History of the College

Starting with the initial charter of WVU by the Legislature in 1867, the liberal arts and the sciences were important and central elements of the University. The College of Arts and Sciences was formally created in 1895, and eleven students received degrees from the college in 1896. In the 1911–12 academic years, the West Virginia Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was established within the College of Arts and Sciences.

On July 1, 1993, the name of the college was changed to the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences to recognize and commemorate the generosity of the Eberly family, the Eberly Foundation, and the Eberly Family Charitable Trust.

Today, the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences awards degrees to around 2,000 students every year. It remains the heart of West Virginia University, providing students with a liberal education in the areas of literature and the humanities, mathematics and natural sciences, and social and behavioral sciences. In addition to teaching, the College’s 420 faculty members are actively engaged in research and scholarship, publishing approximately 600 articles and five or more books each year.

Mission

The primary mission of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences is to promote the full development of the student as an individual and as a member of society. Students earning degrees in the College fulfill certain broad basic-education requirements and study at least one subject in some depth. The degree requirements are intended to carry forward what is usually termed “a general education,” thus providing a foundation for continued growth and development after graduation.

Clearly, one purpose of a college education is to help students acquire knowledge and skills both for self-fulfillment and in preparation for the roles they will subsequently play in society. A less obvious but equally important purpose is to impart certain attitudes to students. In the interest of fulfilling both purposes, the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences strives to help students acquire the specific attributes listed below.

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

• R. Gregory Dunaway - Ph.D. (University of Cincinnati)

Dean

ASSOCIATE DEANS

• Valérie Lastinger - Ph. D. (University of Georgia)
  Academic Affairs

• Asuntina S. Levelle - J.D. (West Virginia University)
  Financial Planning and Management

• Duncan Lorimer - Ph.D. (University of Manchester)
  Research

• Michael Perone - Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
  Faculty

Degree Designation Learning Outcomes

BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

A primary mission of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences is to promote full development of each student as an individual and as a member of society. Students completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in the Eberly College fulfill broad general education foundation requirements, Bachelor of Arts degree requirements, study of at least one discipline in depth, and complimentary coursework that spans disciplinary boundaries. The hallmark of an Arts and Sciences education is opportunity for students to craft programs of study that integrate interests and address aspirations through a combination of major and minor, or dual major, areas of study.

Bachelor of Arts degree programs in the Eberly College integrate

• Knowledge of central principles, practices, facts, concepts, theories, and disciplinary tools in a major area of concentration

• Skills in communication using a variety of channels including writing, speaking, reading, listening, and viewing

• Practice in analyzing and solving problems, recognizing ambiguities, proposing alternatives, drawing inferences, developing imaginative approaches, constructing predictions, and making reasoned decisions using appropriate information resources and analytical tools
of Emphasis unique to the R.B.A. program. Moreover, R.B.A. offers unique opportunities not available through traditional degree programs. The R.B.A. students may pursue any Minor.

The R.B.A. program can be completed either on campus or online at one’s own pace. Additionally, R.B.A. provides a comprehensive general education and individualized curriculum designed to align with the needs of each student. The R.B.A. program is designed to be flexible and can be tailored toward goals/aspirations such as pursuing a career, transitioning into a new career, increasing one’s marketability within an established career, and/or fulfilling a life-long goal of completing a bachelor's degree. The R.B.A. program can be completed either on campus or online at one’s own pace. Additionally, R.B.A. offers unique opportunities not available through traditional degree programs. The R.B.A.
program offers F-Forgiveness (https://rba.wvu.edu/degree-info/f-forgiveness-policy) to students if the failing grades are obtained four years or more prior to admission/readmission to the program. Additionally, eligible students may acquire college credit for professional, volunteer, and military experiences in select areas via the many credit for prior learning options (https://rba.wvu.edu/credit-for-prior-learning) available through the R.B.A. program. Pursuing the R.B.A. program and utilizing the unique opportunities available through the program provides many students with a time efficient and cost effective avenue to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree.

