



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES FALL 2022

Academic Affairs Reorganizations

- The Departments of History and of Philosophy and Religious Studies have organizationally combined into one department with Dr. Jay Rickman as the department head.

NEW AND UPDATED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS/CURRICULUM

- New Dual Degree Program:
 - DNP/MBA (Doctor of Nursing Practice with a Master's in Business Administration)
- New Degree Names:
 - Ed.D. with a Major in Adult Learning and Development replaces Ed.D. with a Major in Adult and Career Education
- New Tracks in Existing Degree Programs:
 - Environmental Sustainability in the BS in Environmental Geosciences
 - Applied Physics in the BS in Physics
 - Medical Physics in the BS in Physics
 - Business Option in the BS in Chemistry
 - Teaching Option in the BS in Chemistry
 - Environmental Option in the BS in Chemistry
 - Pre-Dental Option in the BS in Chemistry
 - Pre-Medical Option in the BS in Chemistry
 - Pre-Optometry to the BS in Chemistry
- New Minors/Certificates:
 - Certificate in Africana Studies
 - Certificate in Entrepreneurship
- Terminated Majors
 - BAS with a Major in Human Capital Performance
 - BS with a Major in Athletic Training
 - MAT with a Major in Agricultural Education
- Deactivated Minors:
 - Supply Chain Management
- New Course Prefixes:
 - Courses in the Industrial-Organizational Psychology graduate program are now IOPY rather than PSYC
 - Similarly, courses in the Counselor Education graduate program are now COUN rather than PSYC
 - CPL (Credit for Prior Learning) has replaced PLA (Prior Learning Assessment)
- New Course Numbers:
 - To conform to the new common number at the USG level, BIOL 2651 and 2652 (Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II) are now BIOL 2251K and 2252K
 - To conform to the new common number at the USG level, BIOL 2900 (Microbiology in Health and Disease) is now BIOL 2260K



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NEW SERVICES AVAILABLE

- **Civitas** Inspire is a new student impact platform that faculty can access through MyVSU (use the "View All" under Portals to find the link). This portal will allow faculty to post course alerts for students (formerly done through the Student Success Portal). Training opportunities are already underway; check the Employee Training Database at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/employee-development/> for available sessions (listed as "Civitas Inspire: Faculty Intro". For questions or further information, email civitas@valdosta.edu.
- **SLATE** replaces Radius as the admissions CRM (Customer Relationship Management) that interested applicants can access through the "Apply Now" button on the homepage. It is a fully online application process (outside of submitting official transcripts.)

Pilot Projects

- **First-Year Seminar Experience (FYSE): FYSE 1101, FYSE 1102, and Faculty Learning Communities:** In Fall 2022 the FYSE 1101 predesigned course pilot will continue. As a reminder, this course is designed to assist first-year students in acquiring and/or enhancing applicable skills related to their academic and co-curricular goals. Students are guided through the application of those skills using a variety of activities including reflection activities and the completion of a signature assignment. In addition, FYSE 1102 will be piloted. This course is designed to add additional opportunities for students to apply skills and engage in reflection. In the fall the course will be offered in a predesigned 3 credit format with the option of using a flexible credit hour format in subsequent semesters. The CELT - FYSE Course Design & Instruction Learning Community will also be offered in the fall to guide participants in the exploration of the design and instruction topics related to First-Year Seminar Experience (FYSE) courses. You can find additional information about the FYSE learning community at: <https://www.valdosta.edu/celt/faculty-learning-communities.php#fyse>

Revised or Updated Policies and Procedures

- **Updates to required syllabus statements for the Non-Discrimination and Title IX Policy and the Accommodations Statement** are available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/syllabi.php> under #9. Please be sure to update these policies on your syllabus. Remember that faculty must work with the Access Office to provide reasonable accommodations as defined by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additionally, as part of Title IX, students may also request accommodations for pregnancy-related issues (see <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/title-ix/pregnant-and-parenting-students.php>).
- **Additional Faculty Resources for Preparing Syllabi** are also now available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/syllabi.php>. There are some new resources from the College Transition Collaborative such as how to establish a growth mindset, creating student-centered course policies, and ensuring classroom identity safety.



