



## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Dr. Ana 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 Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Spanish. Students may elect to follow either the Language and Culture Track or the Foreign Language Education Track in either degree program. Additionally, the department offers minors in French, German, and Spanish, and courses that satisfy the ESOL endorsement.

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 five world languages, 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.

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.

### Requirements for the B. A. degree with a major in French—Language and Culture Track

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

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

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

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

Upper-Level Courses in French ..... 34 hours

FREN 3110, FREN 3120 ..... 6 hours

FREN 3301 or FREN 3302 ..... 3 hours

FREN 3320, FREN 3400 ..... 6 hours

FREN 3621 or FREN 3622 ..... 3 hours

FREN 4110, FREN 4210 ..... 6 hours

FREN 4400, FREN 4990 ..... 6 hours

FREN 4980 ..... 1 hour

Electives: 3000/4000-level course ..... 3 hours

Supporting Courses ..... 3-15 hours

LING4000 ..... 3 hours

2nd Foreign Language & Culture

may taken in Areas C and F) ..... 3-12 hours

Electives ..... 11-23 hours

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

## **French—Foreign Language Education Track**

The Foreign Language Education Track (French) in the Department of Modern and Classical language 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 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**

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

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

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.**

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

Upper-Level Courses in French ..... 34 hours

FREN 2010, FREN 3110, FREN 3120 ..... 9 hours

FREN 3301 or FREN 3302 ..... 3 hours

FREN 3320, FREN 3400 ..... 6 hours

FREN 3621 or FREN 3622 ..... 3 hours

FREN 4110, FREN 4210 ..... 6 hours

FREN 4400, FREN 4980 ..... 6 hours

FREN 4980 ..... 1 hour

Supporting course: LING 4000 ..... 3 hours

Upper-Level Courses in Education .....	22 hours
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 .....	0-3 hours

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

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.

#### **Outcomes Assessment**

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.

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:

### Examples of Outcomes Assessments

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.

## 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.

### Requirements for the B. A. degree with a major in Spanish—Language and Culture Track

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

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

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>
Upper-Level Courses in Spanish .....	36 hours
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
Supporting Courses .....	3-15 hours
LING4000 .....	3 hours
2nd Foreign Language and Culture (3-12 hours) may be taken in Areas C and F) .....	0-12 hours
Electives .....	9-21 hours
<b>Total hours required for the degree</b> .....	<b>120 semester hours</b>

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:

#### **Examples of Outcome Assessments**

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.

## Spanish—Foreign Language Education Track

The Foreign Language Education Track (Spanish) in the Department of Modern and Classical language 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 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.

### Requirements for the B. A. degree with a major in Spanish—Foreign Language Education Track

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

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

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.**

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

Upper-Level Courses in Spanish ..... 35 hours

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

Supporting Course: LING 4000 ..... 3 hours

Upper-Level Courses in Education .....	22 hours
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 .....	0-3 hours

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

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.

### **Outcomes Assessment**

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.



## 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 semester hours**

### **Minor in French ..... Total Hours 18**

Core Curriculum Courses .....	0-6 hours
FREN 2001, FREN 2002 .....	0-6 hours
Senior-College Courses .....	12-18 hours
FREN 3301 and/or FREN 3302 .....	3-6 hours
FREN 3400 .....	3 hours
FREN 3110 or FREN 3120 .....	3 hours
Electives: Courses in French	
numbered above 3000 .....	0-9 hours
FREN 4970 Study Abroad Practicum .....	0-1 hour

### **Minor in German ..... Total Hours 18**

Core Curriculum Courses .....	0-6 hours
GRMN 2001, GRMN 2002 .....	0-6 hours
Senior-College Courses .....	12-18 hours
GRMN 3301 and GRMN 4410 .....	6 hours
GRMN 3551 or GRMN 3552 .....	3 hours
Electives: Courses in German	
numbered above 3000 .....	3-9 hours

### **Minor in Spanish ..... Total Hours 18**

SPAN 2002 .....	0-3 hours
Other Spanish Courses .....	15-18 hours
SPAN 2010, SPAN 3010 .....	6 hours
SPAN 3150 or SPAN 3160 .....	3 hours
SPAN 4010 .....	3 hours
Spanish courses numbered 3000 & above ....	3-6 hours



**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Dr. Fred Downing, Head  
109 Ashley Hall

The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies offers two programs of study that lead to a B. A. 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.

