



Northwestern Michigan College

2025/26

Western Michigan University College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum Guide

This guide is for students who have narrowed their choice of programs to the College of Arts & Sciences (A & S).

Students who graduate from the College of Arts & Sciences must complete **CASE** (College of Arts and Sciences Essentials). Please note, “All Students at Western Michigan University must satisfy WMU Essential Studies requirements.” **NMC** [WMU Essential Studies \(WES\) program transfer guide](#) is where you should start selecting courses that will apply toward WES.

CASE requirements are specific to pursuing a major/program through Arts and Sciences. You will find requirements for CASE listed below:

- **All A&S students must complete a world language other than English through the 1010 level (1020 level if American Sign Language),** by university-level course work completed at WMU or transferred to WMU or by examination. Neither the MACRAO nor MTA meets this requirement.
- **All A&S students must complete the ENGL 1050/1060 sequence or transfer equivalent.** Neither the MACRAO nor MTA meets this requirement.
- **All A&S students must complete a course designated “baccalaureate writing.”** This requirement may be fulfilled in the student’s program of study, or in WMU Essential Studies. Neither the MACRAO nor the MTA meets this requirement.

Choosing a major:

- You can explore the departments in A & S by clicking the following link: <https://wmich.edu/arts-sciences/academics> . You will find the following information:
 - General information about the department specialties
 - Which majors and minors each department offers
 - Curriculum guides for each major and minor
- You are encouraged to take courses in the areas of your interest, as this is an effective way to explore majors. You may decide not to continue with the major represented by these courses but know they count toward electives in your overall college requirements.
- Some programs have more math requirements than others, so it is a good idea to pay close attention to those requirements. Students may often find it is possible to complete up to Calculus III at the community college.

- Some programs, such as International and Comparative Politics or History, require completing four semesters of a world language (same language through WMU's 2010-level) which does not include American Sign Language. Other programs, such as Global and International Studies, require two semesters of world language (same language) beyond WMU's 2010-level. Students whose native language is not English should consult with a program advisor.
- Students who intend to graduate from A & S are expected to complete a minimum of one stand-alone major (i.e., not coordinate major) and one minor:
 - A major and a minor combination can broaden career choices. Students may discover completing more than one major and one minor beneficial when researching careers.
 - Double majors, or majors in Global and International Studies, Community and Regional Planning, Public History, Geophysics, Geochemistry, Social Studies and a Student Planned Major do not require a minor.
- We encourage you to utilize resources that NMC offers to help students in the career decision-making process. WMU also offers a career class, career testing, and other resources.

How can WMU help?

- For help with **CASE** questions, contact an advisor at the address listed below.
- Prospective students should apply to WMU at least 9 months before starting classes. Fall priority registration opens in March. Spring (January) registration opens in late October, and Summer I and II open in February. If your plans change, the entry date can be deferred, but if you delay the application date until you "know for sure" that you are coming to WMU, you may miss the priority registration dates.
- Transfer students are required to meet with an advisor before registering for their first semester at WMU.

Approved by:

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