may elect to follow either the Language and Culture Track or the Foreign Language Education Track. Additionally, the department offers minors in French, German, and Spanish, an online Certificate in Spanish for Professionals, an online Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), the Latin American Studies Certificate, and courses that satisfy the add-on ESOL endorsement for current and future P-12 teachers seeking certification in Georgia.

The development of the understanding of at least one culture other than their own and communicative proficiency in the language of that culture is an essential element in the educational preparation for citizens who will live in the global society of the 21st century. Courses in six world languages, Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish, are offered in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and focus on the acquisition of language skills and cultural knowledge that enable individuals to live or travel in a society where the language is spoken. Additionally, second language skills and cultural knowledge are advantageous to individuals who plan to pursue careers in business, health-related fields, social service and education agencies, law and law enforcement, science- or humanities-related fields in the other culture or their own. The Certificates in Spanish for Professionals and in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages both open enriched career paths at home and internationally. They may be taken as stand-alone certificates or in conjunction with almost any other major field of study.

Courses in Latin provide students the opportunity to gain insights into life in the Ancient World and principles and foundations of those societies that have contributed to the rise of modern nations. Through the study of Latin, students gain greater knowledge of their own languages and enhance both their oral and written skills in English.

The programs of study leading to majors in French and Spanish are designed to guide students in the development of competencies in the language skills and cultural knowledge necessary to live in Francophone or Hispanic societies at the level of near-native proficiency. With such a level of ability, students should expect to be able to enter a profession or occupation in education, government, business, law, medicine, or human resources where their bilingual skills are required or are advantageous. They may also elect to continue their study in a graduate program in French or Spanish.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN FRENCH**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

1. The ability to listen and to read in French at the advanced level of proficiency, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.
2. The ability to speak and to write in French at the advanced-low level of proficiency, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.
3. Knowledge of cultural universals and trends, as well as specific similarities and differences between Francophone and American cultures, including both non-verbal and verbal aspects.
4. Knowledge of major historical events and their role in the development of the Francophone cultures as well as knowledge of the major literary and artistic works of those cultures.
5. The ability to use technology for research purposes and as a means of communication with the various areas of the French-speaking world.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages evaluates the level of linguistic proficiency and cultural knowledge achieved by the students in the Bachelor of Arts program in French by using a variety of assessment measures. The results of the assessment activities are used for continued curriculum development and revision. Among the methods used to determine the effectiveness of the program are the following:

1. An examination to assess the level of listening, reading, and writing proficiency, along with an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview administered by Language Testing International to assess the level of speaking proficiency at the entry to the major.
2. An examination covering appropriate topics to assess the student's knowledge of content material related to Francophone culture, linguistics, and literature.
3. An examination to assess the level of listening, reading, and writing proficiency, along with an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview administered by Language Testing International to assess the level of speaking proficiency at the completion of the major.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN FRENCH  
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TRACK**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
FREN 1001 and FREN 1002.....	0-6 hours
FREN 2001 and FREN 2002 .....	0-6 hours
FREN 2010 .....	3 hours
Foreign Language and Culture (2nd Foreign Language) .....	0-6 hours
Electives from Area C and Area E Courses.....	0-18 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in French</b> .....	<b>34 hours</b>
FREN 3010.....	3 hours
FREN 3150 or FREN 3160.....	3 hours
FREN 3200.....	3 hours
FREN 3250 or FREN 3260 .....	3 hours
FREN 4010.....	3 hours
FREN 4400, FREN 4990 .....	6 hours
FREN 4980 .....	1 hour
Electives: 3000/4000-level course .....	12 hours
<b>Supporting Courses</b> .....	<b>3-15 hours</b>
ESOL 4010 .....	3 hours
2nd Foreign Language & Culture (may be taken in Areas C and F) . . . .	0-12 hours
<b>Electives</b> .....	<b>11-23 hours</b>
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN FRENCH  
FRENCH LANGUAGE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE TRACK**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
FREN 1001 and FREN 1002 .....	0-6 hours
FREN 2001 and FREN 2002 .....	0-6 hours
ECON 2105 and ECON 2106 .....	6 hours
Foreign Language and Culture (2nd Foreign Language) .....	0-6 hours
Electives from Area C and Area E Courses .....	0-12 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in French</b> .....	<b>22 hours</b>
FREN 2010 .....	3 hours
FREN 3450 .....	3 hours
FREN 4210 .....	3 hours
FREN 4980 .....	1 hour
FREN 4990 (to be used for internship) .....	3 hours
Electives: 3000/4000-level course .....	9 hours
<b>Business Courses</b> .....	<b>21 hours</b>
ACCT 2101 and ACCT 2102 .....	6 hours
IB 3000 .....	3 hours
MGNT 3250, MGNT 4800 .....	6 hours
MKTG 3050, MKTG 4680 .....	6 hours
<b>Supporting Courses</b> .....	<b>6 hours</b>
ACED 3101 .....	3 hours
ACED 3150 or ACED 3400 .....	3 hours
<b>Electives (outside the College of Business)</b> .....	<b>11 hours</b>
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

## FRENCH—FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION TRACK

The Foreign Language Education Track (French) in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages holds accreditation from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Students who are enrolled in the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in the Foreign Language Education Track will meet all outcomes defined for the students in the program leading to the B.A. degree with a major in French in the Language and Culture Track. In addition, there are Performance Standards outcomes established by the College of Education and Human Services for the professional courses taken to achieve certification in grades pre-kindergarten through the 12th grade. There are several areas that the outcomes address that are not included in the outcomes for the content area, including the following.

### SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

1. To demonstrate an understanding of the nature of the learner.
2. To employ instructional strategies and research methodologies appropriate to the discipline and the learners.
3. To demonstrate effective planning skills.
4. To employ effective assessment techniques in evaluating learners and programs.
5. To maintain an on-going program of professional development.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN FRENCH FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION TRACK

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
FREN 1001 and FREN 1002 .....	0-6 hours
FREN 2001 and FREN 2002 .....	0-6 hours
FLED 2999 .....	0 hours
EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130.....	9 hours
Electives from Area C and Area E .....	0-18 hours
Students must achieve a grade of “C” or better in all courses taken in Area F.	
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>.60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in French</b> .....	<b>35 hours</b>
FREN 2010, FREN 3010.....	.6 hours
FREN 3150 or FREN 3160.....	.3 hours
FREN 3200.....	.3 hours
FREN 3250 or FREN 3260 .....	.3 hours
FREN 4110, FREN 4400 .....	.6 hours
FREN 4980.....	.2 hours
FREN 4990.....	.3 hours
Supporting course: ESOL 4010.....	.3 hours
Electives: FREN 3000/4000 level courses .....	.6 hours
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Education</b> .....	<b>25 hours</b>
SEED 4010, FLED 3510, FLED 4510 .....	.3 hours
FLED 3500, FLED 4500.....	.4 hours
SPEC 3000 .....	.3 hours
FLED 4790 .....	10 hours
FLED 4800.....	.2 hours
Electives .....	.3 hours
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

In addition to the assessment procedures used to evaluate the extent to which students enrolled in the B.A. degree program in French meet the anticipated outcomes, there are measures employed to determine the effectiveness of the preparation of the prospective teachers.

#### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

1. Students maintain portfolios containing sample coursework, research projects, and community activity to be evaluated before the beginning of student teaching. Upon completion of student teaching, students complete a second portfolio to determine their success in synthesizing and applying acquired knowledge to the actual experience. Components of the portfolio include, teaching philosophy, video tapes, self-critiques, reflections of the entire experience lesson plans, summary of methodologies and instructional strategies, ancillary materials, contacts, and an annotated bibliography of resource materials.
2. Mentor teachers and the university supervisor furnish performance reports of the students.
3. GACE II, the standard examination for teacher certification, assesses students' knowledge of content material related to Francophone culture, language, and literature, as well as pedagogy. Scores on the examination serve as one indication of the effectiveness of the program.
4. Periodic surveys of alumni who have completed the program are conducted. These surveys evaluate the relevance of the major program to graduates' present employment, perception of success, and their personal satisfaction with the program, as well as solicit suggestions for improvement of the French major in the Foreign Language Education Track.
5. As of Fall 2008, students in the B.A. French–Foreign Language Education Track must achieve a rating of Advanced-low on the formal ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview in order to be recommended for certification.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN SPANISH**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

1. To demonstrate the ability to listen and to read in Spanish at the advanced level of proficiency, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.
2. To demonstrate the ability to speak and to write in Spanish at the advanced-low level of proficiency, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.
3. To demonstrate knowledge of cultural universals and trends as well as specific similarities and differences between Hispanic and American cultures, including both non-verbal and verbal aspects.
4. To demonstrate knowledge of major historical events and their role in the development of the Hispanic cultures as well as knowledge of the major literary and artistic works of those cultures.
5. To demonstrate the ability to use technology for research purposes and as a means of communication with the various areas of the Spanish-speaking world.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages evaluates the level of linguistic proficiency and cultural knowledge achieved by the students in the Bachelor of Arts program in Spanish by using a variety of assessment measures. The results of the assessment activities are used for continued curriculum development and revision. Among the methods used to determine the effectiveness of the program are the following:

1. An examination to assess the level of listening, reading, and writing proficiency. The examination is administered in SPAN 2010 and SPAN 4990.
2. ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interviews administered to assess the level of speaking. These Oral Proficiency Interviews are administered in SPAN 2010 and SPAN 4990.
3. An examination covering appropriate topics to assess the student's knowledge of content material related to Hispanic culture, linguistics, and literature. The examination is administered in SPAN 2010 and SPAN 4990.
4. Evaluation of student performance during SPAN 4980, including an assessment of linguistic proficiency and interpreting and translating skills adequate to the practicum assignment, completed by the supervisor in the field.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN SPANISH  
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TRACK**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
SPAN 1001 .....	0-3 hours
SPAN 1002 .....	0-3 hours
SPAN 2001 .....	0-3 hours
SPAN 2002, SPAN 2010 .....	6 hours
Foreign Language and Culture (2nd Foreign Language) .....	0-6 hours
Electives from Area C and Area E Courses. ....	0-18 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Spanish</b> .....	<b>36 hours</b>
SPAN 2011 .....	1 hour
SPAN 3010, SPAN 3150, SPAN 3160 .....	9 hours
SPAN 3200, SPAN 3250 .....	6 hours
SPAN 3260 or SPAN 3270 .....	3 hours
SPAN 4010 and SPAN 4110 .....	6 hours
SPAN 4020 .....	2 hours
Electives: 3000/4000-level courses, to include one Spanish literature course numbered 4000 or above .....	6 hours
SPAN 4980 .....	2 hours
SPAN 4990 .....	1 hour
<b>Supporting Courses</b> .....	<b>3-15 hours</b>
ESOL 4010 .....	3 hours
2nd Foreign Language & Culture (3-12 hours), may be taken in Areas C & F .....	0-12 hours
<b>Electives</b> .....	<b>9-21 hours</b>
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>



## **SPANISH—FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION TRACK**

The Foreign Language Education Track (Spanish) in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages holds accreditation from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Students who are enrolled in the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in the Foreign Language Education Track will meet all outcomes defined for the students in the program leading to the B.A. degree in Spanish in the Language and Culture Track. In addition, there are Performance Standards outcomes established by the College of Education and Human Services for the professional courses taken to achieve certification in grades pre-kindergarten through the twelfth grade. There are several areas that the outcomes address that are not included in the outcomes for the content area, including the following:

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

1. To demonstrate an understanding of the nature of the learner.
2. To employ instructional strategies and research methodologies appropriate to the discipline and the learners.
3. To demonstrate effective planning skills.
4. To employ effective assessment techniques in evaluating learners and programs.
5. To maintain an on-going program of professional development.

In addition to the assessment procedures used to evaluate the extent to which students enrolled in the B.A. degree program in Spanish meet the anticipated outcomes, there are measures employed to determine the effectiveness of the preparation of the prospective teachers.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

1. Students maintain portfolios containing sample coursework, research projects, and community activity to be evaluated before the beginning of student teaching. Upon completion of student teaching, students complete a second portfolio to determine the student's success in synthesizing and applying acquired knowledge to the actual experience. Components of the portfolio include teaching philosophy, video tapes, self-critiques, reflections of the entire experience, lesson plans, summary of methodologies and instructional strategies, ancillary materials, contacts, and an annotated bibliography of resource materials.
2. Mentor teachers and the university supervisor furnish performance reports of the students.
3. GACE II, the standard examination for teacher certification, assesses students' knowledge of content material related to Hispanic culture, language, and literature, as well as pedagogy. Scores on the examination serve as one indication of the effectiveness of the program.
4. Periodic surveys of alumni who have completed the program are conducted. These surveys evaluate the relevance of the major program to graduates' present employment, perception of success, and their personal satisfaction with the program, as well as solicit suggestions for improvement of the Spanish major in the Foreign Language Education Track.
5. As of Fall 2008, students in the B.A.–Spanish Foreign Language Education Track must achieve a rating of Advanced-low on the formal ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview in order to be recommended for certification.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN SPANISH  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION TRACK**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
SPAN 1001 and SPAN 1002 .....	0-6 hours
SPAN 2001 and SPAN 2002.....	0-6 hours
FLED 2999 .....	0 hours
EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130 .....	9 hours
Electives from Area C and Area E Courses.....	0-18 hours
Students must achieve a grade of “C” or better in all courses taken in Area F.	
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Spanish</b> .....	<b>35 hours</b>
SPAN 2010, SPAN 3010 .....	6 hours
SPAN 2011 .....	1 hour
SPAN 3150, SPAN 3160, SPAN 3200 .....	9 hours
SPAN 3250 and either SPAN 3260 or 3270 .....	6 hours
SPAN 4010, SPAN 4110 .....	6 hours
SPAN 4020 .....	2 hours
SPAN literature course numbered above 4000 .....	3 hours
SPAN 4980 .....	2 hours
<b>Supporting Course: ESOL 4010</b> .....	<b>3 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Education</b> .....	<b>22 hours</b>
SEED 4010, FLED 3510, FLED 4510.....	3 hours
FLED 3500, FLED 4500 .....	4 hours
SPEC 3000 .....	3 hours
FLED 4790 .....	10 hours
FLED 4800 .....	2 hours
<b>Electives</b> .....	<b>0-3 hours</b>
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

**LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CERTIFICATE**

Student from all majors who hold a 2.80 VSU cumulative grade point average are eligible to participate in this certificate program. Requirements of the program are:

