

Approved Breakthrough Course List

Theme Courses

Aesthetics:

CLA 215: Mythology
EDU 210: Literature for Children and Youth
ENG 205: British Literature to 1800
ENG 206: British Literature since 1800
ENG/THE 230: Play in Performance
FRE 280: Introduction to French Literature & Culture
HES/PED 208: Creative Movement and Rhythms
HIS 200: History on Film
LAT 203: Intermediate Latin I
MUS 105: Fundamentals of Music
MUS 205: Survey of Music History
THE 201: Basic Acting

Human Development:

ECN 212: Principles of Microeconomics
EDU 225: Human Experiences Across the Years
EDU 230: Child and Adolescent Growth and Development
HES 215: Principles of Motor Learning
PHL 101: Introduction to Philosophy Through Film
PHL 120: History of Philosophy
PSY 112: Psychology as a Natural Science
PSY 113: Psychology as a Social Science

Values and Diversity:

ENG 238: American Literature to the Civil War
ENG 239: American Literature since the Civil War
HIS 103: History of the United States to 1877
HIS 104: History of the United States since 1877
PHL 212: Introduction to Ethics
PHL 242: Biomedical Ethics
PHL 246: Environmental Ethics
REL 101: Introduction to the Bible
WGS 210: Introduction to Women's Studies

Global Perspective:

ENG 248: Topics in World Literature to 1800
ENG 249: World Literature since 1800
GOG 101: Intro to Geography
GTS 201: Introduction to Global and Transnational Studies
GTS/HES 240: Introduction to Global Public Health
HIS 109: World History I
HIS 110: World History II
HIS 279: African Civilization
HUM 277: Spanish Civilization
HUM 278: Latin American Civilization
HUM 294: Introduction to the French-speaking World
PHL/REL 102: World Religions
POL 212: Introduction to International Relations
SEC 201: Introduction to Security Studies
SPA 203: Intermediate Spanish I

Institutions & Society:

ACC 215: Principles of Financial Accounting
BUS 131: Introduction to Business
BUS 220: Fundamentals of Management
CLA: 227: Greek Civilization
CLA 228: Roman Civilization
ECN 211: Principles of Macroeconomics
ENG/FAR 355: Gothic Literature and Film
HES 261: Introduction to Epidemiology
HIS 105: Western Civilization I
HIS 106: Western Civilization II
LST 201: Leadership Theories and Practice
LST 210: Leadership in Nonprofit Organizations
MSM 210: Introduction to Museum Studies
PHL 244: Business Ethics
POL 112: Introduction to Political Science
POL 210: Intro to the Policy Process
POL 211: American Government and Politics
SEC 205: Intro to Homeland Security
SOC 111: Introduction to Sociology

Natural Science Inquiry:

BIO 114/115: Biological Processes/Lab

BIO 124/125: Biodiversity/Lab

CHM 105/106: Introduction to Chemistry/Lab

CHM 114/115: General Chemistry I/Lab

CHM 124/125: General Chemistry II/Lab

ENV 105: Introduction to Env Science

GEO 108: Introduction to Physical Geology

GEO 203: Historical Geology

NSC 105: Dinosaurs

NSC 108: Intro Biology Principles/Lab

NSC 112: Birds, Bugs and Behavior/Lab

NSC 210: Anatomy & Physiology I

NSC 320: Anatomy & Physiology II

PHY 201: Physics I

PHY 202: Algebra-Based Physics I

REMOVED FROM BREAKTHROUGH:

Aesthetics- CLA 200: Film and (Mostly Classical) Myth (2021 2022)

Aesthetics- ENG 204: Introduction to Literature (2021 2022)

Values & Diversity- POL 205: Introduction to Political Theory (2021 2022)

Natural Science Inquiry- GEO 118: Historical Geology (2021 2022)

