Located on 351 scenic acres about ten miles north of Portland, Oregon, Washington State University Vancouver provides quality education to residents of local southwest Washington and Oregon communities. With a student population of just over 2,500, WSU Vancouver offers a small college atmosphere with public University access. Since its establishment in 1989, WSU Vancouver has graduated more than 6,000 alumni, many of whom currently live and work in the region.

Degree Programs—Sixteen bachelor’s, nine master’s degrees, and one doctorate degree are attainable through freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, and graduate-level courses in more than 35 fields of study. Bachelor’s degrees include anthropology, biology, business administration, computer science, digital technology and culture, education, electrical engineering, English, environmental science, human development, humanities, mechanical engineering, nursing, psychology, public affairs, and social sciences. Within these degree programs, students may concentrate their studies in a variety of areas, from anthropology to women’s studies.

Master’s degrees include business administration (MBA), computer science (MSCS), education (EdM), environmental science (MS), history (MA), mechanical engineering (MSME), nursing (MN), public affairs (MPA), and teaching (MT).

WSU Vancouver also offers a doctorate degree in education (Ed.D.).

The WSU Vancouver University Scholars Program offers alternative coursework to meet General Education Requirements (GERs) through seminars, lecture series, and a senior project. It offers highly motivated and high-achieving students the opportunity for small classes and personalized attention to research projects on campus and in the community.

Campus and Student Life—The campus features seven academic buildings as well as a bookstore, cafeteria, student commons and student services center, study hall areas, sports court, fitness center, art galleries, and a system of hiking and pedestrian trails, all framed in a beautiful campus setting between scenic views of Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens. Facilities also include computer engineering, multimedia, nursing, psychology, and science laboratories, as well as a library carrying more than 25,000 books, access to more than 100 databases, 9,000 full-text online journals, and extensive Web connections that make the library a personal gateway to worldwide research materials.

Student life centers around a variety of activities, including an active student government and nearly 30 recognized student organizations. In addition, a child development program on campus provides onsite childcare opportunities for students, faculty, and community members with children.

Faculty and Research—More than 100 Ph.D. faculty provide WSU Vancouver with academic expertise spanning a variety of subjects. Faculty are actively involved in research in such areas as global climate change, domestic violence, criminal justice, child psychology, education, public affairs, and genetics, among others. Diverse topics such as artificial intelligence, marine ecology, environmental regulation, workplace behaviors, and computer-aided engineering are taught by professors with expertise in their respective fields. Quality instruction and an emphasis on individual attention also characterize the WSU Vancouver student experience, with a faculty student ratio of approximately 14 to 1.

Community Partnerships—WSU Vancouver’s involvement in the many communities it serves ranges from the extension of its academic programs to the WSU Learning Center in Longview to partnerships with other universities and community colleges.

Some of WSU Vancouver’s community activities include:

The Co-Admission Program: The Co-admission program provides an early bridge for students from Clark College in Vancouver and Lower Columbia College in Longview who plan to complete their bachelor’s degree at WSU Vancouver. Co-admission students fill out a single application, have their transcripts automatically transferred from one school to the other at no charge, and take advantage of services at both the community college and WSU Vancouver.

Partnerships for Elementary Science Education: Grants from the National Science Foundation have been instrumental in advancing science education in the region’s elementary schools. WSU faculty serve as science resources for classroom teachers, working to strengthen their understanding of science principles and processes.

The Center for Columbia River History: A cooperative effort between WSU Vancouver, Portland State University, and the Washington State Historical Society, the center focuses on research and public education on the history of the Columbia River Basin.

Solid partnerships with the local business community, health and human services and other public agencies, local school districts, and community foundations enable WSU Vancouver to maintain a vital link to the community and the public it is serving.

WSU Vancouver, University Graduation Requirements

The General Education Program at WSU Vancouver

Introduction to the General Education Program

The WSU Vancouver General Education Program is designed to promote students’ academic learning about specific disciplines as well as to prepare them for the critical and collaborative demands of the 21st century. As students investigate and explore important personal, scientific, and societal questions, their course work is organized around six central learning goals:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning
3. Information Literacy
4. Communication
5. Self in Society
6. Specialty

How the Learning Goals Work for Students

The learning goals work to organize and enhance the overall learning experience at WSU Vancouver. The General Education Program provides opportunities for students in all majors to engage in learning communities that connect to real world problems. Science, social science, arts, and humanities are integrated and linked to a unifying campus theme. Students receive a “big picture” view of the world, learning how vastly different disciplines (such as science and history) relate to each other and to real life.