SPAN 3010 and/or any Spanish courses numbered 3000 or higher or FREN 3000 and/or any French courses numbered 3000 or higher.....	0-6 hours
SPAN 3160 or FREN 3500 .....	3 hours
Courses outside the student’s major:	
POLS 3300, POLS 3400, POLS 4320, POLS 4350, POLS 4410, POLS 4440, POLS 4830, POLS 4840, ANTH 4900, SOCI 4900, PERS 2670, or any classes having a minimum of 25% Latin American component or 25% of the student grade reflecting research done in Latin American Studies (LAS) approved by the LAS Campus Coordinator .....	3-9 hours
Study Abroad classes dealing with topics in LAS .....	0-6 hours

**Total required for the Latin American Studies Certificate**..... **18 hours**

## **CERTIFICATE IN SPANISH FOR PROFESSIONALS (ONLINE)**

This certificate is designed for working professionals in business or consumer services, social services, or legal or medical fields, and for students currently enrolled who anticipate career paths in which the ability to communicate in Spanish will enhance their professional success. Courses in Spanish for Professionals are designed to accommodate different needs and learning styles through computer-based, online instruction using synchronous and asynchronous multimedia tools: Wimba voice boards, virtual classrooms, and online social environments such as Second Life. Students will be trained in using all necessary technology and supported throughout the course by faculty. These approaches allow for flexibility in scheduling both for working community professionals and for students who wish to add this stand-alone certificate to their plan of study while pursuing a related major. Students from all majors are eligible to participate in this online certificate program. It is offered as a stand-alone certificate to students who are not currently enrolled at Valdosta State University, subject to application and successful admission.

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

Students will:

1. build proficiency in the Spanish language, with emphasis upon speaking and listening within the context of the many cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.
2. speak Spanish in professional situations that require knowledge of the specialized vocabulary and task-based protocols needed within a specific profession.
3. achieve at least an intermediate mid to intermediate high ACTFL proficiency level.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN SPANISH FOR PROFESSIONALS**

SPAN 2001 (if needed) . . . . .	3 hours
SPAN 2002 (if needed) . . . . .	3 hours
SPAN 3012 Applied Spanish Conversation for Professionals . . . . .	3 hours
SPAN 3014 Language, Culture and Advanced Conversation . . . . .	3 hours
*SPAN 4500 Profession-Related Practicum or Study Abroad. . . . .	3 hours
*SPAN 4501 Research Project in Spanish for Professionals . . . . .	3 hours

A grade of “C” or better is required in each course.

**Total hours required for the Certificate . . . . . 12-18 hours**

\*Note: Appropriate courses in the student’s major field such as business, criminal justice, sociology, social work, nursing, or biology may be substituted.

## MINORS

<b>Minor in French</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Courses</b> .....	<b>0-6 hours</b>
FREN 2001 (if needed) .....	0-3 hours
FREN 2002 (if needed) .....	0-3 hours
<b>Senior College Courses</b> .....	<b>12-18 hours</b>
FREN 2010 .....	3 hours
Electives: Courses in French numbered above 3000 .....	9-15 hours
<b>Minor in German</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Courses</b> .....	<b>0-6 hours</b>
GRMN 2001 (if needed) .....	0-3 hours
GRMN 2002 (if needed) .....	0-3 hours
<b>Senior College Courses</b> .....	<b>12-18 hours</b>
GRMN 3301 and GRMN 4410 .....	6 hours
Electives: Courses in German numbered above 3000 .....	6-12 hours
<b>Minor in Spanish</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
SPAN 2002 (if needed) .....	0-3 hours
<b>Senior College Courses</b> .....	<b>15-18 hours</b>
SPAN 2010, SPAN 2011 .....	4 hours
Electives: Spanish courses numbered 3000 and above .....	11-14 hours

## **Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies**

*Dr. Fred Downing, Head  
Room 1204, Ashley Hall*

The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies offers two programs of study that lead to a Bachelor of Arts with a major in philosophy and religious studies. Students may emphasize either a philosophy track or religious studies track. The department also offers minors in philosophy, religious studies, and professional and applied ethics. A major with the dual tracks of philosophy and religious studies challenges students to think critically and express themselves effectively. Students will develop an appreciation for lifelong learning and the richness of culture and intellectual history. On either track, students will find a solid foundation to build a career in professions that demand critical thinking and conceptual flexibility in interacting with diverse populations.

Students who take the philosophy track will study a broad spectrum of ideas, thinkers, issues, and arguments. The philosophy track addresses key questions from a variety of areas: the history of philosophy, reasoning and argumentation, ethics, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, social and political theory, and aesthetics.

Students who take the religious studies track will investigate the diversity of religious thought and practice from multicultural perspectives. These students explore the influence of religious traditions in shaping values, norms, laws, and public policies in societies worldwide. Regular course offerings in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and indigenous traditions are integral to our curriculum. Religious studies courses encourage multiple disciplinary approaches toward religious expression, whether in the fine arts, literature, politics, social conflict, language, history, or gender studies.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Each program in the department has numerous desired outcomes. Students will be able to do the following:

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES (PHILOSOPHY TRACK)**

1. Explain and analyze central issues, topics, and philosophers in the history of philosophy, from the ancient to the modern periods.
2. Write and speak critically and logically, applying various theories to specific cases and examples.
3. Explain their own value system, evaluating their values in the context of a diverse range of ideas that inform contemporary controversies and social conflict.
4. Create independent philosophical research, synthesizing a variety of sources, including traditional primary philosophical texts and secondary source commentaries.
5. Demonstrate a working familiarity with current research methods, citation styles, and presentation techniques.

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES (RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRACK)**

1. Explain and interpret the world's religious traditions and their influence on values, norms, and public policies.
2. Apply critical and analytical skills in analyzing multiple religious perspectives.
3. Identify and evaluate their self-understanding in the context of diverse ideas that inform contemporary controversies and social conflict.
4. Create independent research, synthesizing sources including sacred texts, religious autobiographies, and other secondary sources.
5. Demonstrate a working familiarity with current research methods, citation styles, and presentation techniques.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS (PHILOSOPHY TRACK AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRACK)**

The department assesses the extent to which the program requirements create the desired outcomes by using a variety of techniques. Examples of these assessments (and related educational outcomes) include the following:

1. The on-going evaluation of student examinations and research papers using rubrics, comparing quantitative data over time.
2. Exit surveys to be administered to each student completing work for the major.
3. Exit examinations administered during the senior Metaphilosophy/Religious Studies Capstone combined course.
4. Surveys of alumni to assess the relevancy of the program to their current work and their suggestions for refinements.
5. The use of university or external data that may become available to assess the quality of the program and the performance of graduates.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE IN PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
PHIL 2030 or REL 2010 .....	3 hours
PHIL 2010 and REL 2020 .....	6 hours
Foreign Language and Culture sequence .....	9 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum (Philosophy Track)</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
(must include at least 39 hours of course work numbered 3000 or above)	
<b>Courses Required for Philosophy</b> .....	<b>24 hours</b>
Logic and Argumentation–PHIL 2020 .....	3 hours
History of Philosophy–PHIL 3060, 3070, 3080, 3090 .....	6 hours
Ethics–PHIL 3100, 3120, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, .....	3 hours
3170, 3180, 3190, 3210, 4120, 4220	
Philosophy, Society, and Culture–PHIL 3110, 3300, 3400, 3430, 3530,	
3540, 3610, 3620, 3630, 3650, 3700, 3710, 3800, 3801, 3850, 3900 .....	3 hours
Epistemology, Metaphysics, & Scientific Reasoning–PHIL 3200, 3220, 3230 ...	3 hours
Senior-Level Curriculum .....	3 hours
PHIL 4800, 4810, 4900, or 4910 .....	3 hours
Senior Capstone PHIL 4920 .....	3 hours
<b>Upper Division REL courses</b> .....	<b>6 hours</b>
<b>Minor and/or Elective Courses</b> .....	<b>30 hours</b>
<i>or</i>	
<b>Senior College Curriculum (Religious Studies Track)</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
(must include at least 39 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above)	
<b>Courses required for Religious Studies</b> .....	<b>24 hours</b>
Religious Traditions chosen from REL 3510, 3520, 3610, 3700, 3710 .....	6 hours
History of Religions and Sacred Texts from REL 3220, 3300, 3330, 3340,	
3350, 3360, 3500, 3501, 3502, 3503, 3504, 3505, 3600, 3630, 3640 .....	6 hours
Religion, Ethics, and Society chosen from REL 3200, 3210, 3270,	
3400, 3530, 3540, 3620, 3650, 3800 .....	3 hours
Senior Capstone Course REL 4920 .....	3 hours
Upper Division REL electives (3000-, 4000-level) .....	6 hours
<b>Upper Division PHIL Courses (3000-, 4000-level)</b> .....	<b>6 hours</b>
<b>Minor and/or Elective Courses</b> .....	<b>30 hours</b>
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

**MINORS**

- Minor in Philosophy . . . . . 15 hours**
  - PHIL 2010 or PHIL 2020 (if not taken to satisfy course work in Area C or F) . . . 0-3 hours
  - Choice of 3000/4000-level Philosophy courses . . . . . 12-15 hours
  
- Minor in Religious Studies . . . . . 15 hours**
  - REL 2020 if not taken to satisfy course work in Area C or F . . . . . 0-3 hours
  - Choice of 3000- or 4000-level Religious Studies courses . . . . . 12-15 hours
  
- Minor in Professional and Applied Ethics . . . . . 15 hours**
  - Introduction to Philosophy (if not taken to satisfy course work in Area C or F) . . . . .0-3 hours
  - Choice of the following 3000/4000-level courses. . . . . 12-15 hours
  - PHIL 3120, PHIL 4120, PHIL 3100, PHIL 3170, PHIL 3180, PHIL 3210, PHIL 4220,  
PHIL 3130, PHIL 3150, PHIL 3140, PHIL 3160, PHIL 3190, JOUR 3540, CRJU 3700



## Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences

*Dr. Edward E. Chatelain, Head*  
*Room 1163, Nevins Hall*

The Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences is a multidisciplinary department with programs that lead to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in physics, a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in astronomy, and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in environmental geosciences. The Engineering Dual Degree Program with the Georgia Institute of Technology enables a student to earn a Bachelor of Science degree from Valdosta State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. The Regents' Engineering Transfer Program, the Mercer University Transfer Program, and the Transfer Program in Engineering enable a student to take core curriculum, mathematics, science, and engineering courses at Valdosta State University and then transfer to an engineering school to complete the requirements for a degree in engineering. The department also offers minors in astronomy, environmental geosciences, geology, and physics.

This multidisciplinary department spans five related areas: physics, astronomy, geology, geography, and engineering. Physics is the foundation science which deals with space, time, matter, energy, gravitation, electromagnetism, light, atoms, nuclei, and the fundamental forces of the universe. Astronomy is the science that deals with the origin, evolution, position, motion, and nature of all the bodies in the observable universe, including the Sun, planets, moons, stars, nebulae, and galaxies. Geology is the science which deals with the Earth, our planet upon which we are totally dependent, its materials, environments, processes on its surface and in its interior, its origin, and its physical, chemical, and biological evolution. Environmental geoscience is an integrative discipline that examines the action, location, and distribution of natural phenomena and the influence of those natural phenomena on people and on the environment in which they live. Engineering is the application of mathematical and scientific principles, technological tools, and practical experience to the solution of real-world problems.

The program leading to the B. S. degree with a major in physics is designed to provide students with knowledge in the fundamental branches of physics (mechanics, electromagnetism, and quantum mechanics), as well as several elective areas within the field of physics, such as thermodynamics, electronics, optics, and computational physics, and to prepare students to enter graduate programs in physics or related disciplines, or to embark upon careers in research laboratories, government, industry, or education.

The program leading to the B. S. with a major in astronomy is designed to provide students with knowledge of the fundamental branches of astronomy, including solar system astronomy, astrophysics and observational astronomy, as well as supporting branches of physics; and with the skills to use the tools of astronomy, including telescopes and auxiliary equipment, appropriate to various astronomical observations; and to prepare students to enter graduate programs in astronomy, physics, or related disciplines or to embark upon careers in research laboratories and observatories, government, industry or education.

The program leading to the B. S. degree with a major in environmental geosciences is designed to provide students with the knowledge and the skills required to analyze environmental questions and to recommend solutions, using research tools in both geography and planning, as well as analytical and technical skills such as geographic information systems, spatial and temporal analysis, computer mapping, and statistical analysis to analyze environmental, hydrologic, and planning problems of the south Georgia region; and to prepare to enter graduate programs in geography, planning, and related fields or to embark upon careers in industry, government, or education.

The Pre-Engineering Program is designed to prepare students to transfer as third-year students into an engineering curriculum at a degree-granting institution. A major part of this program is the Regents' Engineering Transfer Program (RETP) administered by the Georgia Institute of Technology. The program covers course work through the first two years in four major tracks: civil engineering, computer engineering and electrical engineering, industrial engineering, and aerospace engineering and mechanical engineering. Other alternatives for transfer in engineering include the Mercer University Transfer Program in biomedical engineering, electrical engineering, environmental engineering, industrial engineering, and mechanical engineering, and the regular transfer option to the University of Georgia in agricultural engineering and biological engineering.

The minor in astronomy is designed to provide students with an understanding of fundamental astronomical principles and an appreciation of the disciplines of astronomy and astrophysics. The minor in environmental geosciences is designed to provide students with an understanding of the physical and cultural diversity of the Earth, with map techniques and spatial problem solving skills, and with an appreciation of the relationship between people and their environment. The minor in geology is designed to give students a greater understanding of the characteristics and processes of planet Earth and, depending upon the student's major, could better prepare the student for working in areas involving energy, material resources, or environmental problems. The minor in physics is designed to provide undergraduate students with an understanding of fundamental physical principles and an appreciation of the discipline of physics.

Students majoring in various disciplines may be able to gain work experience related to their major through the VSU Co-op Program. Such experience can prove valuable in terms of career exploration, acquisition of new skills, and career development. Students seeking more information should contact their academic advisors or the Office of Cooperative Education.