The Regents Bachelor of Arts degree program in the Eberly college enables students to:

• Develop foundational habits of academic life and cultural literacy; disciplinary ways of knowing and posing questions; conducting inquiry; making arguments; close reading, analysis, critical thinking; numerical analysis and scientific method; effective writing and speaking; academic research; systematic problem solving; rigorous academic study
• Develop and refine skills of Learning Goal 1; encounter and examine issues of multiculturalism, diversity, social justice, and citizenship; refines over-reaching area of emphasis
• Integrate learning; apply knowledge and skills to contemporary problems and ethical quandaries; self-reflective projects and narratives; connect past with future

Degree Options
The Eberly College of Arts and Sciences offers the following degrees:

• Bachelor of Art (B.A.).  See B.A. tab above.
• Bachelor of Science (B.S.).  See B.S. tab above.
• Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies (B.M.D.S.).  See Multidisciplinary Studies Program link.
• Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.).  See School of Social Work link.
• Regents Bachelor of Arts.  See Regents Bachelor of Arts link.

Minors
Most major programs in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences also offer academic minors. In addition, minors are available in Africana Studies, Leadership Studies, Native American Studies, and Statistics. If a student successfully completes the requirements for a minor, it will be recorded on the student’s official record and will appear on transcripts.

Requirements for academic minors are set by the department offering the minor. A minor must include at least fifteen hours of coursework with a minimum of nine hours at the upper-division level (courses numbered 300 or above). Specific courses may be required as well as a minimum grade or grade point average for courses in the minor. Courses in the minor may not be taken pass/fail. The minor field may not be the same as the student’s major field.

Certificate Programs
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
CERTIFICATE CODE - CU08
Students in the Eberly College, may earn this Certificate, regardless of their major. Completion of the Global Engagement Certificate demonstrates the student’s knowledge of diverse cultures, as well as the ability to communicate and interact effectively with people of different cultural background. Students will be required to apply their knowledge of contemporary issues and global social contexts to their course work and their broader citizenship. Students must complete fifteen hours of approved courses and have the option to earn part of the certificate on campus, or to earn all of their credits abroad by completing one of the two options described below.

OPTION 1: LANGUAGE-INTENSIVE OPTION (15 CREDITS MINIMUM)
Language Component
6-9 credit hours of academic coursework in one language other than English, beyond the core language requirement (typically 204 or the equivalent, as determined by the Department of World Languages, Literature, and Linguistics), completed at either WVU or a foreign academic institution; and

International Coursework Component
6-9 credit hours, beyond the language component (above) requirement, of coursework bearing the “G” designator.*

OPTION 2: TRAVEL-INTENSIVE OPTION (15 CREDITS MINIMUM):
15 credit hours of coursework bearing the “G” designator.* It is recommended that at least part of this coursework be earned during an extended, semester-long experience.
Courses carrying the “G” designation are approved for the designation by the Office of International Programs and include courses taken abroad either with WVU, at an exchange university, or through another higher education school or organization. WVU offers approximately 60 WVU faculty-led programs per year, with one to three academic courses typically offered in each faculty-led program. There are over 50 exchange linkages with universities abroad, many of them comprehensive and some specialized in areas such as health sciences, engineering, business, language, etc. WVU also has agreements with approximately one dozen affiliate programs (ISEP, for example), each with a wide selection of programs and courses. An Eberly College student may take advantage of any WVU “G” courses for which he/she meets the pre-requisites or restrictions. Courses to be counted toward academic major requirements must be approved by the designated authority in the student’s major program.