1. Interdisciplinary Core [V] – The core course(s) introduce students to the culture of learning communities and to the University’s learning goals. The integrated approach is intended to model the connections that students will continue to employ throughout their work in general education and their major, as well as enhance their capacity for life-long learning. Students take two 3-credit classes.

Communication and Information Literacy

Students learn to write, speak, and listen to achieve intended and meaningful understanding. Students also gain foundational skills in using a systematic approach to accessing, evaluating, and using information.

2. Communication [W] – Students address real-world problems and issues through written, verbal, and visual communication. Students take one 3-credit class.

3. E-Portfolio [E] – Students use the disciplinary content of other courses to build the learning outcomes into their educational and employment goals. E-Portfolio courses provide foundational skills and experiences in using a systematic approach to accessing, evaluating, and using information. Each student will create his or her own digital repository for class papers, projects, and recommendations for future use in academic or professional careers. Students must take three 1-credit classes.

Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning

Students analyze and communicate with mathematical and symbolic concepts. They critically evaluate the quantitative and symbolic information used to represent and draw inferences regarding problems.
4. Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning [N] – Students use quantitative and symbolic reasoning to address real-world issues. Students take one 3 or 4-credit class.

**Critical Thinking (The Sciences)**

Students engage knowledge in the sciences to practice critical thinking, to examine evidence and context, and to reason ethically and creatively.

5. Sciences [B], [P] – Students build foundations in scientific method, science inquiry, and critical thinking. Minimum 7 credits; students must take one 3-credit [B] course and one 3-credit [P] course. Students must take at least one lab course.

**Critical Thinking (The Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities)**

Students engage knowledge from the social sciences, arts, and humanities to think critically, to examine evidence and context, and to reason ethically and creatively.

6. Arts and Humanities [H], [G] – 3 credits—Students explore the cultural and social underpinnings of knowledge in the arts and humanities toward participating in the building of inclusive communities.

7. Social Sciences [S], [K] – 3 credits – Students explore the cultural and social underpinnings of knowledge in the social sciences toward participating in the building of inclusive communities.

**Self in Society**

Students explore values, assumptions, and biases from diverse sources, learn to critically assess knowledge, and participate in communities beyond the classroom.

8. World Civilizations [A] – 6 credits (GE 110 and 111) – Students explore how events and patterns in the present and past have structured human societies and interactions with their contexts.

9. Intercultural Studies [I], [G], [K] – 3 credits – Students critically assess their own core values, cultural assumptions, and biases in relation to those held by other individuals, cultures, and societies.

10. American Diversity [D] – Students learn to employ self-understanding and effective interaction with others of diverse cultures, values, perspectives, and realities. The American Diversity requirement will be met by passing a designated [D] course which also meets a GER requirement in another area at the same time.

11. Tier III Community Engagement [T] – 3 credits – Students engage in a culminating experience at the senior level and have an opportunity to work collaboratively and to integrate and apply their learning to community concerns, practicing personal integrity, citizenship, and service to others.

**General Education and Graduation Requirements**

All students are required to earn a minimum of 120 credits, with a grade point average of 2.0 or better. A minimum of 40 credits, with a minimum of 30 credits at WSU, must be taken at the 300-400 level. Other specific requirements are listed above in relation to specific learning outcomes.

Students are required to take a minimum of 40 credit hours distributed among the categories below:

- Interdisciplinary Core [V] 6 cr
- Communication [W] 3 cr
- E-Portfolio [E] 3 cr
- Quantitative & Symbolic Reasoning [N] 3 cr
- Sciences [B], [P], [L] 7 cr
- Arts and Humanities [H], [G] 3 cr
- Social Sciences [S], [K] 3 cr
- World Civilizations [A] 6 cr
- Intercultural Studies [I], [G], [K] 3 cr
- American Diversity [D] 3 cr
- Tier III [T] 3 cr

**TOTAL HOURS** 40 cr

Students must choose one course that is also designated as an American Diversity [D] course. This requirement adds no credit hours to the General Education Program as American Diversity courses also fulfill the GERs in another area.

**General Rules**

No course designated as a General Education Requirement (GER) can be taken on a pass/fail basis. Courses in or crosslisted with a student's major field may not be used to satisfy General Education Requirements. Please be aware that there are some major-specific exceptions that impact GERs; we recommend you consult your advisor and review your major-specific catalog pages.