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ASTRONOMY**

The program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in astronomy is designed to prepare students to enter graduate programs in astronomy, physics, or related disciplines, or to embark upon careers in research laboratories and observatories, government, industry, or education. Specific educational outcomes include the following:

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

1. students will demonstrate knowledge in the fundamental branches of astronomy, including solar system astronomy, astrophysics, and observational astronomy;
2. students will demonstrate knowledge in the fundamental supporting branches of physics, including mechanics, electromagnetism, and quantum mechanics;
3. students will participate in and conduct research;
4. students will apply the techniques of mathematical analysis to physical problems, thereby enhancing their problem-solving skills.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

Assessment of the educational outcomes for the astronomy major is primarily the responsibility of the departmental Astronomy Area Committee, comprised of faculty with expertise in astronomy and cognate disciplines. This assessment is conducted through evaluation of the major educational outcomes in relation to astronomy programs at comparable institutions (particularly the member institutions of SARA). The Committee assesses the extent to which the program requirements create the desired outcomes by using a variety of techniques. Examples of these assessments include the following:

1. All student majors must make oral presentations of their research results to the departmental faculty and submit written copies of their research papers to the departmental office as part of the required Capstone Seminars (PHYS 4501-4502).
2. Students must submit a departmental copy of their portfolios of undergraduate coursework, research projects, and professional activity at the end of their last semester of residence.
3. At the time of major coursework completion, students must complete an exit questionnaire to determine the students' perception of achievement of the major's educational outcomes.
4. Periodic surveys of alumni who have completed the astronomy program will be conducted. These surveys will evaluate the relevancy of the major program to graduates' present employment, their perception of success, and their personal satisfaction with the program. The surveys will also solicit suggestions for improvement of the astronomy major program.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ASTRONOMY**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
Astronomy majors are required to take Pre-calculus (MATH 1113) in Area A and Calculus I (MATH 2261) in Area D and are advised to take 3 hours of a foreign language in Area C, and PHYS 2211K and PHYS 2212K in Area D2.	
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
MATH 2261 (1 hour left over from Area D).....	1 hour
MATH 2262 and MATH 2263 .....	8 hours
ASTR 1010K-1020K .....	8 hours
ASTR 2010 .....	1 hour
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Astronomy</b> .....	<b>10 hours</b>
ASTR 4101 .....	4 hours
ASTR 4400, ASTR 4410 .....	6 hours
<b>Upper-Level Supporting Courses in Physics</b> .....	<b>35 hours</b>
PHYS 2700 .....	1 hour
MATH 2150 and MATH 3340 .....	6 hours
PHYS 3810 and PHYS 3820 .....	6 hours
PHYS 3040 .....	4 hours
PHYS 4111-4112, PHYS 4211-4212 .....	12 hours
PHYS 4411-4412 .....	6 hours
<b>Other Supporting Courses</b> .....	<b>15 hours</b>
Language Requirement (3 hours may be taken in Area C).....	3-6 hours
Guided Electives .....	9-12 hours
Chosen from: ASTR 3220, ASTR 3400, ASTR 3800, ASTR 4900, MATH 3040, MATH 3600, MATH 4081, MATH 4082, MATH 4150, MATH 4300, PHYS 3100, PHYS 4040, PHYS 4310	
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOSCIENCES**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

The program leading to the B. S. degree with a major in environmental geosciences is designed to prepare students to enter graduate programs in geography, planning, and related fields; or to embark upon careers in commerce, industry, government, or education. The specific educational objectives include the following:

1. To provide a working knowledge of the basic research tools in physical and cultural geography, environmental research, and digital cartography;
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. To provide a range of computer-based spatial analysis skills using Geographic Information Science (GIS) and other techniques for digital mapping, data manipulation and analysis, and applications issues.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

Assessment of the education outcomes for the environmental geosciences major is primarily the responsibility of the departmental Geography Area Committee, comprised of faculty with expertise in geography and cognate disciplines. The Committee assesses the extent to which the program requirements create the desired outcomes by using a variety of techniques. Examples of these assessments include the following:

1. All student majors must make oral presentations of their research results to the departmental faculty and submit written copies of their research papers to the departmental office as part of the required Senior Thesis sequence (GEOG/GEOL 4860 and 4861).
2. Students must submit a departmental copy of their portfolios of undergraduate coursework, research projects, and professional activity at the end of their last semester of residence.
3. At the time of major coursework completion, students must complete an exit questionnaire to determine the students' perception of achievement of the major's educational outcomes.
4. Periodic surveys of alumni who have completed the environmental geosciences program will be conducted. These surveys will evaluate the relevancy of the major program to graduates' present employment, their perception of success, and their personal satisfaction with the program. The surveys will also solicit suggestions for improvement of the environmental geosciences major program.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL  
GEOSCIENCES GEOGRAPHY TRACK**

**Core Curriculum Areas A-E\* (See VSU Core Curriculum) .....42 hours**

Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Area A and MATH 2261 in Area D2. Environmental Geosciences majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 2010 and CHEM 1211 in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E.

**Core Curriculum Area F – Geography Track\*..... 18 hours\*\***

GEOG 1112K .....	4 hours
GEOG 1113K .....	4 hours
GEOG 2010.....	3 hours
BIOL 1107 (if not taken in Area D2).....	0-4 hours
CHEM 1211 & CHEM 1211L (if not taken in Area D2) .....	0-4 hours
MATH 2261 (1 hour left over from Area D).....	1 hour
MATH 2620 .....	3 hours
PHSC 1100 .....	3 hours

\* All core classes with prefixes GEOG must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

\*\* Hours in excess of 18 will carry over to the senior curriculum.

**Senior College Curriculum–Geography Track.....60 hours**

Required upper-level geography courses. ....	26 hours
GEOG 3050, GEOG 3052, GEOG 3210, GEOG 3300, GEOG 3410, GEOG 4710, GEOG 4860, GEOG 4861, and GEOG 4862	
Upper-level electives in a single discipline outside of GEOG .....	6 hours
Additional Geosciences Electives above 3000 .....	7 hours
Other Supporting Courses. ....	21 hours
GEOG 2011.....	3 hours
GEOL 1121K (if not taken in Area D.2).....	0-4 hours
Modern Foreign Language .....	3-6 hours
Other Guided Electives .....	8-15 hours
(includes hours which carry over from Area F)	

**Total hours required for the degree..... 120 semester hours**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOSCIENCES—GEOLOGY TRACK**

**Core Curriculum Areas A-E\* (See VSU Core Curriculum) . . . . .42 hours**

Environmental Geosciences majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Area A and MATH 2261 in Area D2. They are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in Area C. They are advised to take BIOL 2010 and CHEM 1211 in Area D2 and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E.

**Core Curriculum Area F – Geology Track\*. . . . . 18 hours\*\***

- GEOG 1121K . . . . . 4 hours
  - GEOG 1122K . . . . . 4 hours
  - GEOG 2010 . . . . . 3 hours
  - CHEM 1211 & CHEM 1211L (if not taken in Area D2) . . . . . 0-4 hours
  - CHEM 1212 & CHEM 1212L (if not taken in Area D2) . . . . . 0-4 hours
  - MATH 2261 (1 hour left over from Area D) . . . . . 1 hour
  - MATH 2620 . . . . . 3 hours
  - PHYS 1111K . . . . . 3 hours
- (the 4th hour will count in Other Supporting Courses in the Senior Curriculum)

\* All core classes with prefixes GEOG and GEOL must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.

\*\* Hours in excess of 18 will carry over to the senior curriculum.