Exploration Courses

BUS/PSY 305: Industrial-Organizational Psychology
BUS 322: Cross Cultural Management
BUS 326: Human Resource Management
CBR 415: Information Security Policy
CLA 351: Latin Literature in Translation
CLA 361: Ancient Greek and Roman Drama
EDU 385: Diversity in Education
ENG 335: Crime/Mystery/Detective
ENG 335: Crime, Mystery, and Detection in 19th Century British Literature
ENG/WGS 340: Wives, Widows, and Whores
ENG 345: Native American Literatures
ENG 350: Shakespeare
ENG 350: Supernatural Shakespeare
ENG 355: Gothic Literature and Film
ENG/THE 378: Playwriting
ENG/JMP 380: Introduction to Digital Humanities
ENV 350: Conservation Biology
GEO 302: Geoscience: Perspectives and Creative Design
GTS/HIS 300: 1940s Global History
PSY 405: International and Cross-Cultural Psychology
HES 305: Community Health
HES 309: History/Philosophy of PE
HES 350: Theories of Adapted Physical Education
HES/WGS 355: Women's Health Issues
HES 357: Community Nutrition
HIS/MSM 310: Oral History
HIS 325: History of Food
HIS 335: History of Screenwriting
LST 330: Diversity & Ethics in Leadership
LST 340: Great Leaders
MAT 310: History of Mathematics
MUS 312: Music of Resistance, Revolution, and Liberation
MUS/LST 335: Song and the Community
NSC 301: Biotechnology and Society
PHL 320: Philosophy & Literature
PHL/REL 302: The Meaning of Life
PHL 324: Genetic Manipulation
PHL/REL 333: Asian Philosophy and Religion
PHL/REL 342: Philosophy, Religion and Science
POL 301: The American Presidency
POL 305: International Law and Organizations
POL/GTS 306: West European Government and Politics
POL/GTS 308: Post-Soviet Politics
POL 311: Political Parties, Voting, and Campaign Strategies
POL/GTS 325: Middle East & North African Politics
POL 326: Environmental Politics and Policy
POL/SEC 334: Intelligence at Home & Abroad
POL 335: Politics and Security of Developing Nations
POL 337: Human Rights and Security
POL 343: Congress

POL/GTS 346: Chinese Politics and Influence
POL/GTS 350: Politics of Language
POL/WGS 351: Women & Politics
POL 362/GTS 300: American Foreign Policy
PSY/WGS 301: Human Sexual Behavior
PSY 306: Positive Psychology
PSY/WGS 307: Psychology of Gender
PSY 330: Addictive Disorders
PSY/FPS 340: Forensic Psychology
PSY/SEC 374: Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Group Conflict
PSY 418: Adult Development & Aging
REL 305: Perceptions of Death
REL 307: Social Justice in Modern Christian Thought
REL 316: The Teachings of Jesus
REL 319: Recent Christian Thought
REL/WGS 335: Sex and Gender in the Christian Tradition
REL 345: Writings of C.S. Lewis
REL 346: Religion and Violence

Inactive Exploration Courses:

ENG 315/GTS 315: Booker Prize-Winning Fiction (24-25)
ENG 330: Literary Remixes: Contemporary Takes on Classic British Fiction (24-25)
ENG 345/GTS 345: African Diasporic (24-25)
ENG/GTS 345: Caribbean Literature (24-25)
HIS 300: Deviant & Degenerate Art
HIS 300: History of the CIA
HIS 300: Vikings

Lifetime Leadership Skills

Westminster encourages lifetime learning, which is enabled by the development of specific intellectual skills. Breakthrough general education requirements places particular emphasis on skills that are needed for success in the 21st century. To this end, Westminster students will take courses that allow them to sharpen their skills in written and oral communication, information and digital literacy, and research inquiry and analysis.

Skill
Writing Intensive: two courses (at least one must be an upper-level course); three courses if transferring in ENG 103
Oral Communication: one course
Information and Digital Literacy: one course
Research: Inquiry and Analysis one course

Communication:

Communication includes the ability to write, speak, read, and listen effectively. Development of these skills is essential for preparing students to be confident communicators with the capacity to convey, engage, apply, and reflect on knowledge accessed within their chosen fields.

Writing Intensive:

Westminster students must earn credit in two Writing Intensive courses, one of which must be upper level, to fulfill this portion of the Lifetime Leadership Skills. Students transferring credit in composition must take three WI courses and at least one of the courses must be upper-level. Some professors may offer a course as "Writing Intensive Option" in order to allow a limited number of students to take the course for Writing Intensive credit; it is the student's responsibility to get permission from the instructor of a Writing Intensive option course and to submit the electronic form to the Registrar's Office in order to receive Writing Intensive credit.

