

WSU Core Review and Alignment Committee
Final Recommendations
October 2023

Core Mission Statement

The Wright State Core is an integrated program of relevant courses that provides students with the breadth of skills, depth of knowledge, and range of experience expected of university graduates. Wright State graduates will be life-long learners who are engaged, conscientious, educated citizens of a diverse world, and prepared for professional success.

The Wright State Core fosters the knowledge and skills essential for critical thinkers who:

- Solve multi-disciplinary problems with innovation, empathy, and adaptability;
- Ethically engage with their work, individuals, and the world around them;
- Work effectively both independently and collaboratively;
- Appreciate the arts and sciences;
- Reason both quantitatively and qualitatively;
- Engage in meaningful civic activities locally and globally;
- Appreciate their own and other cultural heritages;
- Engage effectively with the increasingly interconnected global and technological environment in which they live and work.

Core Requirements

Students must take a minimum of 36 semester hours to complete the WSU Core. At least 24 of those hours must be in the following Elements A-E outlined below:

- *Element A: English Composition/Oral Communication (at least three semester hours)*
Students must take one First Year Writing Course

- *Element B: Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic (at least 3 semester hours)*
Students must take one Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic Course

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- *Element C: Arts and Humanities (at least 6 semester hours)*
- *Element D: Social and Behavioral Sciences (at least 6 semester hours)*
 - Students must take two Arts and Humanities Courses from two different disciplines
 - Students must take two Social and Behavioral Science Courses from two different disciplines.
 - At least one course in Arts and Humanities or Social and Behavioral Sciences must be a Global Inquiry (GI) course.
 - At least one course in Arts and Humanities or Social and Behavioral Sciences must be a History (HST) course.

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- *Element E: Natural Sciences with one lab (at least seven semester hours)*
Students must take two Natural Science Courses, and at least one course must include a lab.

Additional Core Requirements

- *Second Writing Course (at least three semester hours)*

Students must take a second writing course. The course must satisfy the OT36 learning outcomes for the Second Writing Course (TME002) but does not need to be OT36 approved.

- *Integrated Writing (IW) Courses (at least nine semester hours)*

Students must take at least three IW courses. This three-course requirement can be met in one of two ways:

- (1) Two IW courses in the Core and one IW course the Major
- (2) One IW course in the Core and two IW courses in the Major

Programs of study should state whether students must take a specific IW distribution or may select for themselves.

- *Inclusive Excellence (IE) Courses (at least six hours)*

Students must take at least two courses designated as Inclusive Excellence (IE).

- *Additional Hours (up to eight semester hours)*

Students meeting all of the above requirements are still required to have a minimum of 36 semester hours to complete the WSU Core requirements. These additional (*up to eight*) semester hours must be approved in one of the Elements A-E by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC).

Procedural and Implementation Recommendations

- Deans, Department Chairs, and Faculty will coordinate which courses will be submitted for approval in the Core, and which will not. They will coordinate regarding areas of expertise, redundancy, demand, etc.
- For a course to be considered for the Core, a course proposal and an OT36 application must be prepared simultaneously. This requirement is to encourage as much alignment to OT36 as possible. The UCC, or another group charged by the UCC, will consider the course proposal based on the Learning Outcomes of the requested Element. ODHE will consider the course based on its criteria. Each of these approval processes will be independent of one another.
- The UCC, or another group charged by the UCC, will determine a process to eliminate courses from the WSU Core.
- A clear process will be articulated and established for submitting courses for OT36 approval.
- As part of the discussions on including course attributes in the Core, such as Integrated Writing (IW) and Inclusive Excellence (IE), the committee recognized the need to invest in the development and ongoing support for these types of course offerings. So that students can be successful in meeting the learning outcomes of IW and IE courses, the committee recommends investing in managing the course offerings in these attributes, as well as providing resources and oversight for the instructors of these courses. Not all faculty are comfortable or prepared to help students meet these learning outcomes, and

the committee recommends that WSU invest in effectively managing these courses, and the development of faculty assigned to teach these courses.

Additional Item(s) still being discussed

- *First Year Seminar (FYS) Courses*

The committee has had initial discussions regarding requiring FYS for all students. The committee is generally supportive of FYS courses, as they have been initially proposed, and recognizes their benefits. However, the committee has not finalized any decision on including FYS in the WSU Core. The committee recommends that the FYS working group and the Undergraduate Student Success Committee (USSC) are the appropriate bodies to continue this work.