- Bachelor of Arts Majors (p. 4)
- University Requirements / General Education Curriculum (p. 5)
- College Requirements (p. 5)
- Credit Limitations (p. 6)
- 42-Hour Rule (p. 6)

Bachelor of Arts

- Anthropology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Chinese Studies
- Communication Studies
- Criminology
- Economics
- English
- English Secondary Education
- Environmental Geoscience
- French
- Geography
- German Studies
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- International Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Slavic and East European Studies
- Social Studies Secondary Education
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Women’s and Gender Studies
- World Languages

Bachelor of Arts Requirements

Students must complete WVU General Education Curriculum requirements, College B.A. requirements, major requirements, and electives to total 120 hours. For programs that offer both the B.A. and the B.S. (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology), students may earn either the B.A. or the B.S. degree, but not both. Some combination of majors and minors are not permissible because the areas of study are too similar. They are indicated on the section of the majors and/or minors affected.
University Requirements / General Education Curriculum

Students who would like for transfer credits to be applied to University requirements, (GEF and Capstone) or to College requirements, need to seek approval from the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies (see ECAS Undergraduate webpages).

Every student at West Virginia University has to fulfill the requirements for the General Education Foundations. The main purpose of this curriculum is to ensure that all graduates are exposed to a variety of fields, as described in the 8 GEF Areas. Please read the full description of the GEF (http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef) and of the policies that govern it; a list of all the courses (http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef) that meet all the various GEF Areas can be found on the Office of the University Registrar. Students are strongly encouraged to work with their advisers to select GEF courses that may broaden and strengthen their interest in their major field. GEF courses can also be used to explore new areas to which students have not yet been exposed.

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Foundations</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F1 - Composition &amp; Rhetoric</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 &amp; ENGL 102 or ENGL 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2A/F2B - Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>4-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3 - Math &amp; Quantitative Reasoning</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F4 - Society &amp; Connections</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F5 - Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F6 - The Arts &amp; Creativity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F7 - Global Studies &amp; Diversity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>31-37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

The capstone experience is defined as an academic experience in which students demonstrate, in a significant project that has both an oral and a written component, their abilities to gather information, to think critically and to integrate the theoretical and/or practical knowledge that they acquired throughout their undergraduate careers, and to reflect on the ethical issues that are implicit in their projects.

Students completing several majors need to complete one Capstone course per major. Because of their unique concept, Capstone courses can never be transferred from another institution, including study abroad. List of current capstone courses (http://registrar.wvu.edu/current_students/capstone_courses).

Individual department requirements may be more directive than the College’s core B.A. requirements, so long as those requirements are met. Students who would like for transfer credits to be applied to the College B.A. requirements need to seek approval from the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

College Requirements

FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

Any student earning a Bachelor of Arts in the Eberly College must complete at minimum level 204 (fourth semester) of a foreign language. Students with no prior instruction in a language will satisfy this requirement by successful completion of courses 101, 102, 203, and 204 (or other approved courses) in that language. Students with prior instruction in a language must take the placement test in that language and begin at the level they are placed and complete 204. Students who place beyond the 204 level will satisfy the requirement by successful completion of one appropriate 300-level course in that language. (For information about placement and explanation of various options and other approved courses, see listings under World Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics in the WVU Undergraduate Catalog, go to: https://worldlanguages.wvu.edu/, or contact the department.) Courses used to fulfill this requirement are in addition to those used to fulfill any other requirement, including GEF requirements. An exception is made for students earning a minor in Arabic Studies, Chinese Studies, French, Italian Studies, Japanese Studies, Russian Studies or Spanish, as the 204 course may count for the minor curriculum.
FINE ARTS.
Students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of three semester hours focused on the fine arts. Completion of a course that meets GEF Area 6 (The Arts and Creativity) will fulfill this requirement.

GLOBAL CULTURES AND DIVERSITY
Students must satisfactorily complete three semester hours of study focused on the global issues and/or the role of diverse perspectives within contemporary society. Completion of a course that meets GEF Area 7 (Global Studies & Diversity) will fulfill this requirement.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE
A cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for graduation. All departments and degree programs in the College require a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C) for admission and graduation; some departments or programs require a higher grade point average (overall or in the discipline). See specific departments for requirements.