**B.A. 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.

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:

### **Examples of Outcome Assessments (Philosophy Track and Religious Studies Track)**

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**

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

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

PHIL 2010 and REL 2020 ..... 6 hours

Foreign Language and Culture sequence ..... 9 hours

Humanities, Arts, Natural Science, Social  
Science, or Computer Science elective

(from 1000-2000 level only) ..... 3 hours

**Senior College Curriculum (Philosophy Track) ..... 60 hours**

(must include at least 39 hours of course work numbered 3000 or above)

Courses Required for Philosophy .....	24 hours
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, 3170, 3180, 3190, 3210, 4120, 4220 .....	3 hours
Philosophy, Society, and Culture–PHIL 3110, 3300, 3400, 3430, 3530, 3540, 3510, 3620, 3630, 3650, 3700, 3710, 3800, 3850 .....	3 hours
Epistemology, Metaphysics, and Scientific Reasoning–PHIL 3200, 3220, 3230 .....	3 hours
Senior-level Curriculum .....	3 hours
PHIL 4800, 4810, 4900, or 4910	
Senior Capstone PHIL 4920 .....	3 hours
Upper Division REL courses .....	6 hours
Minor and/or Elective Courses .....	30 hours

**or**

**Senior College Curriculum (Religious Studies Track) ..... 60 hrs**

(must include at least 39 hours of coursework numbered 3000 or above)

Courses required for Religious Studies .....	24 hours
Religious Traditions chosen from .....	6 hours
REL 3510, 3520, 3610, 3700, 3710	
History of Religions and Sacred Texts from .....	6 hours
REL 3220, 3300, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, 3501, 3502, 3503, 3504, 3600, 3630, 3640	
Religion, Ethics, and Society chosen from .....	3 hours
REL 3200, 3210, 3270, 3400, 3530, REL 3540, 3620, 3650, 3800	
Senior Capstone Course REL 4920 .....	3 hours
Upper Division REL electives (3000-, 4000-level) ....	6 hours
Upper Division PHIL Courses (3000-, 4000-level) .....	6 hours
Minor and/or Elective Courses .....	30 hours

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

**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 hrs  
Choice of the following 3000/4000-level courses ..... 12-15 hrs

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 B. S. degree with a major in physics, a B. S. degree with a major in astronomy, and a B. S. degree with a major in environmental geosciences. The Engineering Dual Degree Program with the Georgia Institute of Technology enables a student to earn a B. S. degree from Valdosta State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from 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 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.

### Requirements for the Bachelor Of Science Degree With A Major In Astronomy

<b>Core Curriculum Areas A-E</b> (See VSU Core Curriculum) .....	<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 DII.	
<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>
Upper-Level Courses in Astronomy. ....	10 hours
ASTR 4101 .....	4 hours
ASTR 4400, ASTR 4410 .....	6 hours
Upper-Level Supporting Courses in Physics. ....	35 hours
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
Other Supporting Courses. ....	15 hours
CS 1340 .....	3 hours
Language Requirement	
(3 hours may be taken in Area C) .....	3-6 hours
Guided Elective .....	6-9 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>



Assessment of the education 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 education 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:

#### **Examples of Outcome Assessments**

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 student's perception of achievement of the major's education 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.

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

The program leading to the B. S. degree with a major in environmental geosciences is designed to prepare 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:

#### **Selected Educational Outcomes**

1. To provide a working knowledge of the basic research tools in physical and cultural geography, environmental research, and in 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.

**Requirements for the Bachelor Of Science Degree  
With A Major In Environmental Geosciences**

**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 D II.

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 D II and advised to take GEOG 1100 in Area E.

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

- MATH 2261 (1 hour left over from Area D) ..... 1 hour
- MATH 2620 ..... 3 hours
- BIOL 2010 or CHEM 1212, if not taken in Area D II ..... 0-4 hours
- CHEM 1211 & CHEM 1211L, if not taken in Area D II ..... 0-4 hours
- PHSC 1100 or PHYS 1111 ..... 3-4 hours
- GEOG 1112 or GEOL 1122 ..... 4 hours
- GEOG 1113 or GEOL 1121 ..... 4 hours
- GEOG 2010 or GEOL 2010 ..... 3 hours

