

CORE CURRICULUM (TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS)

Mission: The mission of the core curriculum is to provide an integrative four-year learning experience for all matriculants. The cornerstone course starting the freshman year lays out a framework for new students to help them understand the concept of a liberal arts education and the role of a Christian university in integrating faith and learning. Along with the senior capstone course, it provides a vehicle for pre- and post-testing to assess intellectual growth, value strengthening, and spiritual development. The capstone course stimulates a summative integration of the student's faith with the discipline's intellectual material. The core challenges students to examine and develop their beliefs and strengthen their intellectual skills. Its goal is that Vanguard graduates will bear a distinctive stamp reflective of their common experience.

Rationale for the Core Curriculum

The faculty of Vanguard University is committed to a broad education in the liberal arts, an objective requiring study in a variety of academic disciplines that is fulfilled in part by its core curriculum in general education for traditional undergraduate majors.

Core Curriculum Requirements by Category

NOTE: Some majors require particular courses to be taken in certain Core Curriculum categories (e.g., Psychology majors must take PSYC-103C as one of their two Social Science requirements). The requirements for specific majors can be found on individual major catalog pages. Students should carefully consult with their Student Success Coordinator prior to selecting Core Curriculum courses or selecting courses to transfer to Vanguard to meet Core Curriculum requirements.

Code	Title	Units
Cornerstone and Capstone Requirements:		4
CORE-100C	Cornerstone ¹ or CORE-100 Cornerstone Honors	
Capstone Course in the Major (approx. 3 units, varies by major, see chart below)		
English/Literature Requirements:		9
ENGL-120C	Persuasive Writing ²	
ENGL-220C	Researched Writing or HIST-262 Research Methods in Hist/Poli Science or POLS-262 Research Methods in Hist/Poli Science or EDUC-220 Researched Writing for Liberal Studies Majors or PSYC-220 Researched Writing/Psyc Majors	
ENGL-230C	Literature and the Human Experience ³	
Communication Requirement:		3
COMM-201C	Speech Composition and Presentation	
History/Political Science Requirements:		6
HIST-156C	U.S. History or POLS-155C American Democracy	

HIST-203C	World Civilizations I or HIST-204C World Civilization II	
Fitness/Wellness Requirement:		3
KINE-148C	Lifetime Fitness and Wellness Lecture	
Math Requirement:		3-4
Take one of the following courses:		
CSCI-110C	Introduction to Computer Science	
MATH-115C	Applied Mathematics and Personal Finance	
MATH-116C	College Algebra	
MATH-170C	Precalculus	
MATH-180C	Calculus I	
MATH-265C	Intro to Statistical Methods or PSYC-265 Introduction to Behavioral Statistics or SOC-265C Introduction to Behavioral Statistics or MATH-27C Health Professions Statistical Methods or BUSN-165 Business Statistics	
Theology Requirements:		15
THEO-101C	Foundations of Christian Life or THEO-103 Intro to Theology or THEO-103 Introduction to Theology Honors	
NT-101C	New Testament Survey	
OT-201C	Old Testament Survey	
THEO-300C	Developing a Christian World View ⁴ or THEO-300B Developing a Christian World View	
CHIS-400C	Christian Heritage ⁵ or CHIS-400I Christian Heritage	
Social Sciences Requirements:		6
Take two of the following courses:		
ANTH-102C	Intro to Cultural Anthropology	
PSYC-103C	Introduction to Psychology	
SOC-100C	Introduction to Sociology	
Fine Arts Requirement:		3
Take one of the following courses:		
ART-252C	Hist/Appreciation of Art	
FINA-215C	Intro to the Arts	
MUSC-202C	Intro to Music	
THEA-102C	Intro to Acting	
THEA-202C	History of Theatre I	
THEA-204C	History of Theatre II	
Science Lecture/Lab Requirement:		4
Take one of the following lecture/lab combinations:		
BIOL-100C & 100CL	Fundamentals of Biology for Non-Majors and Fundamentals/Biology for Non-Majors Lab	
BIOL-204C & 204CL	Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Laboratory	
CHEM-112C & 112CL	Fundamentals of General, Organic, and Biochemistry I and Fundamentals of General, Organic, and Biochemistry I Lab	



ENVR-150C & 150CL	Intro to Environmental Science and Intro to Environmental Science Lab
ENVR-205C & 205CL	Introduction to Geology and Introduction to Geology Laboratory
PSCI-130C & 130CL	General Physics I and General Physics I Lab
PSCI-215C & 215CL	Fundamentals of Earth Science and Fundamentals of Earth Science Lab
PSCI-216C & 216CL	Fundamentals of Physical Science and Fundamentals of Physical Science Lab
PSCI-223C & 223CL	Mechanics of Solids and Fluids and Mechanics of Solids and Fluids Lab

Total Units **56-57**

1

CORE-100C is required of all first-year students. Students who have earned 12 or more post-high school transferrable units may be exempted from this requirement.

2

Students are given a diagnostic writing exam during the summer and will be required to take ENGL-120CL Persuasive Writing Lab concurrently with this course if their score so warrants.

3

English majors satisfy this requirement in the major by taking ENGL-240C Foundations/Literary Study.

