

James Madison University Transfer Guide for Exploring Majors from Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS				Course and Curricular Information for James Madison University															
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT	SATISFIED BY			Information for students planning to transfer to James Madison University through the GAA, upon completion of the associate degree															
First Year at VCCS																			
Course	Credits	CC Course	Notes																
UNST 000	1-2	SDV 100 or 101																	
WRTC 000	3	ENG 111	Writing ENG 111 + 112 = WRTC 103 + 000																
WRTC 103	3	ENG 112																	
JMU General Education Requirements and/or Degree Requirements	6 (Take courses in two of these three areas)	Any UCGS Humanities	Human Questions and Contexts (HQC): PHI 100 recommended. Other options: REL 100 or 230, or HUM 201, 202, 216 or 259 or Critical Thinking (CT): PHI 111 or 220																
		Any UCGS Literature	Literature																
		Any UCGS Art	Visual and Performing Arts (VPA): ART 100, 101 or 102, MUS 121 or 226, or CST 130																
	3-6	Any History	American Experience (AE): Take both HIS 121 + 122 = HIST 225 + 000 or Human Questions and Contexts (HQC): HIS 101 or 102																
	3	Any UCGS Social & Behavioral Science (not History)	Sociocultural Dimension (SD): PSY 200 or SOC 200 or Global Experience (GE): ECO 201, GEO 220, or SOC 211 or 268 or American Experience (AE): PLS 135																
	4	Any UCGS Natural Sciences	Natural Systems (NS) or Physical Principles (PP) * See note at right																
	<p>This transfer guide is designed for students who are completing Uniform Certificate of General Studies (UCGS) or a transferable associate degree (A.A. or A.S.) but haven't chosen a major. If you have chosen a major that JMU doesn't have a transfer guide for, use this guide along with the Major Guides for VCCS and RBC Students.</p> <p>The coursework suggested in the first year will help you satisfy specific General Education requirements at JMU. JMU Gen Ed consists of one course in each of the following areas, plus a lab:</p> <table><tr><td>Human Communication</td><td>Critical Thinking</td></tr><tr><td>Writing</td><td>Human Questions & Contexts</td></tr><tr><td>Literature</td><td>Visual & Performing Arts</td></tr><tr><td>Quantitative Reasoning</td><td>Natural Systems</td></tr><tr><td>Physical Principles</td><td>American Experience</td></tr><tr><td>Global Experience</td><td>Sociocultural Domain</td></tr><tr><td>Wellness</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Choose courses at your community college that meet requirements in these areas while also helping you explore possible majors. Use the JMU majors webpage to learn more.</p> <p>Choosing a science course: If you are interested in a major in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, it is important to start science coursework early so you can complete prerequisites needed for your future courses. Check the advice on the transfer guides for majors you might be interested in. If you aren't pursuing a STEM major, you can choose any UCGS science to complete this requirement.</p>						Human Communication	Critical Thinking	Writing	Human Questions & Contexts	Literature	Visual & Performing Arts	Quantitative Reasoning	Natural Systems	Physical Principles	American Experience	Global Experience	Sociocultural Domain	Wellness
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	3-5	Any UCGS Math	Quantitative Reasoning (QR) *See note at right	Choosing a math course: MTH 154, 155, 161, 161+162, 167, 245, 261, or 263 may be the appropriate course or courses for your future JMU major. Please see the section called “Choosing math courses at VCCS” in the transfer guidance below for more detailed recommendations. Make room for a world language in your first year, depending on your future major. Check our Major Guides for VCCS and RBC Students to determine which degree types are offered for the majors you are considering. If the only degree type offered is a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), if there are multiple degree types and you choose the B.A., or if you plan to major in International Business, then you will need to take a world language or demonstrate proficiency through the intermediate level, which at VCCS means completing 101, 102, 201 and 202 coursework. Start your language sequence early. If you aren't taking a world language, we recommend you take CST 100 or 110 and then choose another UCGS course that would satisfy a Gen Ed requirement at JMU that you haven’t yet completed.
	6-8	Two additional UCGS Courses	Choose 2 from the following: World Language (101-102-201-202) - only for students pursuing a B.A. at JMU This is the top priority for students who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree or the International Business major at JMU. Students pursuing other degree types (B.B.A., B.F.A, B.S., B.S.N., etc.) will not need a world language. See notes at right. Human Communication (HC) CST 100 or 110 = SCOM 121 or 123 HQC, Literature, or VPA Choose a course in Humanities-Literature-Art (whichever UCGS area you didn’t take before) SD, GE, AE, NS, or PP Complete another UCGS social science or science course above that could satisfy a different JMU Gen Ed requirement	
Second Year at VCCS				
Major Requirements	0-28		*See note at right	<p>JMU wants you to make timely progress toward a bachelor’s degree. Plan to start clarifying your plans for a major by the beginning of your second year. If you aren’t sure what you want to study—but you are sure you want to come to JMU—we encourage you to connect with one of our JMU Next Transfer Advisors.</p> <p>In the meantime, you can keep taking JMU Gen Ed equivalents. But remember that with a transferable A.A. or A.S. degree, you will qualify for the JMU Gen Ed waiver, so you do not need to complete every JMU Gen Ed area.</p> <p>If you are likely to pursue a B.A. at JMU, continue to take a World Language through the intermediate level (101-102-201-202) as well as PHI 100. If you are likely to pursue a B.S., this could be a time to take an additional math and science/social science course.</p>
JMU General Education or Degree Requirements	0-22		<p>Optional: Complete JMU Gen Ed areas not already completed</p> <p>Additional courses for the JMU B.A. or the B.S. degree See notes at right*</p> <p>Other transfer courses</p>	
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60-62				CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 60 +