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

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

- Required departmental courses ..... 21 hours
  - GEOG 3050, GEOG 3051, GEOG 3210, GEOG 3300,
  - GEOG 3410, GEOG 4860, GEOG 4861, and GEOG 4862
- GEOL Electives above 3000 ..... 9 hours
- Other Supporting Courses. .... 30 hours
  - Foreign Language ..... 6-9 hours  
(3 hours may be taken in Area C)
  - Geography Electives ..... 9 hours
    - GEOG 3020, GEOG 3052, GEOG 3053,
    - GEOG 3120, GEOG 3150, GEOG 3240,
    - GEOG 3320, GEOG 3330, GEOG 3710,
    - GEOG 3810, GEOG 3910, GEOG 3920,
    - GEOG 4700, GEOG 4710, GEOG 4900,
    - or GEOG 4990
  - Other Guided Electives ..... 8-15 hours
  - GEOL 1121 (if not taken in Area D ..... 0-4 hours

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

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

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

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

Required Departmental Courses ..... 26 hours

GEOG 3051, GEOL 3100,  
GEOL 3200 or GEOL 3220,  
GEOL 3300, GEOL 3410, GEOL 4110,  
GEOL 4860, GEOL 4861, and GEOL 4862

Supporting Geology Courses ..... 12 hours

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

GEOG Electives above 3000 ..... 6 hours

Other Supporting Courses. .... 16 hours

Foreign Language ..... 6-9 hours  
(3 hours may be taken in Area C)

PHYS 1112K ..... 4 hours

Guided Electives ..... 3-6 hours

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**

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:

**Examples of Outcome Assessments**

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 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 student's perception of achievement of the major's education 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.

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN PHYSICS

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:

### Selected Educational Outcomes

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.

### Requirements for the Bachelor Of Science Degree with a Major In Physics

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

Physics majors are required to take MATH 1113 in Area A and  
MATH 2261 in Area DII.

Physics majors are advised to take 3 hours of a Foreign Language in  
Area C.

They are advised to take PHYS 2211K, PHYS 2212K in Area DII.

#### Core Curriculum Area F. .... 18 hours

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 DII ..... 0-8 hours

Lab Sciences, if PHYS 2211K and/or 2212K

are taken in Area DII ..... 0 - 8 hours

#### Senior-College Curriculum. .... 60 hours

Upper-Level Courses in Physics. .... 39 hours

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

Other Supporting Courses .....	12-15 hours
MATH 2150, MATH 3340 .....	6 hours
Language Requirement .....	6-9 hours
(3 hours may be taken in Area C)	
Guided Electives .....	6-9 hours
*chosen from: MATH 3040, MATH 3600, MATH 4110,	
MATH 4081-4082, MATH 4150, MATH 4260,	
MATH 4300, MATH 4651, ASTR 3400, ASTR 3800,	
PHYS 4900, PHYS 4950	
*At least one course must be taken in MATH.	

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

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:

#### **Outcome Assessments**

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 student's perception of achievement of the major's education 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.

<b>Minor in Astronomy</b> .....	<b>15-18 hours</b>
<b>Area F Courses</b> .....	<b>1-4 hours</b>
PHYS 2211K, if not taken in Area D .....	0-4 hours
ASTR 2010, if PHYS 2211K is taken in Area D ..	0-1 hour
<b>Upper-Division Courses</b> .....	<b>14 hours</b>
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>
<b>Area F Courses</b> .....	<b>0-8 hours</b>
GEOG 1112, if not taken in Area D .....	0-4 hours
GEOG 1113, if not taken in Area D .....	0-4 hours
<b>Upper-Division Courses</b> .....	<b>9-15 hours</b>
At least 9 hours of GEOG courses at the	
3000-level or higher	
<b>Minor in Geology</b> .....	<b>15-17 hours</b>
<b>Area F Courses</b> .....	<b>0-8 hours</b>
GEOL 1121, if not taken in Area D .....	0-4 hours
GEOL 1122, if not taken in Area D .....	0-4 hours
<b>Upper-Division Courses</b> .....	<b>9-15 hours</b>
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>
<b>Area F Courses</b> .....	<b>1-9 hours</b>
PHYS 2700 .....	1 hour
PHYS 2211K-2212K, if not taken in Area D ...	0-8 hours
<b>Upper-Division Courses/ Electives</b> .....	<b>9-14 hours</b>
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 Student Brown Bag series, the College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Colloquium, 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 Political Science major will have this option noted on their transcript.

### **A Second Degree for Students Receiving a Bachelor of Science in Education Degree with a major in Secondary Education**

Students receiving a Bachelor of Science in Education in the teaching field of Political Science also may receive a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science by completing a limited number of additional courses. Students interested in being graduated with both a Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science should consult the department head concerning the additional courses needed to meet the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree and the procedures to follow in applying for a second degree.