WRITING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
The Eberly College of Arts and Sciences is committed to fostering students' abilities in writing, speaking, visual presentations, and multimedia communication. The College's SpeakWrite initiative helps students approach writing and speaking situations they encounter in their classes, in their work, and in their community by assessing:

- Purpose: What exactly do I want to happen?
- Audience: Who is reading, listening, or viewing?
- Conventions: What is expected in this context?
- Trouble spots: What could get in the way of my goals?

SpeakWrite Principles:

- Engagement. When students speak and write purposefully and thoughtfully in their classes, they are engaged. They are ready to enter conversations in their fields and in their communities. They are developing a critical skill, valued by employers and society, that is a hallmark of an Arts and Sciences education.
- Practice. Effective communication is a complex activity that cannot be mastered in a single course. It is the responsibility of the entire academic community. Students need practice conveying the knowledge they gain as they complete their majors.
- Discipline-Specific Knowledge and Abilities. People write and speak with a particular purpose, to a particular audience, in a particular context defined by particular conventions. Speaking and writing in the majors is most effectively guided by those with discipline-specific expertise.

The Eberly Writing Studio is available as a resource, consultant, and partner for faculty teaching SpeakWrite courses—and their students.

Several Eberly College undergraduate programs are SpeakWrite Certified™. SpeakWrite Certified Programs incorporate and develop students’ written, verbal, visual, and mediated communication skills in coursework across the curriculum. Students completing majors in SpeakWrite Certified Programs automatically fulfill the WVU General Education Foundations (GEF) writing and communication skills requirement.

Students completing Eberly College programs that do not carry SpeakWrite Certification fulfill the writing and communication skills requirement by completing ENGL 101 and 102 (or 103), and a minimum of two additional program-designated SpeakWrite Certified courses.

Credit Limitations

42-Hour Rule
There is no limit to the number of credits students can earn in a subject. However, in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) programs in the Eberly College, a maximum of forty-two hours in one subject (e.g., BIOL, FRCH, POLS) may be counted toward the minimum hours for graduation. If a B.A. student exceeds forty-two credits in one subject, then the excess must be matched by an equal number of credits in any other subject. For example, if the minimum hours for graduation is 120, and a student earns forty-six hours in COMM (42 + 4), that student will require 124 hours to graduate (120 + 4). If the minimum hours for graduation is 120, and a student earns forty-three hours in PSYC (42 + 1), that student will require 121 hours to graduate (120 + 1).

Please note that some courses are excluded from the 42-Hour Rule count:

1. 191 (first-year seminar) and 491 (professional field experience) courses in any subject are excluded from the 42-Hour count.
2. For English (ENGL), the 42-Hour count excludes ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 or ENGL 103; for English majors who obtain a concentration in Creative Writing or Professional Writing and Editing (PWE), a maximum of 60 hours in English (in addition to ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 or ENGL 103) may be included within the 120 hours required for graduation.
3. For foreign languages, the 42-Hour count excludes the three to twelve hours used to fulfill the B.A. foreign language requirement of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences.
4. For Sociology and Anthropology (SOCA), the count is done separately for Anthropology, Criminology, and Sociology (42 hours in Sociology courses and 42 hours in Anthropology courses). Normally Anthropology courses are the SOCA courses with a “5” as the middle number: 252, 254, 355, 358, 450, etc.

5. For Environmental Geoscience, students may not earn more than 50 credits of GEOG and GEOL combined. If they have earned over 50 credits in the two subject, they will need a proportional number of hours in non-GEOG and non-GEOL courses.

- Bachelor of Science Majors (p. 7)
- University Requirements / General Education Curriculum (p. 7)
- College Requirements (p. 8)

**Bachelor of Science**

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Forensic Biology
- Forensic Chemistry
- Forensic Examiner
- Geology
- Mathematics
- Neuroscience
- Physics
- Psychology

**Bachelor of Science Requirements**

Students must complete WVU General Education Foundation requirements, College B.S. requirements, major requirements, and electives to total 120 hours. For programs that offer both the B.A. and the B.S. (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology), students may earn either the B.A. or the B.S. degree, but not both.