Writing Intensive courses will be designated with "WI" and Writing Intensive Option courses will be designated with "WIO" in parenthesis after the title of the class.

Writing Intensive Courses:

- ACC 421: Auditing
- BIO 204: Animal Behavior
- BIO 404: Biochemistry
- BIO 420: Physiology

- BUS 450: Business Strategy
- CLA 351: Latin Literature in Translation
- CSA 470: Software Engineering Capstone I
- CSA 480: Software Engineering Capstone II
- ECN 355: Research Methods for Business and Social Sciences Applications
- EDU 231: Education of Exceptional Individuals
- EDU 290: Foundations of Education
- EDU 306: Teaching Reading
- EDU 309: Teaching of Writing in Middle & Secondary Schools
- EDU 350: Digital Literacy
- EDU 385: Diversity in Education
- EDU 392: Reading & Writing in the Content Area
- EDU 431: Teaching English in Middle & Secondary Schools
- EDU 441: Reading Assessment and Advancement
- EDU 490: Education Seminar
- ENG 206: British Literature since 1800
- ENG/JMP 220: Janus and the World of Publishing (Removed 2024-2025)
- ENG/JMP 265: Technical and Web Writing
- ENG/JMP 270: Expository Writing
- ENG 275: Introduction to Creative Writing
- ENG 290: Introduction to Literary Studies: Critical Approaches & Research Methods
- ENG/FAR 355: Gothic Literature and Film
- ENG 335: Crime, Mystery, and Detection 19th Century British Literature
- ENG/WGS 340: Romanticism and Gender: Bad Girls of Romanticism
- ENG 372: Creative Writing Prose (Fiction)
- ENG 374: Creative Writing Poetry
- ENG 376: Creative Nonfiction
- ENG/THE 378: Playwriting
- ENG 420: Honors Project I
- ENG 430: Honors Project II
- ENV 350: Conservation Biology
- FRE 280: Introduction to French Literature and Culture
- GEO 315: Anthropocene Geology
- GTS 401: Research Seminar
- HES 321: Kinesiology
- HIS 325: History of Food
- HIS 390: Historiography
- HIS 422: Senior Thesis
- HIS 423: Senior Thesis
- HIS 424: Senior Thesis
- LST 330: Diversity & Ethics in Leadership
- MAT 310: History of Mathematics
- MAT 331: Mathematics Seminar
- MUS 312: Music of Resistance, Revolution & Liberation
- PHL 242: Biomedical Ethics
- PHL 246: Environmental Ethics
- PHL/REL 302: The Meaning of Life
- PHL/REL 333: Asian Philosophy and Religion
- PHL 400/REL 300: Buddhism
- PHL 410: Ethical Warfare
- PHL 410: Philosophy of Race and Gender

- POL 301: The American Presidency
- POL 304: American Political Theory
- POL/SEC 328: National Security Agencies
- POL 332: National Security Law I
- POL 333: National Security Law II
- POL 343: Congress
- POL/WGS 351: Women and Politics
- PSY 422: Psychology Seminar
- PSY 430: Pre-Thesis
- PSY 431: Senior Thesis
- REL/WGS 335: Sex and Gender in the Christian Tradition
- REL 345: Writings of C.S. Lewis
- SEC 420: Security Studies Thesis
- SPA 381: Advanced Grammar and Composition

Approved Writing Intensive Optional Courses:

- BIO 322: Vertebrate Biology
- BUS 334: Consumer Behavior
- BUS 327: Operations Management
- CBR 210: Cybersecurity for Society
- CBR 331: Information Storage and Management
- CBR 415: Information Security Policy
- CHM 410: Medicinal Chemistry
- CHM 435: Physical Chemistry II Lab
- CLA 215: Mythology
- CLA 227: Greek Civilization
- CLA 228: Roman Civilization
- ENG/WGS 340: Wives, Widows & Whores
- ENG 345: Native American Literatures
- ENG 350: Shakespeare
- ENG 350: Supernatural Shakespeare
- HES 340: Exercise Physiology
- HES 357: Community Nutrition
- HIS 109: World History I
- HIS 110: World History II
- MAT 422: Modern Algebra
- MAT 424: Advanced Calculus
- PHL 101: Introduction to Philosophy Through Film
- PHL 120: History of Philosophy
- PSY 274: Methods in Experimental Psychology

