

## Instructions for Course Proposal

1. Name of Department or School.
2. Course Designator and Number - Identify course level, e.g. 1000, 3000, 5000, and any other numbering/sequencing you prefer. Review your course listing in the catalog to see if there is a logical spot where your course might fit into your existing course numbering.
3. Course Title – Up to 72 characters.
4. ADP Title – Up to 30 characters as close to the long title as possible, no punctuation, each blank space counts as a character.
5. New or Revised? – A change in course title or number is considered “new”.
6. Effective Term – What is the first term you expect to offer the course? It must be next term or later.
7. Instructor of Course.
8. Department/School Contact for CourseLeaf entry. Who should receive emails regarding questions or governance updates for this proposal?
9. Department/School Rep to CALS Curriculum Committee (initials and date).
10. Department Head approval (initials and date).
11. Credit Hours – Most of our courses are 3 credit hours of lecture (3H, 3C). If your total credit hours are divided between lecture and lab, please specify that division.
12. Special Course Designations – fill in the chart.
13. Learning Objectives:
  - This section should be worded from the perspective of the student. What should the student be able to do, know, or value upon successful completion of this course?
  - For 1 credit courses, up to 4 LO; for 2 credit courses, up to 6 LO; and for 3 credit courses, up to 8 LO are usually included.
  - Begin each LO with a verb from the Registrar’s Short List of Allowable Verbs on the last page of this document. Use only one verb per LO.
  - Learning objectives must be measurable.
  - In support of a Pathways Course approval, indicate which of the Pathways core and/or integrative concepts correspond to each learning objective. For example: “Students will be able to make a compelling oral presentation that demonstrates their understanding of the ethical implications associated with driverless cars [Discourse 3; Ethical Reasoning 2].”
14. Topic Syllabus (TOP) and Current Topic Syllabus:

- Think of this as a list of topics, not the syllabus you give your students. Topics only, no assignments, no grading criteria. Avoid the use of verbs as they may be interpreted as an assignment.
- Turn LO into TOP sections, you may subdivide LO into separate topics, but each LO must be listed.
- Use consistent wording of topics between TOP and LO sections.
- If you add a topic that is not clearly and directly related to an LO in the LO section, be sure to update the LO section so this correlation exists.
- Each topic should be assigned a percentage of the course. Place percentage in parentheses at end of topic description, e.g., Topic X (25%).
- You will need to list subtopics for any topic >20%. Subtopics are not assigned percentages.
- At the bottom of the topics, there should be a line: “Total - 100”.
- If this is a revised course, include the current topic syllabus.

15. Catalog Description (DESC):

- The catalog description is a condensed version of the LO or the TOP list turned into a paragraph comprised of sentence fragments. This section should be worded from the perspective of the course designer. What topics or skills will be presented in the course?
- The catalog description should contain NO complete sentences. Instead, word as a series of fragments. e.g., Overview of..., Introduction to..., Analysis of... including x, y, and z.
- Again, use consistent wording of topics between DESC, LO, and TOP sections.
- If you add something to the catalog description that is not clearly and directly related to a topic in the LO and TOP, be sure to update those sections so this correlation exists.
- Avoid any references to HOW the course will be taught because that may change based on who teaches the course.

16. Course Proposal Justification:

- Why is the course needed? e.g., educational significance in program of study or benefit to students.
- Avoid justifying with critiques of existing courses. “Not currently taught” is not a valid justification.

17. Academic Level Justification:

- Explain why this course is taught at the level requested, e.g. 1000, 3000, 5000.
- Frame justification based on contribution or placement in academic program.
  - If other courses must be completed before this course, identify courses and skills acquired in those courses.
  - If this course must be completed before other courses, identify skills acquired in this course to support future success.
  - May also be based on academic rigor of course or maturity required of students.
- Justification paragraph must begin with specific wording already entered for your convenience. Simply replace the “x” and complete the paragraph.

18. Prerequisites and Corequisites:

- Specify the course number and title.

- If none, put “none” or “N/A”.
- If more than one prereq, be sure to include “and-or” wording to clearly specify how the prereqs should be enforced.
- You can use academic level, e.g., Junior Standing, as a prereq.
- We try to limit minimum grade requirements, but again it is an option you can specify here.
- Requires a letter of agreement from the prereq department head.

19. Required or Recommended Text:

- List one text that would be representative of a text used in this course.
- If you will be pulling resources from outside a typical textbook, list only a couple such resources, e.g., NOT a full list of articles.
- Do not include optional resources.
- **Citation format = APA - Author Last name, Initials. (Year of publication). *Title of work*. Publisher name. Pp.**
- If you have a mix of required and recommended resources, include “(Required)” or “(Recommended)” at the end of each citation. If ALL resources are required, no required notation is necessary.
- Arrange citations in alphabetical order.

20. Revision Summary – If this is a revised course, give a summary of the revisions.

### 1. Additional Documents:

- *This form should be accompanied by a separate resource letter from your department head.*
- *If this course has a cross listing, prereq, or coreq, you will need a letter of approval from the department head of each course.*
- *If this is a Pathways course, you will need to complete a Pathways Course Proposal form in addition to this form. Download the form from <https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/faculty-and-administrators/pathways-instructors-forms.html> and skip Pages 1-3 as that information is now in this document.*

## Registrar's Short List of Allowable Verbs

Verbs are divided into six categories. 1000-level courses should use mostly Knowledge, Comprehension, and Application verbs. Higher-level courses should incorporate some verbs from the other three categories.

<p><b>Knowledge</b></p> <p>List Name Recall Record Relate Repeat State Tell Underline</p>	<p><b>Comprehension</b></p> <p>Compare Describe Discuss Explain Express Identify Recognize Restate Tell Translate</p>	<p><b>Application</b></p> <p>Apply Complete Construct Demonstrate Dramatize Employ Illustrate Interpret Operate Practice Schedule Sketch Use</p>
<p><b>Analysis</b></p> <p>Analyze Appraise Categorize Compare Contrast Debate Diagram Differentiate Distinguish Examine Experiment Inspect Inventory Question Test</p>	<p><b>Synthesis</b></p> <p>Arrange Assemble Collect Combine Comply Compose Construct Create Design Devise Formulate Manage Organize Plan Prepare Propose Setup</p>	<p><b>Evaluation</b></p> <p>Appraise Argue Assess Choose Compare Conclude Estimate Evaluate Interpret Judge Justify Measure Rate Revise Score Select Support Value</p>