4

Students are required to have junior status in order to register for this course.

5

Students are required to have senior status in order to register for this course.

Capstone Courses (variable units) (Prefix will reflect major field)

A capstone course within the major is to encourage active reflection on the undergraduate journey and solidify the integration of faith and learning. Includes the writing of an integrative personal philosophy paper and capstone assessments of academic achievement that, paired with cornerstone assessments, will provide tangible, measurable evidence of growth during the Vanguard years.

Code	Title	Units
Accounting, Business Administration and Marketing		
BUSN-455C	Business Policy and Strategy	3
Biological Sciences		
BIOL-499C	Capstone Seminar in Biology	2
BIOL-485	Undergrad Biological Research	1-4
Communication		
Film/Visual Storytelling and Technology/Emerging Media		
COMM-496 & COMM-497	Senior Project: Development/Planning and Senior Project: Implementation	3
Health Communication/Public Relations		
COMM-464C	Media Criticism	3

Criminal Justice

CRMJ-490C	Faith and Justice Capstone	3
-----------	----------------------------	---

English

ENGL-499C	Synecdoche: Capstone	3
-----------	----------------------	---

History and Political Science

HIST-490C	Senior Seminar	3
-----------	----------------	---

Kinesiology

KINE-450C	Capstone Kinesiology Senior Project	3
-----------	-------------------------------------	---

Liberal Studies

EDUC-499C	Senior Capstone in Liberal Studies	3
-----------	------------------------------------	---

Music

General Music/Music and Worship Leadership		
--	--	--

MUSC-406C	Music and Worship	3
-----------	-------------------	---

Music Education		
-----------------	--	--

MUSC-491C	Recital and Research	2
-----------	----------------------	---

Composition		
-------------	--	--

Nursing (Pre-Licensure)

NRS-476	Nursing Capstone and Preceptorship	3
---------	------------------------------------	---

Psychology

PSYC-477C	Psychology and Christianity	3
-----------	-----------------------------	---

Sociology

SOC-490C	Senior Seminar	3
----------	----------------	---

Theology

THEO-499C	Theo/Min/Post-Chrstn Context	3
-----------	------------------------------	---

Theatre

THEA-450	Theatre Internship	1-2
----------	--------------------	-----

THEA-495C	Senior Project	2
-----------	----------------	---

Program Learning Outcomes

- Integration of Faith and Learning:** Students will develop and articulate a Biblical worldview informed by a Pentecostal perspective, integrating faith with learning.
- Cultural Competency and Citizenship:** Students will understand and practice effective local, national and global citizenship and demonstrate appreciation of diverse psychological, social, historical and artistic aspects of culture.
- Communication:** Students will demonstrate effective, college-level written and oral communication skills.
- Critical Thinking:** Students will develop and apply qualitative and quantitative critical thinking skills.
- Holistic Living:** Students will appreciate and demonstrate a holistic view of health and living.
- Information Competency:** Students will demonstrate foundational technology skills that allow one to locate and evaluate the integrity of information, and to understand the ethical uses of information.

By establishing links between different disciplines, relating the past to the present, and increasing awareness of contemporary challenges, the core curriculum classes should open new vistas for all students and encourage a lifelong pursuit of knowledge.

Courses

CORE Courses

CORE-100C Cornerstone 1 Credit

This course is open to Freshmen only. Introduction to university life and learning, and to the academic and social skills needed for success. May include social outings, community service component, and is to be taken in conjunction with an approved freshman-level course that will apply some of the course lessons. A failing grade must be made up prior to advancement to the Sophomore level.

Terms Typically Offered: Fall and Spring.

CORE-100H Cornerstone Honors 1 Credit

This course is open to Freshmen Honor students only. Introduction to university life and learning, and to the academic and social skills needed for success. May include social outings, community service component, and is to be taken in conjunction with an approved freshman-level course that will apply some of the course lessons. A failing grade must be made up prior to advancement to the Sophomore level.

Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

CORE-101C College Success Strategies 1 Credit

College Success Strategies is a semester-long course designed to provide students an opportunity to identify their individual learning strengths and personality styles in order to develop effective individualized study and test-taking strategies based on time-management, organization, and the school-life balance. Students are provided with an introduction, regular classroom reinforcement, and application of the executive functioning skills necessary for success in college level course work.

Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

CORE-110 Vanguard Foundations of College Writing I 3 Credits

Covers reading comprehension, technology and writing, and sentence-level (grammar) and paragraph-level issues. The course focuses on process-driven revision and peer collaboration while emphasizing critical thinking skills. This required course prepares Professional Studies and ECE students for college-level writing and studies. Students may petition to test out of this required course if they possess proficient college level writing ability. (Meets elective credit requirement only; not applicable to English Composition requirement. . Course must be passed with a "C" or better.) (School for Professional Studies Course).

Terms Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer.

CORE-205 Cornerstone Mentoring 1 Credit

Cornerstone Mentoring provides the student with the opportunity to assist freshmen students during their Cornerstone course in gaining academic and social skills. Regular hours each week for classes and/or meetings are established at the beginning of the semester. This course may be repeated with consent of the instructor.

