Requirements for Degrees

Degrees Offered

The Wake Forest College of Arts and Sciences offers undergraduate programs leading to the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees.

The bachelor of arts degree is conferred with a major in anthropology, art history, biology, chemistry, Chinese language and culture, classical studies, communication, computer science, economics, English, French studies, German, German studies, Greek, history, Japanese studies, Latin, mathematics, mathematical statistics, music performance, music in liberal arts, philosophy, physics, politics and international affairs, psychology, religious studies, Russian, sociology, Spanish, studio art, theatre, or women's, gender, and sexuality studies.

The bachelor of science degree is conferred with a major in accountancy, business and enterprise management, finance, or mathematical business.

The School of Business offers undergraduate programs leading to the bachelor of science degree with a major in accountancy, business and enterprise management, finance, or mathematical business.

The bachelor of arts degree is available with a major in elementary education or social studies education. The bachelor of science degree may be conferred in combined curricula in engineering and medical technology.

All students must complete:

1. the core requirements (unless accepted for the Open Curriculum),
2. a course of study approved by the department or departments of the major, and
3. elective courses, for a total of 120 hours.

In general, no more than 12 hours toward graduation may be earned from among all of the following courses: MUS 111-MUS 121 and MUS 128-MUS 129 (ensemble courses); DCE 128; and elective 100-level courses in health and exercise science. However, majors in music in liberal arts and music performance may count up to 16 hours in these courses toward graduation. A cross-listed course may be taken one time for hours toward graduation, unless otherwise specified by the course description, and no more than three hours in LIB courses may count toward graduation.

All students must earn a minimum cumulative 2.0 grade point average in Wake Forest College and the School of Business. Once enrolled at Wake Forest, a student may subsequently count, at most, 30 hours of credit from sources other than Wake Forest programs toward the graduation requirement of 120 hours. Students who transfer into Wake Forest must subsequently earn at least 60 hours in Wake Forest programs. Except for combined degree curricula, the work of the senior year must consist of courses in Wake Forest programs. Any exceptions must be approved by the Committee on Academic Affairs. No more than 15 credit hours earned through fully online courses may be applied towards graduation; of these no more than 6 credit hours may be transferred from another institution.

Transfer credits will not be used in calculating a student’s GPA. This includes affiliate study abroad programs (approved non-Wake Forest programs). However, work from other institutions accepted in transfer, along with the grade(s) earned, will be recorded on the transcript. Graduation distinctions will be based solely on the Wake Forest GPA.

A student graduates under the requirements of the bulletin of the year in which he or she enters. However, when a student declares a major or a minor, the requirements for the major or minor that are in effect at the time of declaration will apply. Such requirements might not be congruent with those stated in a given bulletin. Newly admitted majors to the School of Business, will be assigned a catalog year that will reflect their first full academic year as a major in the School. If coursework is not completed within 6 years of entrance, the student must fulfill the requirements for the class in which he or she graduates.

The University issues degrees in August, December, and May. All requirements must be completed and certified before a student will be issued a degree and/or can participate in the commencement exercises. However, students may petition for permission to participate in the commencement exercises if all three of the following conditions are met:

1. The student will have completed at least 112 hours by the end of the spring semester preceding commencement.
2. The student will have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA and a minimum 2.0 GPA in the major(s).
3. The student has no outstanding judicial sanctions (unpaid fines, owed community service hours, etc.).

Commencement is a celebration of graduation, but not required for graduation. Participation in commencement is at the discretion of the appropriate Dean. The University reserves the right to refuse participation in commencement in certain circumstances (e.g., unfulfilled sanctions for judicial or honor violations).

No further entries or alterations may be made toward the undergraduate degree once a student has been graduated.

To become a degree candidate, a student must submit an online application for graduation that will prompt a review of the student’s academic record to assure that all degree requirements have been met. The application for graduation is available online in WIN. Students who are not enrolled in the term prior to their desired graduation date must contact the Office of the University Registrar before the application deadline. The application deadlines for each graduation date are as follows:

- December graduation: September 1
- May graduation: October 1
- August graduation: May 30
The University conducts one Commencement Ceremony each year in May. Students who have earned their degree the previous August or December are invited to participate in the May ceremony following their graduation.