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- **VSU's New Strategic Plan 2027** is now available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/strategicplan/>. It replaces VSU's 2017-2022 Strategic Plan; see all the updates from that plan at (<https://www.valdosta.edu/strategicplan/2022/goals.php>).
- **Academic Articulation Agreement Workflow**- Director of Adult & Military Programs serves as the point of contact for questions related to articulation development, proper routing, and repository of articulations (amp@valdosta.edu).
- **Academic Probation and Suspension for Undergraduates Policy**: In Spring 2022, the Faculty Senate approved a change to this policy, removing the following: "Should another institution permit a student on suspension from Valdosta State University to enroll, work taken at that institution during any period of suspension shall not be counted as degree credit at Valdosta State University unless prior approval was obtained by from the academic dean of the student's major at Valdosta State University." The updated policy is available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/advising/academic-probation-and-suspension.php>.
- **New Process for Syllabi Upload**: During the summer, VSU successfully piloted a new process for uploading syllabi each semester to the Success Portal. Directions for the new process are available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/sacs/documents/course-syllabi-upload.pdf>.
- **New Course Proposals**: Traditionally, new course proposal forms have been accompanied by a short sample syllabus. While this syllabus is still recommended for review at the department and college levels, syllabi will no longer be included in the packets for Graduate Executive Committee or Academic Committee.

Updated Resources

- The updated **Faculty Handbook**, approved by the Faculty Senate March 24, 2022, is now posted at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/faculty-handbook/>.
- The 2022-23 Academic Catalog is live and posted at <http://catalog.valdosta.edu/>
- An updated Final Grade Appeal Process and Form is now available through the Registrar's Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/documents/grade-appeal-request-form.pdf>). This form (dated 6/29/2022) replaces the form dated (5/6/20), and it includes a couple of small revisions: (1) elimination of "other" as a rationale for a grade appeal; (2) a slight shortening of the timeline to allow for a more expeditious process. Please be sure that students have the updated form for use in any grade appeals from Summer 2022 moving forward.

Announcements and Information

- **Quality Enhancement Plan**. We conducted a successful 2021-22 pilot of our new QEP, Trailblazing: Shaping the Undergraduate Experience through Experiential Learning, which focuses on experiential learning for students. Follow regular updates of activities on social media @vsutrailblazers (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). Congratulations to the 2022-23 Experiential Learning Faculty Ambassadors (<https://qep.valdosta.edu/qep-team/>).
- **The General Education at VSU meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022, 2p-3:30p in the Converse Auditorium (1204)**. The meeting will include a discussion of the "General Education Conversations" findings regarding what general education is at VSU, updates related



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to various interconnected VSU and USG initiatives, and an overview of what's next for General Education at VSU. The General Education meeting is open to all VSU faculty, staff, and students. Remember everyone at VSU has ownership of general education. Thus, we invite you to be actively engaged in shaping what general education looks like at VSU. We look forward to seeing you at the General Education at VSU meeting. During the 2022-2023 academic year the VSU community will have the opportunity to engage in several general education projects:

- Branding general education at VSU
- Designing a "common experience"
- FYSE 1101 and FYSE 1102 course pilots
- FYSE learning communities
- General education assessment

