



The Connections Curriculum

Wittenberg University 2021



Wittenberg University provides a liberal arts education dedicated to intellectual inquiry and wholeness of person within a diverse residential community. Reflecting its Lutheran heritage, Wittenberg challenges students to become responsible global citizens, to discover their callings, and to lead personal, professional, and civic lives of creativity, service, compassion, and integrity. Our Connections curriculum provides opportunities for students to gain a solid academic foundation in multiple disciplines and then connect their classroom knowledge with practical situations, testing new skills in the wider world. Students will apply concepts from their coursework to experiential learning opportunities like civic engagement, internships, and research. These experiential learning opportunities also connect students with future collaborators, potential employers, mentors, and the community.

Making Connections

LO1: Students will articulate how their co-curricular experiences and their academic curriculum have shaped their personal, professional, and civic identities.

First Year Seminar (FYS)

The First Year Seminar (FYS) is a fall semester, four-credit class that provides an introduction to Wittenberg, to campus resources, and to the foundational skills and expectations of college-level courses. FYS also challenges students to think about an enduring problem facing society. Students will work with peers, faculty, and campus resources to engage meaningfully with the questions raised in the class.

Cross-Campus Connection

Students will select or develop their own Cross Campus Connection (CCC), which integrates the content of academic courses with their experiential learning requirements. Each CCC will link three courses together under a broad theme or focus area; an interdisciplinary major or interdisciplinary minor can fulfill this requirement.

Civic Engagement Experience

The Hagen Center for Civic and Urban Engagement will review, approve, and serve as a resource for experiences and courses that satisfy this requirement.

Experiential Learning Opportunities

Students will complete two approved experiential learning opportunities from the categories of research experiences, internships, national or international study, leadership experiences, or civic engagement and complete all requirements of such experiences.

Culminating Reflection

Students will complete a culminating reflection experience as a graded component of a course within their major, typically during their senior year.

Core Competencies

Some classes might count for two, or might also count for creative/critical thinking.

Writing: LO2

Eight credits of course work focused on writing.

Oral Communication: LO3

Eight credits of course work focused on oral communication.

Quantitative Reasoning: LO4

- a) A four-credit quantitative reasoning course.
- b) Four credits of application-focused quantitative reasoning.

Global Diversity: LO5

Eight credits of coursework with at least four credits with a focus on non-Western culture(s) and/or taught in a second language at the 112 level or above.

U.S. Diversity and Equity: LO6

Four credits of coursework

Critical and Creative Thinking

Some classes might also count for a core competency.

Scientific Inquiry: LO7

A four- or five-credit course.

Creative Process: LO8

Four credits of course work.

Social Scientific Methods: LO9

A four-credit course.

Historical and Critical Analysis (Humanities and Arts): LO10

A four-credit course.

First Year Seminar

+

Core Competencies

Writing	Oral Communication	Quantitative Reasoning
Writing	Oral Communication	Quantitative Reasoning
Global Diversity	Language or Non-Western Focus	U.S. Diversity and Equity

+

Critical and Creative Thinking

Scientific Inquiry	Social Scientific Methods
Creative Process	Historical and Critical Analysis

+

Experiential Learning

Civic Engagement

Choose an additional two

Internship

Research

Civic Engagement

Study Away

Leadership

+

Culminating Reflection

Get Connected!

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