**Core Requirements (Basic and Divisional combined)**

The core requirements are intended to introduce the student to various fields of knowledge and to lay the foundation for concentration in a major subject and related fields during the junior and senior years. For these reasons, as many of the requirements as feasible should be taken in the first two years.

**Basic Requirements**

All students must complete five required basic courses (unless exempted through procedures established by the departments concerned):

- FYS 100 (first-year seminar) - to be taken during first year
- WRI 111 (writing seminar) - to be taken during first year
- One 200-level foreign language course
- Health and Exercise Science 100 and 101

**Foreign Language Placements**

All students new to Wake Forest who have studied a foreign language in high school must complete a foreign language placement test in the language(s) studied. Students will not receive credit for a class at a lower level than the level of their placement on the placement exam, unless they:

1. register for the class in which they placed;
2. attend a few class meetings;
3. consult with their professor; and
4. successfully appeal their placement to the language placement appeals officers of the department and be reassigned to a lower level course.

Students may satisfy the requirement with a foreign language they have not previously studied, and may start at the beginning level (111 or 101, depending on the language) offered at Wake Forest.

Students whose primary language (the language of instruction in the student’s prior schooling) is other than English are exempt from the basic requirement in foreign language.

Students whose schooling has been in English but who are fluent in a language not taught at Wake Forest must present the equivalent of a 200-level college course or proficiency in reading and writing in the second language to be exempt from the requirement. Such students should contact the Office of the Dean of the College. Each case will be referred to a person qualified to make the appropriate determination. If the second language is taught at Wake Forest, the relevant department decides whether the student may complete the requirement in that language or may be regarded as having fulfilled the requirement already. Elective courses in the language or literature of a student’s heritage or country of origin are at the discretion of the department offering the course.

**Divisional Requirements**

All students must complete courses in each of the five divisions of the undergraduate curriculum (unless exempted through procedures established by the departments concerned or by participation in the Open Curriculum). Together with the basic requirements these courses form the core of Wake Forest’s undergraduate liberal arts education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Departments</th>
<th>Number of Courses Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I: Humanities</td>
<td>History, Philosophy; Study of Religions; Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II: Literatures</td>
<td>Literatures Written in English (English Department) In English Translation (Classical Languages, East Asian Languages and Cultures, German and Russian, Romance Languages, and the Program in Humanities)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III: Fine Arts</td>
<td>Art, Music, Theatre and Dance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV: Social Sciences</td>
<td>Anthropology, Communication, Economics, Education, Politics and International Affairs, Psychology, Sociology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V: Math and Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are not allowed to exempt divisional core requirements through the Advanced Placement Examination, the College Level Examination Program or the International Baccalaureate Program, although students who complete AP or IB courses and present qualifying exam scores earn credit towards the 120 hours needed for graduation. Departments choose which courses will satisfy divisional requirements. Courses satisfying a divisional requirement are designated (D) after their descriptions in this bulletin. Courses without the (D) designation do not satisfy a divisional requirement.

**Special Restrictions**

- In divisions requiring more than one course, students may not choose two courses from within the same department.
- One course cannot satisfy the requirements of two divisions. A cross-listed course satisfies a requirement in one division only.
- Language courses at the 200-level do not fulfill the Division II literature requirement.

**Additional Requirements**

To prepare students for the demands of technology and globalization, Wake Forest guides undergraduate course selections with two further requirements:

**Cultural Diversity Requirement.** All students must complete at least one course that educates them regarding cultural diversity. This course may be taken at the basic, divisional, or major/minor level, or as an elective.
Courses qualified to meet this requirement are designated (CD) after their descriptions in this bulletin.

**Quantitative Reasoning Requirement.** All students must complete at least one course that requires quantitative reasoning, either as a qualifying course in Division V, as an elective, or as a major or minor course requirement. All courses meeting the requirement are designated (QR) after their descriptions in this bulletin.

**Requirement in Health and Exercise Science**

Students must complete HES 100 and HES 101 before beginning additional health and exercise science elective courses, and in any case, before the end of the second year.