TRANSFER GUIDANCE

Guaranteed Admission to JMU

Students must complete an approved transferable associate degree from their Virginia community college with a minimum GPA of 3.0 for guaranteed admission to JMU. Students who do not qualify for guaranteed admission are encouraged to apply to JMU through the regular admission process. For additional details about requirements for guaranteed admission, please see the JMU letter of intent for your community college:

www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-gaa.shtml.

Majors Available through the JMU Guaranteed Admission Agreement

Transfer students can declare most majors that are offered at JMU. The only majors that aren't open to all students are the talent-based fine arts programs that require an audition or portfolio review. It is important to know that in some majors, you may have to apply for full admission to the program later or meet progression standards to continue in the major. JMU's [Admission and Progression Standards](#) webpage will help you understand how to choose and progress in any major that may interest you.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** www.jmu.edu/transfer
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** Students can notify JMU of their interest in transferring through College Connect at www.TransferVirginia.org. Transfer applicants from a VCCS institution intending to apply through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) must submit a Letter of Intent prior to applying. Requirements and forms are available at: www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-GAA.shtml
- **Admission Application:** By March 1 for Fall or October 15 for Spring at www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/apply-online.shtml
- **Financial Aid:** www.jmu.edu/financialaid
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** Deadline is March 1. Learn more at studentaid.gov.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

Choosing math courses at VCCS:

- JMU majors that require Calculus I: Chemistry and Biophysical Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Quantitative Finance, Statistics. You can fulfill this requirement by taking MTH 263 or higher at VCCS. MTH 161+162 or MTH 167 are prerequisites.
- JMU majors that require Calculus I AND Statistics: Biotechnology, Computer Science, Geology, Information Technology, and Secondary Education for anyone who wants to teach high school math or science. MTH 263 or higher and MTH 155 or 245 fulfill this requirement. MTH 161+162 or MTH 167 are prerequisites.