**Senior College Curriculum–Geology Track: . . . . .60 hours**

**Required Departmental Courses . . . . . 27 hours**

GEOG 3101, GEOG 3102, GEOG 3200, GEOG 3410, GEOG 3500,  
GEOG 4110, GEOG 4860, GEOG 4861, and GEOG 4862

**Supporting Geology Courses. . . . . 12 hours**

GEOG 3020, GEOG 3050, GEOG 3120, GEOG 3210, GEOG 3240, GEOG 3320,  
GEOG 3330, GEOG 3500, GEOG 3510, GEOG 3710, GEOG 4900, GEOG 4950,  
an approved summer field methods course (4-6 hours)

**Upper-level Electives in a Single Discipline outside of GEOL . . . . . 6 hours**

**Additional Geoscience Electives above 3000 . . . . . 6 hours**

**Other Supporting Courses. . . . . 21 hours**

- GEOG 1113K (if not taken in Area D.2) . . . . . 0-4 hours
  - GEOG 2011 . . . . . 3 hours
  - MATH 2262 . . . . . 4 hours
  - Foreign Language (3 hours may be taken in Area C) . . . . . 3-6 hours
  - Other Guided Electives . . . . . 4-11 hours
- (includes hours which carry over from Area F)

Students wishing to concentrate in biology are advised to take BIOL 2230, BIOL 2270, BIOL 3300, or any taxonomy course.

Students wishing to concentrate in chemistry are advised to take CHEM 1212, CHEM 1212L, CHEM 3401, and CHEM 2310.

**Total hours required for the degree. . . . . 120 semester hours**

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PHYSICS**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

The program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in physics is designed to prepare students to enter graduate programs in physics or in astronomy, or to embark upon careers in government, industry, or education. Examples of these outcomes include the following:

1. students will demonstrate knowledge in the fundamental branches of physics: mechanics, electromagnetism, and quantum mechanics;
2. students will demonstrate knowledge in several elective areas within the field of physics, including (but not limited to) thermodynamics, electronics, optics, and computational physics;
3. students will apply the techniques of mathematical analysis (algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus) to physical problems;
4. students will effectively use computers and calculators for scientific calculation, programming, and word processing.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

Assessment of the education outcomes for the physics major is primarily the responsibility of the departmental Physics Area Committee, comprised of faculty with expertise in physics and cognate disciplines. The Committee assesses the extent to which the program requirements create the desired outcomes by using a variety of techniques. Examples of these assessments include the following:

1. All student majors must make oral presentations of their research results to the departmental faculty and submit written copies of their research papers to the departmental office as part of the required Capstone Seminars (PHYS 4501-4502).
2. Students must submit a departmental copy of their portfolios of undergraduate coursework, research projects, and professional activity at the end of their last semester of residence.
3. At the time of major coursework completion, students must complete an exit questionnaire to determine the students' perception of achievement of the major's educational outcomes.
4. Periodic surveys of alumni who have completed the physics program will be conducted to evaluate the relevancy of the major program to graduates' present employment, their perception of success, and their personal satisfaction with the program. The surveys will also solicit suggestions for improvement of the physics major program.



**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PHYSICS**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
Physics majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Area A and MATH 2261 in Area D2. They are advised to take PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K in Area D2.	
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
MATH 2261 (1 hour left over from Area D) .....	1 hour
MATH 2262 and MATH 2263 .....	8 hours
PHYS 2700 .....	1 hour
PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K if not taken in Area D2 .....	0-8 hours
Lab Sciences, if PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K are taken in Area D2 .....	0-8 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Upper-Level Courses in Physics</b> .....	<b>39 hours</b>
PHYS 3040, PHYS 4040 .....	8 hours
PHYS 3100, PHYS 3810, PHYS 3820 .....	10 hours
PHYS 4111-4112 and PHYS 4211-4212 .....	12 hours
PHYS 4411-4412 .....	6 hours
PHYS 4310 .....	3 hours
<b>Other Supporting Courses</b> .....	<b>12-15 hours</b>
MATH 2150, MATH 3340 .....	6 hours
Language Requirement (3 hours may be taken in Area C) .....	3-6 hours
<b>Guided Electives*</b> .....	<b>9-12 hours</b>
* chosen from: MATH 3040, MATH 3600, MATH 4081, MATH 4082, MATH 4110, MATH 4150, MATH 4260, MATH 4300, MATH 4540, MATH 4621, MATH 4622, MATH 4651, MATH 4652, MATH 4805, ASTR 3400, ASTR 3800, ASTR 4101, ASTR 4400, ASTR 4410, PHYS 3821, PHYS 4300, PHYS 4800, PHYS 4900, PHYS 4950	
* At least one course must be taken in MATH.	
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

## MINORS

<b>Minor in Astronomy</b> .....	<b>15-18 hours</b>
Area F Courses.....	1-4 hours
PHYS 2211K, if not taken in Area D .....	.0-4 hours
ASTR 2010, if PHYS 2211K is taken in Area D .....	.0-1 hour
Upper division Courses.....	14 hours
ASTR 3101, 3102 .....	.8 hours
Two courses selected from the following: .....	6 hour
ASTR 4100, ASTR 4400, ASTR 4410	
<b>Minor in Geography</b> .....	<b>15-17 hours</b>
Area F Courses.....	0-8 hours
GEOG 1112K, if not taken in Area D .....	.0-4 hours
GEOG 1113K, if not taken in Area D.....	.0-4 hours
Upper division Courses: At least 9 hours of GEOG courses at the 3000-level or higher . . . .	9-15 hours
<b>Minor in Geology</b> .....	<b>15-17 hours</b>
Area F Courses.....	0-8 hours
GEOL 1121K, if not taken in Area D .....	.0-4 hours
GEOL 1122K, if not taken in Area D .....	.0-4 hours
Upper division Courses.....	9-15 hours
GEOL 3100 .....	.4 hours
At least 5 additional hours of GEOL at the 3000-level or higher .....	5-11 hours
<b>Minor in Physics</b> .....	<b>15-18 hours</b>
Area F Courses.....	1-9 hours
PHYS 2700 .....	1 hour
PHYS 2211K-2212K, if not taken in Area D .....	.0-8 hours
Upper division Courses/Electives.....	9-14 hours
Electives selected from the following:	
PHYS 4111, PHYS 4112, PHYS 4211, PHYS 4212, PHYS 4411,	
PHYS 4412, PHYS 4310, PHYS 3100, PHYS 3040, PHYS 4040	

# Department of Political Science

*Dr. James W. Peterson, Head*  
*Room 244, West Hall*

## THE MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The major in Political Science leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. Political scientists study the origins, growth, evolution, and decline of governments; how they solve societal conflicts; and how governments ought to function. The specific subfields of the discipline include the study of American government and politics, comparative government and politics, international relations, political theory, public law, and public administration. Students majoring in the program have traditionally pursued careers in law, business, teaching, journalism, and government. The study of Political Science is of value in that all persons need an understanding of the political system which governs their lives. More than minimal knowledge of political systems, however, is required of those who would be employed by them. The law and public administration, for example, are creatures of government and politics. The thirty-hour course requirement in the major program permits students the flexibility to obtain a second major or a minor in other areas of personal and professional interest.

Students majoring in Political Science and Legal Assistant Studies (see below) are able to gain work experience related to their major through the VSU Co-op Program. Such experience may prove valuable in terms of career exploration, acquisition of new skills, and career development. Students seeking more information should contact their academic advisors or the Office of Cooperative Education, 229-333-7172.

## THE MAJOR IN LEGAL ASSISTANT STUDIES

The major in Legal Assistant Studies has the central objective of training persons who are anticipating a career in support of the legal profession. The formal coursework will lead to an understanding of the fundamental constitutional context of the American legal system. The student will also have the flexibility of choosing from several specific substantive legal subject matters. The completion of the other requirements of the B.A. degree will ensure the broad education expected of the liberal arts. The requirement of a formal minor will ensure additional exposure to a related field. The capstone experience for the major is an internship which will allow the student to explore the practical aspects of a career in the legal profession. Successful completion of the degree will ensure that the student is qualified to take the national certification test for legal assistants.