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**General Education Foundations**

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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; ENGL 102</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or ENGL 103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Composition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Rhetoric, and Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accelerated Academic Writing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F2A/F2B - Science &amp; Technology</th>
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**CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE**

The Capstone experience is defined as an academic experience in which students demonstrate, in a significant project that has both an oral and a written component, their abilities to gather information, to think critically and to integrate the theoretical and/or practical knowledge that they acquired throughout their undergraduate careers, and to reflect on the ethical issues that are implicit in their projects.

Students completing several majors need to complete one Capstone course per major. Because of their unique concept, Capstone courses can never be transferred from another institution, including study abroad. List of current Capstone courses [here](http://registrar.wvu.edu/current_students/capstone_courses).

Individual department requirements may be more directive than the College’s core B.S. requirements, so long as those requirements are met. Students who would like for transfer credits to be applied to the College B.S. requirements need to seek approval from the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

**College Requirements**

1. Foreign Language. Students completing an Eberly College bachelor of science program are encouraged (but not required) to complete two semesters of one foreign language beyond language taken at the high school level. Individual B.S. programs may require foreign language.

2. Global Cultures and Diversity. Students must satisfactorily complete three semester hours of study of global issues and/or the role of diverse perspectives within contemporary society. Completion of a course that meets GEF Area 7 (Global Studies & Diversity) will fulfill this requirement.

3. Mathematics. Satisfactory completion of Math 150 [here](http://catalog.wvu.edu/search/?search=Math+150), or MATH 155 or (MATH 153 and MATH 154) is required for students earning an Eberly College B.S. degree. Individual programs may have different Mathematics requirements. Please see specific departments for requirements.

4. Science. Students must complete a minimum of twenty-one hours of science coursework in each of three disciplines. There are six disciplines: biology, chemistry, computer science, geology/geography, math/statistics, and physics. See list below for applicable courses in these disciplines. Courses used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to satisfy GEF and or major requirements. See table below for courses applicable to satisfy the B.S. “Science” requirements.

5. Courses used to fulfill the Eberly B.S. requirements may be used simultaneously to satisfy GEF and or major requirements.

6. Grade Point Average. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required for graduation. All departments and degree programs in the College require at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average overall and in the major for admission and graduation; some departments or programs require a higher grade point average (overall or in the discipline) for admission or graduation. See specific departments for requirements.

7. Individual department requirements may be more directive than the College’s core B.S. requirements, so long as those requirements are met.

Students who would like for transfer credits to be applied to the College B.S. requirements need to seek approval from the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Major Subject Requirements are listed separately in the catalog by department or degree program.

**B.S. MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE REQUIREMENT**

**MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT:**

Select one option for a minimum of 4 credits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 150</td>
<td>Applied Calculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 153 &amp; MATH 154</td>
<td>Calculus 1a with Precalculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 155</td>
<td>Calculus 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCIENCE REQUIREMENT:**

Students must complete 6-8 credits in the three areas of their choice for a minimum of 21 credits

**Area I- Biology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 115</td>
<td>Principles of Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOL 117</td>
<td>and Introductory Physiology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area II-Chemistry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 111</td>
<td>Survey of Chemistry 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; CHEM 112</td>
<td>and Survey of Chemistry 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area III- Computer Science</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 110</td>
<td>Introduction to Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; CS 111</td>
<td>and Introduction to Data Structures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area IV- Geology/Geography** 6/7

Select one of the following pairs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GEOL 101 &amp; GEOL 102</th>
<th>Planet Earth and Planet Earth Laboratory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 110 &amp; GEOL 111</td>
<td>Environmental Geoscience and Environmental Geoscience Laboratory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AND select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GEOL 103 &amp; GEOL 104</th>
<th>Earth Through Time and Earth Through Time Laboratory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 203</td>
<td>Physical Oceanography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 230</td>
<td>Fossils and Evolution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area V- Math/Statistics** 6/8