- JMU majors that require Introductory Calculus I AND Statistics: All College of Business degrees (except Quantitative Finance), Earth Science, and Kinesiology. You can fulfill this requirement by taking MTH 261 or higher at VCCS. MTH 161 is a prerequisite.
- JMU majors that require Statistics: Biology, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Communication Studies, Dietetics, Health Sciences, Justice Studies, Nursing, Psychology, and Social Work. You can fulfill this requirement by taking MTH 155 or 245 at VCCS.
- Other JMU majors are flexible about what math course you choose. MTH 154, 155, 245, 261, 263 or higher are recommended for meeting this requirement.

General guidance about choosing VCCS courses:

- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered, and complete your first math and English courses in your first year. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center www.TransferVirginia.org
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and a [JMU Next Transfer Advisor](#) within your first year



WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** An approved transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College will waive general education requirements at JMU. The list of approved transferable associate degrees can be found at www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/asdegrees.shtml.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** Students who complete a transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College through Dual Enrollment (DE) will not be eligible for guaranteed admission but will receive the general education waiver at JMU. DE associate degree earners who want to make progress toward their intended major should follow the curriculum in this guide.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** Credit for prior learning may be awarded differently at JMU than at your previous institution. JMU accepts and reviews AP, IB CIE, and CLEP examinations for all students with eligible scores. JMU will complete an independent review of the test score to apply credit to your JMU student record. Other credit for prior learning is awarded on a per case basis for the ADP and RN-BSN programs in consultation with the department of expertise. Credit for learning acquired in military service is awarded by the registrar's office using the ACE guide credit recommendation for study/experience listed on the military transcript and in consultation with the department of expertise.
- **Catalog Year:** Catalog year determined by first semester of attendance at JMU

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

JMU is a mid to large size institution that behaves more like a smaller institution. Faculty and staff hold students as the top priority. JMU has a 96% satisfaction rate. 88% of classes have fewer than 50 students. JMU is the #1 most recommended public university in the US by the Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education; JMU is the #1 Best College for Employment in Virginia

according to U.S. Department of Education statistics compiled by Zippia. JMU has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges. Learn more about our college at www.jmu.edu and www.TransferVirginia.org.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME SELECT A MAJOR?

- If you are still exploring possible majors, we encourage you to use the [JMU majors webpage](#) to learn more. Another great resource is the [Career Guide to JMU Majors](#). A more general resource is the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which you can use to learn more about pathways to specific occupations that may interest you.
- If you have fewer than 30 credits and aren't sure what you want to study, you will have the option to declare the [Exploratory major](#). If you transfer to JMU with 30 or more credits, we will ask you to declare a specific major as you arrive. If you aren't sure what to choose, you will have an opportunity during your Orientation process to meet with an exploratory advisor to help you clarify your goals and plans.
- If you'd like to have a conversation now with someone who is an expert on majors at JMU, make an appointment with a [JMU Next Transfer Advisor](#).

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- There is no limit to the number of credits you can transfer to JMU, but at least 50% of the credits required for graduation in your major must be taken at a 4-year college or university, and at least 25% must be taken at JMU. (Most JMU majors require 120 credits, so 60 must come from a 4-year and 30 must be taken at JMU.)
- Completing your Associate transfer degree post-high school satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the chance of completing your bachelor's degree.
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college means you may have exhausted your financial aid at that college and have limited your future financial aid at JMU.
- Students who may be eligible for Virginia's Two-Year College Transfer Grant should transfer in the fall or spring immediately following the completion of their associate degree. Learn more about the state transfer grant here: <https://www.schev.edu/financial-aid/financial-aid/federal-state-financial-aid/two-year-college-transfer-grant>

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

- Generally, two-thirds of transfer applicants are admitted to JMU. Competitive applicants will have mostly As & Bs and have completed at least one class in each of our four core areas (English, mathematics, lab science, and social science).
- JMU defines a transfer student as a student that has graduated from high school (or holds a GED equivalency) AND has taken courses in college after high school graduation.
- Learn more about applying at <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/> or www.TransferVirginia.org.