### **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.

**Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Political Science**

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

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

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

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

Courses required for the Major ..... 39 hours

POLS 3100, POLS 4100, ENGL 3030 ..... 9 hours

PHIL 3130 or PHIL 4120 or PHIL 4220 ..... 3 hours

Political Science courses ..... 27 hours

(12 hours must be in one Concentration Area)

American Government: POLS 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3270, 3280, 3290, 4210, 4270, 4820

Comparative Politics: POLS 3300, 4300, 4310, 4320, 4330, 4340, 4350, 4360, 4370, 4390, 4450, 4830

International Relations: POLS 3400, 4300, 4400, 4410, 4420, 4430, 4440, 4700, 4840

Public Law: POLS 3240, 3250, 3260, 4200, 4202, 4203, 4220, 4230, 4240, 4250, 4260, 4700

Minor and/or Elective Courses ..... 21 hours

Must include at least 6 hours of courses numbered

3000 or above in a single discipline outside of political science

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

**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 conducted by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, as well as information from alumni surveys conducted by the Department of Political Science.

**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.

**Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a  
Major in Legal Assistant Studies**

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

**Core Curriculum Area F (Courses appropriate to the major)** ..... **18 hours**

- 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.

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

- LEAS 3200, LEAS 3201, LEAS 4900 ..... 9 hours
- LEAS courses numbered 3000 or above ..... 15 hours
- ACED 2400, ENGL 3030 ..... 6 hours
- Area of Concentration and/or Elective Courses ..... 30 hours

Must include 12 hours of courses numbered 3000 or above, with 9 hours in a related field outside of Legal Assistant Studies.

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

### 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.

**The Minor in Political Science ..... 18 hours**

- Core Curriculum Area F.....0-6 hours
  - POLS 2101, POLS 2401 ..... 6 hours
- Senior College Curriculum.....12-18 hours
  - 3000-level and 4000-level courses in political science. At least six hours must be in 4000-level courses ..... 12 hours

**Minor in Public Administration ..... 15 hours**

- 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	

**Minor in Legal Assistant Studies ..... 18 hours**

- LEAS 1100, LEAS 3200..... 6 hours
- Courses numbered 3000 or above ..... 12 hours
 

LEAS 3201	LEAS 3210	LEAS 3220
LEAS 3230	LEAS 3240	LEAS 4200
LEAS 4210	LEAS 4220	LEAS 4230



**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY,  
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Dr. Michael Capece, Acting Head

1120 University Center

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice offers programs that lead to either the B.A. degree with a major in sociology and anthropology or the B.A. degree with a major in criminal justice. The Applied and Clinical Sociology Program is accredited by the Commission on Applied and Clinical Sociology. A minor is offered in sociology. The department also offers, at the graduate level, the M.S. degree with a major in sociology, the M.S. degree with a major in criminal justice, or the M.S. degree in marriage and family therapy.

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.

**B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Selected Educational Outcomes**

Each program in the department has numerous desired outcomes. Examples of these include the following:

1. To familiarize students with the basic sub-disciplines and major concepts of the disciplines they study in the department.
2. To develop in students the ability to apply and utilize the basic quantitative and/or qualitative research and analytical techniques they will need in their professional careers.
3. To teach students the literature and database review skills needed to assess and synthesize the state of knowledge available to apply to the study of selected issues.
4. To support students in the development of the skills required to communicate effectively with people and organizations representing diverse social and cultural backgrounds. These skills will include writing, speaking, and computing.

**Requirements for the B. A. Degree With A Major In Sociology And Anthropology**

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

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

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 2500

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

Courses Required for the Major. .... 37 hours

SOCI 3000 ..... 4 hours

SOCI 4990 ..... 3 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

Concentrations (choose A or B, below) ..... 15 hours

A. Anthropology

ANTH 3040 (if not taken as a  
Foundation Course),

ANTH 3120, and ANTH 4900 ..... 6-9 hours

Electives from below: ..... 6-12 hours

ANTH 3010, ANTH 3030,

ANTH 3070, ANTH 3130,

ANTH 3160, ANTH 3910, ANTH 4040

- B. Applied and Clinical Sociology
  - SOCI 3190, SOCI 3200 ..... 6 hours
  - SOCI 4800 or SOCI 4810 (either course  
be taken twice with different topic) ... 6 hours
  - SOCI 4540 ..... 3 hours

General Electives ..... 23 hours  
 At least 6 hours of coursework numbered  
 3000 or above must be taken in a single  
 discipline outside the major.

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

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

**Outcome Assessments**

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.

