

WMU Essential Studies Proposed Timeline (as of Feb. 27, 2018)

A fall 2020 timeline is being proposed to accommodate the course approval and class scheduling process. It allows time for the University to work with community college partners, test assessment and data collection, and communicate and market the new program. In addition, a fall 2020 launch provides an opportunity to analyze resources and capacity to verify availability of a sufficient number of courses in each category to ensure students are able to complete their degrees in a timely manner.

Spring 2018

- WMU Essential Studies course development begins (based on approved Student Learning Outcomes).
- Communications/Marketing plan developed and initiated.
- Department and college curriculum committee(s) training/preparation for WMU Essential Studies course approval.

Summer 2018

- Chair planning sessions to identify department needs; assess current general education and future WMU Essential Studies offerings.
- Finalize WMU Essential Studies course approval procedures and forms.

Fall 2018

- WMU Essential Studies Course Approval/Review Committee (formerly the Committee to Oversee General Education) begins course review following current curriculum process (Dec. 31, 2018 deadline for college curriculum committee approval completed for fall 2020 course offerings).*
- Development of pre-first year student informational module.

Spring 2019

- Communication/marketing plan and materials reviewed.

Fall 2019

- Update Banner after WMU Essential Studies Course Approval/Review Committee approval.
- Update the *Undergraduate Catalog*.
- Update and test the Banner and catalog revisions in Degree Works.
- Update articulation agreements and transfer guides with community college partners.^
- Review approved courses to verify a sufficient number to meet demand (work with departments).
- Help departments build fall 2020 sections to ensure adequate seats for student demand.

Spring 2020

- Departments review 2020-21 catalog proofs and revise if necessary (March).

Summer 2020

- *Undergraduate Catalog* published June 1, 2020.
- Students attend first year orientation and register for fall classes.
- Demand for WMU Essential Studies sections evaluated between orientation sessions.

Fall 2020

- Launch of WMU Essential Studies curriculum.

*Once begun, WMU Essential Studies Course Approval/Review Committee work will be ongoing.

^Articulation and transfer agreements will be revised as needed on an ongoing basis.