## HONORS TRACK FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJORS

The Honors Track in Political Science allows students to add a unique and more challenging dimension to their degree. Students must have a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) to enter the Honors Track. They must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and a 3.0 in their Honors courses.

Within the major in Political Science, Honors Track students must complete three 4000-level courses from among the following options, with a grade of "B" or higher:

- POLS 4820H** Honors Special Topics in U.S. Government and Politics
- POLS 4830H** Honors Special Topics in Comparative Politics
- POLS 4840H** Honors Special Topics in International Politics
- POLS 4850H** Honors Special Topics in Political Theory
- POLS 4860H** Honors Special Topics in Public Administration

Honors Track students are also required to present their work in a suitable forum, such as the Student Brown Bag series, the VSU Symposium on Undergraduate Research, or an academic conference. An Honors Thesis is also an option, provided there is a departmental faculty member with sufficient expertise in the thesis area and willing to serve as thesis director. Credit for the Honors Thesis will be earned by the student's taking POLS 4700H. The Honors Thesis must comply with Honors Program guidelines. Students completing the Honors Track in Political Science major will have this option noted on their transcript.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

1. Political science majors will possess the requisite knowledge of the American political system, including an understanding of the structure and process of the federal, state, and local governments, enabling them to become informed and responsible citizens.
2. Political science majors will demonstrate knowledge of technological advances and scientific inquiry, enabling them to identify and utilize appropriate tools, such as spreadsheets, database systems, or statistical packages, in the pursuit of resolving issues or resolving questions.
3. Political science majors will demonstrate through both oral and written work that they are skilled in inquiry, logical reasoning, and critical analysis, thereby enabling them to make arguments, synthesize facts and information, and present logical arguments leading to creative solutions to problems.
4. Political science majors will recognize, demonstrate knowledge of, and analyze issues in political behavior as it relates to value systems and ethics.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

1. Mastery of the material in all required and elective courses in the political science major. As each level serves as a foundation for higher levels, mastery of the core material is requisite to mastery of the major. Outcome #1 is met by successful completion of these courses.
2. Completion of the capstone experience certifies that a major has met outcomes #2, #3, and #4.
3. Information from published surveys of students' opinions and alumni perceptions of VSU programs and services, as well as information from alumni surveys conducted by the Department of Political Science.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
PHIL 2020 .....	3 hours
POLS 2101, POLS 2401 .....	6 hours
Foreign Language and Culture .....	9 hours
If a student has taken any of the above courses to meet requirements in other areas of the Core Curriculum, credit hours must be taken from the following list of courses:	
PHIL 2010, all other Area E Courses .....	0-9 hours
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
<b>Courses required for the Major<sup>1</sup></b> .....	<b>39 hours</b>
POLS 3100, POLS 4100, ENGL 3030 .....	9 hours
PHIL 3130 or PHIL 4120 or PHIL 4220 .....	3 hours
Political Science courses (12 hours must be in one Concentration Area) ..	27 hours
American Government: POLS 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3270, 3280, 3290, 4210, 4270, 4820, 4900	
Comparative Politics: POLS 3300, 4300, 4310, 4330, 4350, 4370, 4390, 4450, 4700, 4830	
International Relations: POLS 3400, 4300, 4301, 4400, 4410, 4420, 4430, 4440, 4700, 4840, 4901	
Public Law: POLS 3240, 4200, 4202, 4203, 4220, 4240, 4250, 4260, 4700	
Political Theory: POLS 3500, 3510, 3520, 3530, 4700, 4850	
Public Administration: POLS 3600, 3610, 4430, 4450, 4600, 4610, 4620, 4640, 4650, 4670, 4700, 4860	
<b>Minor and/or Elective Courses</b> .....	<b>21 hours</b>
Must include at least 6 hours of courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside of political science.	
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

<sup>1</sup>The grade in each POLS course taken for the major must be a “C” or better.

# BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN LEGAL ASSISTANT STUDIES

Examples of the outcomes for the B.A. degree with a major in Legal Assistant Studies include the following:

## SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

1. To prepare students to conduct legal research and apply it in a form and manner that will enable them to support the legal system.
2. To comprehend and make informed decisions regarding the ethical dilemmas of their profession, in order to understand the cultural values they must serve in the performance of their responsibilities.
3. To understand the American legal system in the manner necessary to enable them to function within that system and support its mission of service to society.

## EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS

The American Bar Association guidelines establish that evaluation of the program should include efforts to measure the extent to which students are able to secure suitable positions of employment; a determination of how effectively students perform those duties related to their program of instruction; and the responses of students completing the program concerning the effectiveness of their training and its relevance to the duties actually performed.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. WITH A MAJOR IN LEGAL ASSISTANT STUDIES

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F (Courses appropriate to the major)</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
LEAS 1100, CRJU 1100, PHIL 2020 .....	9 hours
Foreign Language and Culture .....	9 hours
COMM 1100 .....	0-3 hours
If a language course or PHIL 2020 is taken to meet an Area C requirement, then COMM 1100 must be taken to meet the Area F requirement of 18 hours.	
<b>Senior College Curriculum</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
LEAS 3200, LEAS 3201, LEAS 4800, LEAS 4900 .....	12 hours
LEAS courses numbered 3000 or above .....	15 hours
ACED 2400, ENGL 3030 .....	6 hours
Area of Concentration and/or Elective Courses .....	27 hours
Must include 12 hours of courses numbered 3000 or above, with 9 hours in a related field outside of Legal Assistant Studies.	
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

## MINORS

<b>The Minor in Political Science</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
Core Curriculum Area F .....	0-6 hours
POLS 2101, POLS 2401 .....	6 hours
Senior College Curriculum 3000-level and 4000-level courses in Political Science .....	12-18 hours
At least six hours must be in 4000-level courses	
<b>Minor in Public Administration</b> .....	<b>15 hours</b>
POLS 3600 .....	3 hours
Twelve hours from the following .....	12 hours
POLS 3610, POLS 4220, POLS 4600, POLS 4610, POLS 4620,	
POLS 4630, POLS 4640, POLS 4650, POLS 4660, POLS 4670, POLS 4806	
<b>Minor in Legal Assistant Studies</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
LEAS 1100, LEAS 3200, LEAS 4800 .....	9 hours
LEAS courses numbered 3000 or above .....	9 hours
LEAS 3201, LEAS 3210, LEAS 3220, LEAS 3230, LEAS 3250, LEAS 4200,	
LEAS 4210, LEAS 4220, LEAS 4230, LEAS 4240, LEAS 4250, LEAS 4251, LEAS 4260	

# Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice

*Dr. Darrell Ross, Head*

*Room 1120, University Center*

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice offers programs that lead to either the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in sociology and anthropology or the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in criminal justice. The Applied and Clinical Sociology Program is accredited by the Commission on Applied and Clinical Sociology. Minors are offered in sociology, anthropology, and Native American Studies. The department also offers, at the graduate level, the Master of Science degree with a major in sociology and the Master of Science degree with a major in criminal justice.