**Additional Department Requirement**

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

**B. A. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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.

**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 each CRJU course taken for the major must be a “C” or better.

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

**Outcome Assessment**

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.

**Minor in Anthropology** ..... **15-18 hours**  
 ANTH 1102 or ANTH 1102H, if not taken in Area E or F ..... 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 ..... 0-3 hours  
 if not taken in Area E or F  
 Any 15 hours of upper division sociology courses  
 in consultation with a sociology advisor. .... 15 hours

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

	<p><b>WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES MINOR</b>          Dr. Tracy W. Myers, Director          Carswell Hall          1526 North Oak Street</p>
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The Women’s and Gender Studies Program is an academic discipline that provides students with interdisciplinary perspectives on women’s and gender issues from a wide variety of cultures, backgrounds, and historical eras. It familiarizes students with the history, culture, and often unacknowledged contributions made by women. Through course offerings in a number of departments, the undergraduate minor leads students to examine critically and to reinterpret existing data and common assumptions about the social and cultural construction of femininity, masculinity, and sexualities. In addition, it provides students the opportunity to understand feminist theory and the methodologies of feminist scholarship across the disciplines. The program addresses issues of neglect, omission, and bias in curricula and encourages the translation of research into committed and responsible social involvement and leadership.

**Selected Educational Outcomes**

Course work in Women’s and Gender Studies will enable students:

1. to gain familiarity with the development of Women’s and Gender Studies as an interdisciplinary academic area and the research that is conducted in the field
2. to examine academic disciplines and public policies from a feminist perspective, using research and analytic methods that encourage the translation of research into committed and responsible social involvement



3. to examine women’s and men’s lives as they are affected by gender, sexuality, sexual orientation, age, race, class, ethnicity, religious, and national differences
4. to understand that what are commonly referred to as “women’s issues” are societal in scope and effect and are therefore of concern to everyone, regardless of gender

**The Minor in Women’s and Gender Studies ..... 15 hours**

Required courses ..... 9 hours

WGST 3000, WGST 3100, WGST 4400

Elective courses ..... 6 hours

Choose 6 hours from the following courses:

ARTH 4130	WGST/ENGL 3330
WGST/HIST 3010	WGST/HIST 3020
WGST/HIST 4261	WGST/HIST 4262
WGST/HIST 4270	WGST/HIST 4280
FREN 3610	GRMN 4420
WGST/REL 3600	WGST/SPAN 4220
PSYC 3710	SOCI 4100, SOCI 4680
SOCI 4800 / 4810 (Domestic Violence, Human Sexuality)	
WGST 4000	WGST 4300
WGST 4500	WGST 4600

The capstone course is structured to evaluate and elicit students’ summative understanding of the ethical, social, and intellectual implications of what has been included in or excluded from traditional scholarship. Further evaluative measures include:

**Examples of Outcome Assessments**

1. The creation of writing portfolios that will demonstrate the evolution of thought and learning across the courses taken in the minor;
2. Student participation in local, state and national conferences;
3. Exit interviews with students;
4. Discussion and feedback from other programs in Women’s Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, and Gender Studies

Information regarding current course offerings for the Women’s and Gender Studies Minor may be obtained from the offices of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. Courses selected from among those listed above satisfy requirements for the minor. For a fuller description of these courses, see the **Courses of Instruction** section in this catalog.



**AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR**

Dr. Shirley H. Hardin, Director  
Farber Hall

African American Studies (AFAM), an academic discipline, offers an intellectual approach to the study of African people both nationally and globally. It seeks to provide historically accurate assessments of the roles and contributions of people of African descent to America and to human history. An interdisciplinary program, this minor offers students the opportunity to communicate more effectively across cultural lines and to explore the social, political, and economic reality of the black experience in the United States. The minor encourages creative research, the acquisition of practical experiences, and the development of intellectual expertise in African American Studies. Several departments at Valdosta State University offer courses that support these goals.

**The Minor in African American Studies ..... 15 hours**

AFAM 3000, AFAM 4700 .....		6 hours	
Elective courses from the following .....		9 hours	
AFAM/ENGL 3220	AFAM/ENGL 3320		
AFAM/HIST 4231	AFAM/HIST 4232		
AFAM/HIST 4511	AFAM/HIST 4512	AFAM 3600	
AFAM/ANTH 3090	ANTH 4900	ARHS 4140	
COMM 3500	COMM 4600	ENGL 4300	THEA 4030
ENGL 4310	HIST 3050	HIST 3060	HIST 3070
HIST 4221	HIST 4222	HIST 4304	JOUR 3530
MUSC 3430	MUSC 3450	PHIL 4800	POLS 4260
POLS 4330	POLS 4820	REL 4700	SOCI 3060

No more than two courses from the same department may be taken to satisfy the requirements of the minor.