Academic Affairs

- **CELT:**
 - Faculty are encouraged to participate in a series of *CELT-eLearning workshops, webinars, and courses during VSU's Opening Weeks* (Aug. 1-12). Sample topics include tips for effective teaching the first day of a face-to-face class, gradebook set-up in BlazeVIEW, online learning theories, and annual goal-setting for faculty careers. All faculty can register now in VSU's employee training portal.
 - CELT-eLearning designed and piloted a new *Online Teaching Certificate* with VSU faculty who attended a summer retreat and now the certificate has launched for all faculty to register in VSU's employee training portal. The Online Teaching Certificate requires 24 total course hours. Faculty who enroll have two years to complete the required coursework. For more information, see: <https://www.valdosta.edu/celt/certificates.php>
 - Throughout the fall, CELT is offering a number of *Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs)* about cutting-edge pedagogical issues in higher education (e.g., care-based pedagogy, first-year seminar course design, teaching diversity) and for particular cohorts (e.g., new faculty, midcareer/senior faculty). For more information, including how to participate in scheduling polls to determine the specific meeting dates/times for the FLCs that fit best into faculty schedules, see: <https://www.valdosta.edu/celt/faculty-learning-communities.php>
 - CELT is re-launching Open Classroom Days, which were successful before the pandemic. Mark your calendars that Open Classroom Days will take place September 19-30 before midterm of this fall semester. Open Classroom Days are a unique opportunity for faculty to observe and learn from their colleagues as they teach across the university. Forthcoming announcements about sign-up and the schedule will come from CELT.
- **eLearning:**
 - The Center for eLearning team supported the launch of the Online College for Career Advancement by developing a student enrollment workshop course, a faculty workshop course, and 102 program courses as follows:
 - Computer Information Systems – 8 courses
 - Criminal Justice – 26 courses
 - Elementary Education – 17 courses



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Interdisciplinary Studies – 2 courses
General Business – 15 courses
Organizational Leadership – 21 courses
Psychology – 13 courses

- Elearning staff developed a new BlazeVIEW Student Tutorial course to be launched Fall semester. All students will be enrolled in the tutorial and will have access to videos and instructional guides for using BlazeVIEW and integrated educational tools, e.g., Kaltura, Collaborate Ultra, Respondus, Turnitin, etc. In addition, eLearning will develop a customized version of the BlazeVIEW tutorial for FYSE students.
- **Faculty Success Council Virtual Suggestion Box:** This virtual suggestion box, designed to solicit strategies that will enhance faculty professional success is now available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/faculty-success-council/suggestions.php>. Suggestions and comments will be forwarded to the Faculty Success Council for review.
- **Resource Reminder:** The Handbook for Department Heads and Directors is available online at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/department-heads-handbook.php>
- **Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) for 2022-23:** These programs (Cohort 7) are scheduled for review this year: BS and BA Psychology; BA in Philosophy and Religious Studies; BS Computer information Systems; BS Computer Science; BS Office Administration and Technology; BSED Health and Physical Education; BSED Middle Grades Education; BSED Workforce Education and Development; MAT Middle Grades Education; MED Middle Grades Education: Math and Science; MAT Secondary Education; MED Adult and Career Education; MED Curriculum and Instruction in Accomplished Teaching; MED Educational Leadership (Public School Track and Higher Education Track); MED and MAT Health and Physical Education; MLIS Library and Information Science; MS Psychology (Industrial/Organizational Track); EDS Coaching Pedagogy in Physical Education; EDS Teacher Leadership; and EDS Educational Leadership. Information available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/university-assessment-committee/program-review.php>
- **GA Handbook:** The new GA allocation model for GAs and GA supervisors is available at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/documents/grad-asst-handbook-2.pdf>
- **Institutional Effectiveness.** Two live sessions for program coordinators on Preparing the Institutional Effectiveness Plan and Report (IEP/IER) will be offered this fall. Join either session at the time of the event. No registration required:
 - **August 29, 2022, 2:00-3:00pm**, Location: Collaborate Ultra, <https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/328b3956a92149a4b83e35c1b2b8e2c2> and
 - **September 8, 2022, 2:00-3:00pm**, Location: Collaborate Ultra, , <https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/11adddaa495e40a18e1272ef6eeb192f>

Finance and Administration

- **Classified Staff Evaluations** will be conducted in One USG not in PeopleAdmin for the 2022 calendar year.