Select one pair:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATH 156 or MATH 251</th>
<th>Calculus 2 or Multivariable Calculus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 211 or STAT 215</td>
<td>Elementary Statistical Inference or Introduction to Probability and Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 211 or STAT 312</td>
<td>Elementary Statistical Inference or Intermediate Statistical Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 331 or STAT 421</td>
<td>Sampling Methods or Statistical Analysis System (SAS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area VI- Physics** 8

Select one of the following pairs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHYS 101 &amp; PHYS 102</th>
<th>Introductory Physics and Introductory Physics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 111 &amp; PHYS 112</td>
<td>General Physics and General Physics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Students who complete BIOL 101-104 may substitute this sequence for BIOL 115 & 116. Under this option, students must satisfactorily complete five courses to meet the Area I-Biology requirement for the Bachelor of Science degree: BIOL 101-104 & BIOL 117.

**Policies**

- Admission to Arts and Sciences Degree Programs (p. 9)
- Minimum and Maximum Loads (p. 9)
- Credit by Examination Rules for Eberly College (p. 10)
- Probation and Suspension (p. 10)
- Graduation (p. 11)

**Admission to Arts and Sciences Degree Programs**

High school students and transfer students are admitted directly to some majors, while some programs require completion of a few basic courses; specific requirements are described in departmental sections that follow. For current students who wish to move to an Eberly degree program, the minimal College requirement for admission is a 2.0 overall average. Please see the Admission Tab for each major to see specific admission requirements.

**Minimum and Maximum Load**

Students should earn 15 credits a semester (or 30 credits a year) in order to stay on track in their 4-year graduation plan. A minimum of twelve hours in a semester is required for full-time status. No student enrolled in the College may enroll for more than twenty hours in a semester without permission.
from the Director for Undergraduate Studies. Typically, overload petitions are restricted to graduating seniors who take degree-pursuant courses, who have a completion rate above 90%, and have earned an overall GPA of 3.00.

**Credit by Examination Rules for Eberly College**

Credit by examination provides students the opportunity to receive credit in courses by demonstrating that they have acquired sufficient knowledge of a subject without formal enrollment in a course or study in the classroom. This opportunity is offered only to students enrolled full- or part-time at the University. The initiation of a credit-by-examination request does not entitle a student to special in-class instruction or tutoring by an instructor.

Students may petition to receive credit by examination for any course listed by a department in the College as a course for which credit by examination is appropriately awarded. Applications, course lists, and examination schedules are available each semester.

A student may apply to challenge a course for credit by examination if

- The student is at the time of examination registered in the University
- The student’s official record does not show credit for the course (i.e., any grade of S, P, A, B, C, D, or I)
- The student is not officially enrolled in the course at the time of examination (a student who withdraws from a course after the end of the official registration period is officially enrolled in that course until the end of the semester, and not eligible to take the course by examination during that semester); and
- A grade of F, FNA, FSA, IF, or UF has not been recorded on the student’s record for the course within two calendar years of the date of the examination. A student may challenge the same course by examination only two times

Credit only (not a grade) will be awarded for the successful completion of the examination with a grade of C or higher. Because a comprehensive examination is used to establish credit, it is the policy of the College that a student should demonstrate at least an average (C) knowledge of course content to receive any credit. The criteria for earning a C are made known in advance to students who request the information from the department offering the course examination.

A non-refundable fee is charged for credit by examination and must be paid within the prescribed period prior to each examination period.

**Probation and Suspension**

**ACADEMIC PROBATION**

After final grades are complete for the fall semester, the Registrar notifies students who have a GPA of less than a 2.00 and places them on Academic Probation until their GPA reaches the minimum 2.00. Probationary students must remediate their deficiency during the spring semester. Failure to do so will result in Academic Suspension. A student whose GPA is below a 2.0 but is not low enough to qualify for suspension will remain on academic probation.

