

**Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee
(UCAPC)
Preliminary Semester Curriculum Guidelines**

In the event that WSU should move to a semester academic calendar, the UCAPC recommends to the Faculty Senate the following set of preliminary curriculum guidelines intended to facilitate and accelerate the transition from quarters to semesters.

	Current Quarter Calendar	Possible Semester Calendar
Credit Hour Base	Majority of courses: 4 credit hours. Some course offerings: fewer or more credit hours as justified by academic requirements.	Majority of courses: 3 credit hours. Some course offerings: fewer or more credit hours as justified by academic requirements.
Instructional Hours	Per credit hour: 50 minutes.	Per credit hour: 50 minutes.
Required Minimum Total Degree Credit Hours	Bachelor's Degree: 183 credit hours. Associate's Degree: 90 credit hours.	Bachelor's Degree: 120 credit hours. Associate's Degree: 60 credit hours.
Residence Regulations	Minimum of 45 credit hours must be earned at WSU (credit by evaluation will not be considered). At least 15 of the last 45 hours of credit must be earned at WSU. A minimum of 30 credit hours of courses numbered 300 or above must be earned at WSU.	Minimum of 30 credit hours must be earned at WSU (credit by evaluation will not be considered). At least 10 of the last 30 hours of credit must be earned at WSU. A minimum of 20 credit hours of courses numbered 3000 or above must be earned at WSU.
General Education Courses and Credit Hours*	Total courses: 14. Total credit hours: 56. Credit hours per course: 4 credit hours per course for core courses and 4 credit hours per course for natural science courses (except approved substitutions and EGR 101).	Total courses: 12. Total credit hours: 38. Credit hours per course: 3 credit hours per course for core courses and 4 credit hours per course for natural science courses (except approved substitutions).

(continued)	Current Quarter Calendar	Possible Semester Calendar
Writing Across the Curriculum	<p>Writing in General Education: 4 writing intensive courses, or allowable substitutions, in addition to the two required courses in freshman composition. Minimum total number of words: 1500.</p> <p>Writing in the Major: 2 writing intensive courses in the major field of study. At least 18 double-spaced pages.</p>	<p>Writing in General Education: 2 writing intensive courses, or allowable substitutions, in addition to the two required courses in freshman composition. Minimum total number of words: 2000.</p> <p>Writing in the Major: 2 writing intensive courses in the major field of study. At least 20-25 double-spaced pages.</p>
Course Numbering System**	0-99 100-499 500-599 600-699 700-999	0-999 1000-4999 5000-5999 6000-6999 7000-9999
Academic Programs: Credit Hours	<p>In converting academic programs including major, minor, and certificate programs from the quarter to a semester calendar, departments, colleges, and schools are not to exceed the proportion of semester credit hour requirements that exist under the quarter credit hour requirements.</p>	

* Possible Semester Calendar General Education Courses and Credit Hours

Based on the WSU Faculty approved General Education Task Force report dated 20 March 1998, "one way it can be converted to semesters" is to change all courses except Area V Natural Science from four to three credit hours, reduce Additional Courses From Areas II, III, and IV from 2 courses to 1 course, and collapse the Area V requirement of three quarters of science courses into two semesters of science courses.

** Course Numbering System Explanation:

0-999 Developmental precollege-level courses.

1000-4999 Lower division courses intended for undergraduate credit only. The first digit indicates the general level of the course: 1 for a first-year course, 2 for a second-year course, 3 for a third-year course, 4 for a fourth-year course. Courses in this category that are acceptable for graduate credit carry alternative numbers in which the first digit only is changed to a 5 or a 6 according to the definitions below.

5000-5999 Courses that carry graduate credit only in a major field different from that of the department offering the course. Most such courses will be alternate designations of courses normally numbered 300-499.

6000-6999 Courses that carry graduate credit in any major field and have alternate designations in which the first digit is a three or four when taken for undergraduate credit.

7000-9999 Courses intended for graduate credit only.