**Selected Education Outcomes**

1. AFA minors will study the historical and cultural origins of African Americans.
2. AFA minors will discuss the significant historical and political movements that have influenced and characterized the mobility of African Americans.
3. AFA minors will understand the diverse contributions African Americans have made, not only to America, but to other world cultures as well.
4. AFA minors will discuss those damaging stereotypes and myths that have plagued and ultimately hindered African Americans' complete integration into American society.



## UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Dr. Ofelia Nikolova, Director  
222 Georgia Avenue, The VSU Honors House

The University Honors Program is an interdisciplinary program with courses leading to a certificate of completion in University Honors.

The University Honors Program offers special courses and activities designed to help qualified students realize their full intellectual potential and to provide them the best possible preparation for their major degree programs. It does so through a wide range of special classes and interdisciplinary seminars supported by departments and faculty across campus.

The University Honors Program recognizes its students in a variety of ways. Students who complete at least two courses in the Program while maintaining minimum Honors and cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 receive recognition at VSU's annual Honors Day. A student who completes all certificate requirements also receives recognition at Honors Day, as well as at graduation ceremonies. In addition the student receives a Certificate of University Honors, a gold seal on the diploma, and special notation on official university transcripts.

### Selected Educational Outcomes

1. To strengthen the ability to analyze and synthesize a broad range of material.
2. To sharpen the ability to formulate a problem, develop a plan of action, and prove or disprove an hypothesis (or to create and produce an original work or do research).
3. To enable students to take greater responsibility for their own learning, through a demonstration of curiosity, motivation, and risk-taking characteristics.
4. To augment oral and written communication skills.

### Requirements for the Certificate in University Honors ..... 22-25 hours

HONS 1990 or HONS 2010 ..... 2 hours

This requirement must be completed in the freshman year.

Five Honors Core Courses or

Honors Option credit (Honors 3330) ..... 15-17 hours

(HONS 3330 may be invoked a maximum of three times.)

Honors 3990 or one upper division Honors Course ..... 3 hours

Honors 4990 or Departmental Capstone Course ..... 2-3 hours

The following courses satisfy Honors Program course requirements and, as Honors versions of Core classes, satisfy Core Curriculum requirements as well:

ANTH 1102H	ART 1100H	BIOL 1951H	BIOL 1952H
ECON 1900H	ENGL 1101H	ENGL 1102H	ENGL 2110H
ENGL 2120H	ENGL 2130H	KSPE 2900H	HIST 1011H
HIST 1012H	HIST 1013H	HIST 2111H	HIST 2112H
MATH 1113H	PHIL 2010H	PHIL 2020H	POLS 1101H
POLS 2401H	PSYC 2500H	SOCI 1101H	SPAN 2002H

For a fuller description of these courses, see the “Courses of Instruction” section in this catalogue.

In addition, the Honors Program offers seminar and independent study courses (HONS 4000 and 4990) which may satisfy elective credit or, in some cases, capstone requirements in a variety of major degree programs.

Courses not listed above may also be available for Honors credit through the Honors Option (HONS 3330). This option allows students to receive Honors credit while enrolled in regular courses by doing different types of assignments approved in advance by the instructor of the course and the Honors Program Director. Honors Options must be approved no later than by the last day of Drop/Add.

Many different types of assessments are used in the Honors Program, including evaluation forms, long-range surveys, and exit interviews.

### **Examples of Outcome Assessments**

1. **Special Admission Requirements:** Entering Freshmen who have combined math and verbal SAT scores of at least 1100 (or ACT scores of 27 in English and 23 in Math) and a high school grade point average of at least a “B” are invited to join the program. Students with lower SAT scores are invited to apply if their grade point averages are higher than 3.0. Transfer or currently enrolled students may enter the program with a cumulative college grade point average of 3.0.
2. **Special Retention Requirements:** Students in the Honors Program must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and in their Honors courses.
3. **Special Completion Requirements:** The Certificate in University Honors requires the completion of at least 22 semester hours of Honors course work, including HONS 1990 and HONS 3990 (or approved equivalents). Honors Options (HONS 3330) may be used in lieu of Honors Core courses, but may be invoked no more than three times and may not be used in lieu of HONS 3990. HONS 1990, 2010, and 3990 may be repeated for credit if the topics are different.