Oral Communication & Presentation Skills:

One course required. Students will earn credit by completing a course emphasizing oral communication and presentation skills. Students may take any course designated OCP to fulfill this requirement, but it is recommended that they complete this course within their major in order to promote meaningful engagement with and application of this skill in their chosen field.

Approved Oral Communication and Presentation Courses:

- All courses with SPE prefix
- BIO 302: Human Anatomy
- BIO 310: Environmental Toxicology
- CLA 351: Latin Literature in Translation
- CSA 470: Software Engineering Capstone I
- CSA 480: Software Engineering Capstone II
- ECN 355: Research Methods for Business and Social Sciences Applications
- EDU 231: Education of Exceptional Individuals
- EDU 392: Reading & Writing in the Content Area
- ENG/THE 230 & 231: Play in Performance
- GEO 315: Anthropocene Geology
- GOG 101: Intro to Geography
- GTS 212: Model United Nations Team
- HES 357: Community Nutrition
- HIS 310: Oral History
- MAT 305: Heart of Mathematics
- MAT 422: Modern Algebra
- MUS 335: Song and the Community
- PHL/REL 102: World Religions
- POL 300: Domestic Terrorism
- POL/SEC 328: National Security Agencies
- POL/SEC 334: Intelligence at Home & Abroad
- POL 335: Politics and Security in Developing Nations
- PSY 311: Social Psychology Lab
- PSY 313: Developmental Psychology Lab
- PSY 316: Personality Lab
- PSY 321: Memory and Cognition Lab
- PSY 391: Abnormal Psychology Lab
- REL 346: Religion and Violence
- SEC 312/GTS 300: Terrorism
- THE 201: Basic Acting

Information and Digital Literacy:

Westminster prioritizes development of the skill of information technology, or the ability to employ computer and other technologies in writing, in the manipulation of data, and in understanding the nature and limits of technology. To adapt to rapidly changing technology tools, students should have both information and digital literacy. This implies the ability to access, retrieve, evaluate, manage, and use information effectively and efficiently from a variety of print, non-print, and digital sources through the use of computer and other information technologies.

It is recommended students meet the Information and Digital Literacy skill in their chosen field of study. This skill is addressed throughout the curriculum as indicated by courses tagged as IDL. While courses are not designated IDL in the catalog, they are noted as such in the Schedule of Classes published each semester.

Approved Information and Digital Literacy Courses:

- BIO 114/115: Biological Processes (Lecture and Lab)
- BUS 210: Spreadsheet Application for Business
- DIG 250: Web Design
- ECN 355: Research Methods for Business and Social Science Applications
- EDU 231: Education of Exceptional Individuals
- EDU 350: Digital Literacy
- ENG/JMP 220: Janus and the Publishing World
- ENG/JMP 265: Technical and Web Writing
- ENG 335: Crime, Mystery, and Detection 19th Century British Literature
- ENG/JMP 380: Introduction to Digital Humanities
- HES 321: Kinesiology
- HIS 390: Historiography
- LST 210: Leadership in Nonprofit Organizations
- MAT 321: Discrete mathematics
- MAT 351: Methods of Teaching Elementary & Middle School Mathematics
- PSY 270: Research Tools

Research Inquiry and Analysis:

Active learning, analysis, and application are essential for the development of mature critical thinking. In order to further student's development in higher-level thinking, there must be an emphasis on inquiry and analysis. Inquiry is a systematic process of exploring issues/ objects/works through the collection and analysis of evidence that results in informed conclusions. Analysis is the process of investigating complex topics or issues in order to gain a better understanding of the factors that interact and shape relationships, outcomes, or events. Completing this process of research will help students to apply the tools, theories, and conventions of their field to a specific area of inquiry. Therefore, courses that meet this skill (tagged as RIA) should be taken within the student's field or chosen in consultation with their department.