**Transfer Students**

Students entering WSU Vancouver fall 2006 or later with a transferable AA degree will have all lower division general education requirements satisfied. These students will be required to take the upper-division Tier III class to complete the University graduation requirements. The University Writing Portfolio and the upper-division Tier III course are not lower-division requirements and therefore cannot be satisfied by the approved AA or AS degrees. Fulfillment of lower-division General Education Requirements will be granted to students who have been awarded the Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) degree from a Washington community college. The Associate of Arts—Oregon Transfer degree (AAOT) from an Oregon community college guarantees completion of the lower-division General Education Requirements, but does not guarantee junior standing or 60 semester credits. Certain approved associate's degrees from Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Idaho may also be considered to have fulfilled the lower division GERs for graduation, but do not guarantee junior status (60 semester credits.) These students will still be responsible for meeting the other requirements for graduation, including those in the college and major department. Please note that other kinds of degrees from community colleges, or degrees from states other than Washington and Oregon, do not automatically fulfill General Education Requirements. For details on specific degrees, consult the Office of Admissions.

**General Education Designation for Incoming WSU Vancouver Students**

All students whose first enrollment at WSU Vancouver will be fall 2006 or after will be required to complete the WSU Vancouver general education program, EXCEPT in the following situations:

1. Co-admit (including institute) students who were co-admitted prior to fall 2006
2. Students with an approved bachelor's degree from an accredited institution (NO general education requirements)
3. Students transferring in with 27 or more credits will have more flexibility in fulfilling general education requirements.

*Group 1 students would follow the Pullman general education program but must complete within eight years of being co-admitted. These students may opt to complete the WSU Vancouver general education program if they so desire. All credits refer to semester credits.

**General Education Requirements [GER]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Core [V]</td>
<td>6 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE 105 and GE 106</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication [W]</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and Information Literacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Proficiency [E] *</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Proficiency [N]</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self in Society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences [S,K]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Civilizations [A]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Diversity [D]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier III [T]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td>40 cr</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students must take one [B] course and one [P] course.

**Interdisciplinary Core [V]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GE 105 and GE 106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication [W]</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
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<td>Tier III [T]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS</strong></td>
<td>40 cr</td>
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</table>

Students must choose one lab science [L] and one [P] course.

**World Civilizations [A]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self in Society</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE 110 and GE 111</td>
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**Intercultural Studies [I, G, K]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self in Society</td>
<td>3 cr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE 110 and GE 111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
American Diversity [D]
(Self in Society)
Meets both the [D] requirement and another GER course designation.

Tier III Course [T] 3 cr
(Self in Society)

* Note: Students who transfer to WSU Vancouver with an approved associate's degree will have all lower-division general education requirements satisfied. These students will be required to complete the upper-division Tier III (Self in Society) requirement.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Residency Requirement:
Minimum 30 semester credits must be completed at WSU.

University Writing Portfolio - Writing Assessment at Mid-Career
Successful completion of the University Writing Portfolio is a requirement for graduation at WSU. Students must satisfy this requirement once they have earned 60 credit hours. To complete the University Writing Portfolio, students must submit three papers they have written as a result of previously assigned college course work and take a timed writing exam consisting of two writing exercises. Upon completion of 60 credit hours, students are given two semester to satisfy the University Writing Portfolio. The Junior Writing Portfolio must be completed before a student enrolls in an [M] course (see below). Visit www.writingportfolio.wsu.edu for more information.

Writing in the Major [M]:
Two courses required for all majors. Consult your major department for details.

Upper-Division Coursework (300-400 level):
Complete minimum 40 semester credits.

Minimum University Graduation Requirements:
120 total semester credit hours, a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, and completion of all college and major requirements.

College of Liberal Arts
College of Sciences
Graduation Requirements

In order to provide a broad-based education in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences, the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Sciences require the following in addition to University Requirements for Graduation. The additional college graduation requirements have already been incorporated in the departmental requirements listed in this catalog.

Arts and Humanities [H][G], Social Sciences [S][K], and Intercultural Studies [I][G][K]—6 credits in addition to the General Education Program requirement.

Sciences [B][P][Q]—2 credits (including a 1-credit laboratory [L]) in addition to the General Education Program requirement.

Foreign Language—One year (two semesters or three quarters) of one foreign language at the University level or two years of one foreign language at the high school level. Demonstrated proficiency by means of a Foreign Language Examination may substitute for actual course work.

Transfer students are responsible for meeting the above College of Liberal Arts and College of Sciences requirements. This includes those students holding the approved Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from Washington community colleges or Associate of Arts—Oregon Transfer degree from an Oregon community college.