The mission of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice includes 1) helping students gain an understanding of the structures and processes through which individuals participate in society, 2) supporting students in developing an understanding of human behavior, 3) preparing students for a wide range of careers in sociology, anthropology, human resources, human services, and criminal justice systems, and 4) working with students who wish to pursue graduate work in the social sciences. The department seeks to fulfill its mission by offering courses both for students majoring or minoring in its programs as well as by supporting the core curriculum of the University and students from other programs who need courses from the department. In addition, the department seeks to emphasize the importance of critical thinking skills, an appreciation of diverse cultural perspectives and lifestyles, and the application of knowledge to the development of policy and the solution of social problems.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

### **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

Students will:

1. Analyze theories, methods, and core concepts of the discipline(s) they elect to study in the department.
2. Apply theory and discipline-based perspectives to a variety of practice settings and real world problems.
3. Develop oral and written skills required to communicate effectively with people and organizations representing diverse social and cultural backgrounds.
4. Develop a professional identity as a sociologist or anthropologist.

### **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

The Sociology and Anthropology major's educational outcomes will be assessed using multiple strategies. Examples of these include the following:

1. Sociology and Anthropology faculty will meet periodically to plan and assess achievement of student and program outcomes.
2. The Senior Capstone experience will provide a basis for assessing written and oral presentation skills.
3. A senior survey or exit interview will be conducted for all graduates.
4. When available, university-wide data pertaining to the major or its graduates will be used for program assessment and improvement.



**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B. A. DEGREE WITH A  
MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum)</b> .....	<b>42 hours</b>
<b>Core Curriculum Area F</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
ANTH 1102 .....	3 hours
SOCI 1101, SOCI 1160 .....	6 hours
Foreign Language and Culture .....	9 hours
If a student has taken any of the above courses to meet requirements in other areas of the Core Curriculum, credit hours must be taken from the following list of courses: CS 1000, ECON 1500, GEOG 1101 or GEOG 1102, MATH 2620, PHIL 2010, PSYC 1101	
<b>Senior College Curriculum.</b> .....	<b>60 hours</b>
Courses Required for the Major.....	37 hours
SOCI 3000 .....	4 hours
Foundation Areas (take one from each area) .....	15 hours
A. Theory	
ANTH 3500 or SOCI 3500	
B. Research Methods	
ANTH 3510 or SOCI 3510	
C. Self, Society, and Culture	
ANTH 3020, ANTH 3040, SOCI 3090, SOCI 3350, or SOCI 3710	
D. Social Inequalities	
ANTH 3090, ANTH 4040, SOCI 3060, SOCI 3800, SOCI 4550, or SOCI 4680	
E. Social Institutions	
ANTH 3070, ANTH 3910, SOCI 3150, SOCI 3650,	
SOCI 3750, SOCI 4100, or SOCI 4200	
<b>Concentrations (choose A or B, below)</b> .....	<b>18 hours</b>
<b>A. Anthropology Concentration</b>	
ANTH 3120 or ANTH 3140 .....	3 hours
ANTH 3040 and ANTH 3170 .....	6 hours
ANTH 3010 or CRJU 4110.....	3 hours
Electives from below.....	6 hours
ANTH 3010, ANTH 3020, ANTH 3030, ANTH 3070, ANTH 3090, ANTH 3130,	
ANTH 3160, ANTH 3910, ANTH 4040, ANTH 4540, ANTH 4900, CRJU 4110,	
SOCI 4990	
<b>B. Applied and Clinical Sociology Concentration</b>	
SOCI 3190, SOCI 3200 .....	6 hours
SOCI 4800 or SOCI 4810 .....	6 hours
(either course can be taken twice with different topics)	
SOCI 4540.....	3 hours
SOCI 4990.....	3 hours
<b>General Electives.</b> .....	<b>23 hours</b>
At least 6 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above must be taken in a single discipline outside the major.	

**Additional Department Requirement:**

The grade in each SOCI or ANTH course taken for the major must be a “C” or better.

**Total hours required for the degree. .... 120 semester hours**

# **BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

## **SELECTED EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES**

The major program in Criminal Justice seeks to prepare students for entry level positions in the criminal justice system at all levels of the system, as well as for related positions in the private sector. Educational outcomes will include the following:

1. To develop in students an understanding and appreciation of the structure and function of the criminal justice system as it applies to adults and juveniles; federal, state, and local criminal laws and procedures; and the relationship of these to the Constitution of the United States.
2. To understand the criminal justice systems of other countries in the world.
3. To apply scientific research techniques and related statistical techniques in the study of crime.
4. To develop an understanding of various theories in criminology, their strengths and weaknesses, and their role in gaining an understanding of crime.

## **EXAMPLES OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS**

The assessment of educational outcomes is a continuing process throughout the entire undergraduate program. Means of assessment will include the following:

1. The on-going evaluation of student examinations, research projects, the Senior Seminar project, and reports of other scholarly and internship work.
2. Exit questionnaires to be administered to each student completing work for the major.
3. Surveys of graduates of the program to assess the relevancy of the program to their current work and their suggestions for refinements.
4. The use of university or external data that may become available to assess the quality of the program and the performance of its graduates.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**Core Curriculum Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum).....42 hours**

Criminal Justice majors are advised to take the first 3 hours of the 9-hour foreign language requirement in Area C.

**Core Curriculum Area F. .... 18 hours**

CRJU 1100, CRJU 2100, CRJU 2200, CRJU 2400 ..... 12 hours

Foreign Language and Culture (additional hours) ..... 6 hours

If a student has taken any of the above courses to meet requirements in other areas of the core curriculum, credit must be taken from the following courses:  
SOCI 1101, SOCI 1160, ANTH 1102, CS 1000, or any Area E course.

**Senior College Curriculum. ....60 hours**

Upper-level courses in Criminal Justice..... 21 hours

CRJU 3300, CRJU 3310, CRJU 3401, CRJU 3402,  
CRJU 3600, CRJU 3700, CRJU 4800

Upper-level Criminal Justice Electives..... 18 hours

Any CRJU course number 4000 or above (except 4800) may be used as an elective.

CRJU 4700, CRJU 4900, and CRJU 4910 may each be taken for a maximum of 6 hours.

Open Electives. .... 21 hours

CRJU 4910 Criminal Justice Internship may be taken as an open elective for 3 to 6 hours of credit. At least 6 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above must be taken in a single discipline outside the major.

**Additional Departmental Requirement:**

The grade earned in all Area F courses, required foreign language courses taken for the major, and each CRJU course taken for the major must be a “C” or better.

**Total hours required for the degree. .... 120 semester hours**

**MINORS**

**Minor in Anthropology. .... 15-18 hours**

ANTH 1102 or ANTH 1102H, if not taken in Area E or F. .... 0-3 hours

ANTH 3020 and ANTH 3040. .... 6 hours

ANTH 3030 or ANTH 3120 ..... 3 hours

Students must take two of the following courses: ..... 6 hours

ANTH 3010, ANTH 3030, ANTH 3070, ANTH 3120, ANTH 3130,  
ANTH 3160, ANTH 3910, ANTH 4040, ANTH 4900

Note: The grade earned in each course in the minor must be a “C” or better.

**Minor in Sociology. .... 15-18 hours**

SOCI 1101, SOCI 1101H, or SOCI 1160 if not taken in Area E or F ..... 0-3 hours

Any 15 hours of upper division sociology courses

in consultation with a sociology advisor. .... 15 hours

Note: The grade earned in each course in the minor must be a “C” or better.