Approved Research Inquiry and Analysis Courses:

- BIO 212: Research Methods in Biology and Environmental Sciences
- BIO 204: Animal Behavior
- BIO 318: Ornithology
- BIO 404: Biochemistry
- BIO 420: Physiology
- BUS 353: Non-Profit Management
- BUS 364: Introduction to Qualitative Research
- ECN 355: Research Methods for Business and Social Sciences Applications
- EDU 231: Education of Exceptional Individuals
- ENG 290: Introduction to Literary Studies: Critical Approaches and Research Methods
- ENG 350: Shakespeare
- ENG/JMP 380: Intro to Digital Humanities
- GTS 401: Research Seminar
- HES 321: Kinesiology
- HIS 422: Senior Thesis
- LST 330: Diversity & Ethics in Leadership
- MAT 424: Advanced Calculus
- PHL 242: Biomedical Ethics
- PHL 246: Environmental Ethics
- PHL/REL 333: Asian Philosophy and Religion
- PHL 410/SEC 300: Ethical Warfare
- PHL 410/WGS 300: Philosophy of Race and Gender
- POL 301: The American Presidency
- POL/SEC 328: National Security Agencies
- POL 343: Congress
- POL/WGS 351: Women & Politics
- PSY 274: Methods in Experimental Psychology
- REL 345: Writings of C.S. Lewis
- REL 346: Religion and Violence
- SEC 312/GTS 300: Terrorism
- SEC 420 Security Studies Thesis

COURSES REMOVED:***Exploration:***

HIS 300: African Decolonization (2021 2022)

HIS 300: Fascism (2021 2022)

HIS/GTS/POL 329: Central Europe (2021 2022)

HIS 330: World War I (2021 2022)

CLA 300: Monsters, Humans, and Monstrous Humans (2021 2022)

CLA 325: Omens, Dreams, and Portents (2021 2022)

ECN 334: Economic Development (2021 2022)

EDU/FIN 325: Money, Banking and Financial Markets (2022-2023)

HIS 327: Nazi Germany (2021 2022)

HIS 331: American Slavery (2021 2022)

HIS/WGS 354: Scandalous Women (2021 2022)

CLA 340: Pagans and Christians (2021 2022)

ECN 316: Public Finance (2021 2022)

POL 370: Drugs, Politics, and Public Policy (2020 2021)

BIO 350: Conservation Biology (2022)

CLA 320: Medicine, Miracles, and Magic (2021 2022)

ECN 367: Econometrics (2021 2022)

ENG 315: Environmental Literature (2021 2022)

PHL 334: Evolution and Intelligent Design (2021 2022)

REL 324: Religion and the Environment (21-22)

Writing Intensive:

CSC 350: Systems Analysis & Design (2021 2022)

ECN 334: Economic Development (2021 2022)

ECN 367: Econometrics (2021 2022)

ECN 400: Senior Honors Thesis (2021 2022)

ENG 315: Environmental Literature (2021 2022)

POL 370: Drugs, Politics, and Public Policy (2020 2021)

SEG 470: Software Engineering Capstone I (2021 2022)

SEG 480: Software Engineering Capstone II (2021 2022)

Writing Intensive Optional:

CHM 425: Physical Chemistry I Lab (2021 2022)

CLA 320: Medicine, Miracles, and Magic (2021 2022)

CLA 325: Omens, Dreams & Portents (2021 2022)

ECN 316: Public Finance (2021 2022)

ENG 345/GTS 300: African Diasporic Lit (24-25)

ENG/GTS 345: Caribbean Literature

HIS/POL 300: Fascism (2021 2022)

ITY 200: Cybersecurity for Society (2021 2022)

ITY 331: Information Storage and Management (2021 2022)

Oral Communication & Presentation:

ECN 367: Econometrics (2021 2022)

POL 370: Drugs, Politics, and Public Policy (2020 2021)

SEG 470: Software Engineering Capstone I (2021

2022) SEG 480: Software Engineering Capstone II (2021 2022)

Research Inquiry & Analysis:

ECN 367: Econometrics (2021 2022)