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- **Payroll, Procurement and Budget information**, including Budget Manager access to FY23 Budget data, can be located on the websites listed below:
<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/payroll/>
<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/>
<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/budget-services/>

Important Dates Fall 2022

August 15, 2022:	Fall 2022 first class day for regular term classes and Short Session I
August 17-September 2, 2022:	Upload course syllabi into Success Portal (directions at https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/sacs/documents/course-syllabi-upload.pdf).
August 18, 2022:	Fall Registration ends and Fee Payment Deadline (11:59 pm) Graduate Executive Committee meets (September 15, October 20, November 17) New Graduate Student Kickoff (virtual: Click here to join the meeting) 6-7:30pm
August 19, 2022	New Graduate Student Kickoff 3-5pm (University Center)
August 22-26, 2022:	Attendance Verification for VSU courses that began on August 15. All attendance verifications are due by 9 am on August 26
August 24, 2022:	Faculty submit P and T dossiers to departmental promotion and tenure committees (http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/documents/tenure-promotion-timeline.pdf)
August 25, 2022:	The Happening https://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-life/special-events/the-happening/
September 5, 2022:	Labor Day Holiday ; university closed; no classes meet
September 6-8, 2022	Short Session I Midterm Grades Due (by 9 am Sept. 8)
September 9-10, 2022	Family Weekend
September 12, 2022:	Academic Committee meets (October 3, November 14). Materials due to Registrar's Office one week before meeting. To appear in the 2023-2024 catalog, all curriculum changes should be through Academic Committee by the February 2023 meeting. https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/academic-committee.php
September 14, 2022:	Departmental P and T Committees submit report to Department Heads
September 21-October 5, 2022:	Banner open for faculty to post Midterm grades for full-term courses. Midterm grades are due by 5 pm on October 5.
September 30, 2022:	IERs and IEPs due to University Assessment Committee. Note: Administrative IERs/IEPs are also due Sept. 30. (https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/university-assessment-committee/program-review.php)
October 3, 2022:	Textbook Ordering Deadline for Spring and Summer Classes



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	https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/textbooks-and-materials.php
October 5, 2022:	Department Heads provide P and T recommendations to College P and T Committees
October 6, 2022:	Midterm grades available and midterm for full-term classes Short Session I Last Class Day
October 6-14, 2022:	Short Session I Grade Entry (grades not available to students)
October 10-11, 2022	Fall Break (no classes meet; the university is open)
October 13, 2022:	Last date for students to withdraw from full-term classes
October 12, 2022:	Short Session II First Class Day (Registration ends October 14, at 11:59 pm)
October 15, 2022	Homecoming
October 17-20, 2022:	Short Session II Attendance Verification (Due Oct. 20 by 9 am)
October 26, 2022:	College P and T Committees provide recommendations to Dean
October 31, 2022:	Registration opens (by classification) for Spring and Summer 2023 classes
November 1-3, 2022:	Short Session II Midterm Grades Due (Due Nov. 3 at 9 am)
November 5, 2022	Open House (February 4, 2023, April 1, 2023)
November 4, 2022:	Short Session II Midterm and Withdrawal Deadline
November 24-25, 2022:	Thanksgiving Holiday; (no classes meet; university closed)
November 28, 2022:	Deans forward P and T recommendations to Academic Affairs
December 5, 2022	Last Class Day for full-term classes and Short Session II
December 6-9, 2022:	Final Exams , administered by this schedule: https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/registrar/final-exam-schedules.php
December 9, 2022	Graduate School Commencement Ceremony
December 10, 2022:	Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony
December 12, 2022:	Final grades must be posted in BANNER by 9 am
December 14, 2022:	P and T dossiers uploaded for university committee
December 19, 2022-	
January 2, 2023:	University closed
January 3, 2023:	University opens for Spring 2023
January 9, 2023:	Spring 2023 first class day

New Faculty and Administrators

- VSU welcomes new full-time faculty members and administrators to campus; see the complete list at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/welcome-new-faculty.php>
- Dr. David Slykhuis, Dean of the Dewar College of Education and Human Services and Professor of Teacher Education
- Ms. Monica Meler, Department Head of Art and Design
- Dr. A. J. Ramirez, Coordinator of Women's and Gender Studies
- Dr. Colin Walker, Coordinator for the Quality Enhancement Plan
- Dr. Paul Vincent, Department Head of Physics, Astronomy, Geosciences, and Engineering Technology
- Dr. Ray Elson, Associate Dean of the Langdale College of Business Administration



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- Dr. Steve Downey, Department Head of Leadership, Technology, & Workforce Development and Interim Department Head of Library and Information Science
- Dr. Lenese Colson, Interim Program Director of Library and Information Science