

UC COURSES

UNIV 101. Introduction to the University. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour (delivered online, face-to-face or hybrid). 1 credit. Designed to orient new students to the traditions, purposes and expectations of a university education. Students will assess their expectations and evaluate their academic strengths and goals. Through lectures, guest speakers and individual projects, students will learn of VCU resources designed to help them solve problems and to achieve a rewarding and successful academic program.

UNIV 102. Investigations in Learning. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Enrollment restricted to first-year students who want to improve college success skills. The student will create an individualized action plan to improve academic performance.

UNIV 103. Education and Career Planning. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a total of 3 credits. An education- and career-planning course focusing on the process of researching and selecting a major. Through course work, research, guest speakers and informational interviewing, students will discover various educational and career options. Topics will include interest, abilities and work-values assessments, decision-making models and career development theories. One- and two-credit versions of the course are offered with correspondingly reduced meeting schedules.

UNIV 111. Focused Inquiry I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online, face-to-face or hybrid). 3 credits. Utilizes contemporary themes to give students opportunities and practice in writing, critical thinking, oral presentation, collaborative learning, information retrieval and evaluation, and social and civic responsibilities. Incorporates common reading materials and course activities across all sections.

UNIV 112. Focused Inquiry II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online, face-to-face or hybrid). 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 111 or equivalent. Builds on skills introduced in UNIV 111 by providing practice in expository essays, argument and contextual analysis. Focuses on practice in writing in a variety of genres, framing writing according to both purpose and audience and identifying academically valid sources. Students must earn a minimum grade of C to receive credit for this course.

UNIV 191. Student Success Special Topics. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated with different content for a maximum of three credits. Transitioning from high school to VCU as a first-year student brings both excitement and nervousness. VCU offers a menu of first-year courses that address either motivators or barriers to student success. These courses are taught by academic advisers, financial aid counselors, campus leaders and student affairs professionals interested in connecting to first-year students based on their interests, fears, aspirations and career goals. Students who complete these courses historically earn higher GPAs and graduate faster with less debt.

UNIV 200. Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online, face-to-face or hybrid). 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 112 or HONR 250 with a minimum grade of C. Asks students to consider real-world applications of writing and research. Students will develop critical analysis, inquiry-based research skills, communication of argument and research across media. Work represents the culmination of foundational ConnectED competencies developed in UNIV 111 and UNIV 112. Students must earn a minimum grade of C to receive credit for this course.

UNIV 250. Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Program. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. May be repeated for up to two credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 112 with a minimum grade of B. Utilizes classroom practice to further the core skills developed in UNIV 111 and 112 (writing, critical thinking, oral presentation, collaborative learning, information retrieval and evaluation, and social and civic responsibilities) as well as exposing students to the practice, possibilities, rewards and responsibilities of the act of teaching. Enrollment will be arranged through faculty mentors.

UNIV 251. Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Program. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. May be repeated for up to two credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200 with minimum grade of B. Utilizes classroom practice to further the core skills developed in UNIV 200 (including writing, critical thinking, collaborative learning, information retrieval and evaluation) as well as exposing students to the practice, possibilities, rewards and responsibilities of the act of teaching. Enrollment will be arranged through faculty mentors.

UNIV 270. Introduction to Leadership Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Open only to students participating in the Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program or enrolled in VCU LEAD. Introductory study of leadership theory, group dynamics and human relationships used in volunteer organizations and leisure delivery systems. Foundations of leadership/follower behavior, advanced facilitation techniques and techniques of decision-making, problem-solving, conflict management and program evaluation will be examined.

UNIV 291. University Special Topics. 1-4 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-4 credits. May be repeated with different content. Specialized topics in subject and competency areas related to the core curriculum program not provided by an existing course or program. May be multidisciplinary. Graded as pass/fail or normal letter grading at the option of the instructor.

UNIV 299. What's the Big Idea?. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Each section in this interdisciplinary course will focus on a particular "big question" that has intrigued thinkers throughout time and across cultures. As students move from personal to global — and from theoretical to practical — investigations of the question, they will come to understand inquiry as a complex cycle of questioning, gathering, examining, interpreting, comparing, analyzing and evaluating, with important application to decision-making and problem-solving in the real world.

UNIV 391. University Special Topics. 1-4 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-4 credits. May be repeated with different content. Specialized topics in subject and competency areas related to the core curriculum program not provided by an existing course or program. May be multidisciplinary. Graded as pass/fail or normal letter grading at the option of the instructor.