Eberly students who are placed on Academic Probation sign a contract which outlines schedule, meeting, and GPA requirements. Please see the Eberly website for details.

**NOTE:** The plan of study and the probation contract will be used at the end of the semester if the student has to file an Academic Suspension and/or a Financial Aid appeal.

**DISMISSAL FROM MAJOR**

All Eberly majors require that students have a 2.00 overall grade point average, but a few programs require a higher GPA. At the discretion of the department and the Dean, students with a GPA of 1.9 may be retained within their major. Students who have a GPA below a 1.9 are placed in the General Arts and Sciences major until they bring their GPA to the desired 2.00. At that point, they can either go back to their original major, or switch to another major, either within or outside of the college. Students in the General Arts and Sciences major are advised in the Undergraduate Office, where they can explore their major and career choices. This is a temporary placement, usually for one semester. While students are listed in the General Arts and Sciences program, they must remain in contact with their desired program adviser, who will place a note in DegreeWorks to attest the student’s visit. The Director of Undergraduate Studies will remove the advising hold after students have also met with their desired program adviser.

**ACADEMIC SUSPENSION**

After final grades are complete for the spring semester the Registrar notifies students who have a deficient GPA (please check the Catalog [http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/coursecreditstermsclassification/#Suspension_Guid]).

**ACADEMIC SUSPENSION APPEALS**

Students can file an Academic Suspension appeal by submitting a Suspension Appeal form, along with supporting documentation, to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Please refer to the College website [http://eberly.wvu.edu/students/current-students/probation-and-suspension-policy] for important deadline information. The appeals are heard by a committee of faculty.
READMISSION AFTER SUSPENSION

Students who have been suspended need to reapply to the university. When they come back to WVU, they are placed on Academic Probation until their GPA reaches a 2.00. Students seeking readmission should consult the Eberly Office of Academic Affairs website, under “Student seeking Readmission.”

Graduation

There are two different processes that students must complete to graduate.

DIPLOMA REVIEW

The semester before graduation, all candidates for undergraduate degrees in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences must register (https://forms.as.wvu.edu/ugrad/view.php?id=16274) online for graduation review, to allow their records to be evaluated for accuracy of curriculum and for completion of College and University requirements. This process will allow degree candidates to be notified in a timely manner of deficiencies they might be able to address by registering for certain courses during their last semester.

GRADUATION AND DIPLOMA APPLICATION

The semester of graduation, seniors will receive an email from the Registrar’s Office and the Undergraduate Studies Office to remind them to fill out a graduation application online through their MIX account. The application is usually available the second week of any given semester for graduation at the end of that term, and remains open for about 6 weeks.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- No candidate can graduate without completing an application for graduation and diploma.
- If a student’s curriculum is incorrect in DegreeWorks, they should first submit a graduation application and then immediately contact their adviser to fill out the proper curriculum change forms.
- After submitting their application online, students will receive an email confirmation. Subsequently, they will receive a conditional approval email, or a denial notification. The conditional approval does not guarantee graduation.
- If students do not graduate on the date for which they initially applied, they must re-apply at the beginning of the semester when they will be completing their requirements.

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

In addition, students who wish to participate in the Commencement Ceremony (May or December) should register online through the University Graduation (http://graduation.wvu.edu) website the semester of graduation. Participation in the Commencement Ceremony does not mean that a student will graduate and be eligible to receive a diploma.

Students may petition the Director of Undergraduate Studies to participate in the Commencement Ceremony prior to completion of their degree requirements if they are registered for their last six credit hours the following semester. For example, a student who will graduate in August and is registered for the last six credits during the summer term may petition the Director of Undergraduate Studies to participate in the May ceremony.

Accreditation

Chemistry within the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences has specialized accreditation through the American Chemical Society.

Forensic Biology, Forensic Chemistry and Forensic Examiner within the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences have specialized accreditation through the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission of the American Academy of Forensic Science.

Social Work within the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences has specialized accreditation through the Council on Social Work Education.