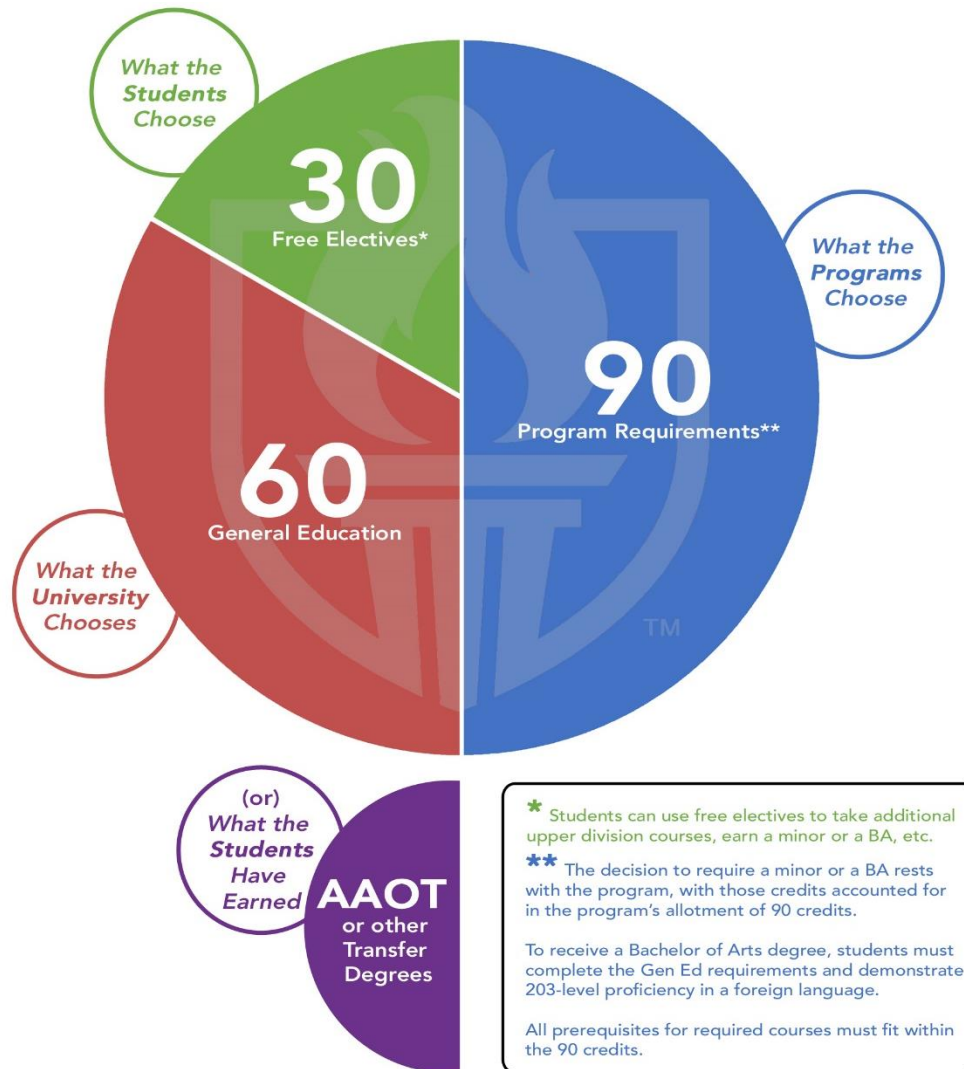


The WOU Way: A New Curricular Framework



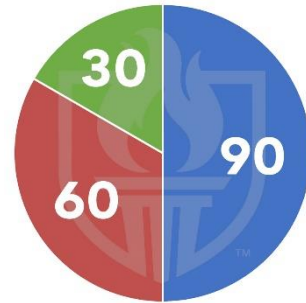
The WOU Way...

- Is deeply rooted in our educational traditions *reimagined* for a new era
- Distinguishes us from other universities in Oregon
- Positions us to be the *university of choice* for transfer degree holders
- Jumpstarts curricular innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration
- Mitigates undue financial burden on our students
- Strengthens WOU's fiscal sustainability

The WOU Way

empowers our students to:

- ✓ Choose from over 60 programs in relevant fields
- ✓ Pursue a minor, or a second major
- ✓ Complete an internship or practicum
- ✓ Study abroad
- ✓ Obtain a career-related certificate or endorsement
- ✓ Engage in independent or collaborative research
- ✓ Explore elective coursework in the liberal arts tradition
- ✓ Change their major if they choose
- ✓ Pursue language proficiency and/ or a Bachelor of Arts degree



Together We Succeed: The WOU Strategic Plan in Action

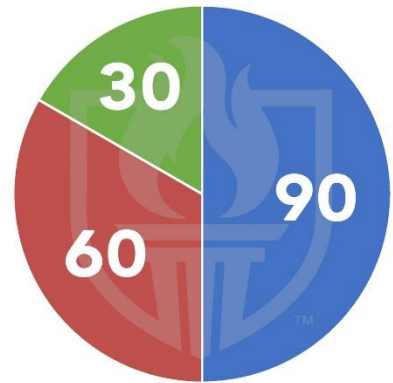
Implementation of this new curricular framework enables the Faculty (and Academic Affairs) to:

- Re-envision General Education
- Refresh/ refine programs and majors
- Address faculty workload/distribution imbalances
- Strengthen Community College partnerships to bolster enrollments
and...
- Move forward with purposeful long-term Academic Strategic Planning

Re-envisioning General Education at WOU

Enabling Constraints (President's and Provost's Directives):

- No tenured or tenure-track faculty will lose their jobs as a result of Gen Ed reform.
- Tenured/tenure-track faculty will be creatively deployed and fully utilized to support Gen Ed and their academic programs.
- Gen Ed can account for up to **60** quarter credit hours.
- Majors and minors **cannot** require specific general education courses, but general education courses **can** count toward program requirements.
- The Gen Ed will serve **both** BA and BS students of WOU's 4 year programs. Students seeking a BA will complete the Gen Ed requirements **plus** demonstrate 203-level proficiency in a foreign language.



Rationale: Why Are We Doing This?

- Our students and their needs are evolving.
- As an access institution, we must provide affordable and attainable degree paths.
- Time to degree completion matters: between 2010 and 2013, more students graduated with in excess of 210 credits than with fewer than 190 credits.
- A liberal education requires a broad yet integrative general education, and is the responsibility of WOU's faculty as a whole.
- The specifics of academic programs are the purview of faculty; however, the overall structure of an undergraduate degree must be accommodated in 180 credits.
- Self-contained 90-credit majors facilitate development of disciplinary knowledge and skills while allowing integration of transfer degree holders and those changing majors.
- A liberal education also requires freedom for students to make choices.
- WOU students deserve a purposeful and coherent educational experience.
- The Strategic Plan directs us to.

Re-envisioning General Education at WOU

Expected Timeline:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| May 4 | <i>Faculty Senate collects nominations for participation on the Gen Ed Task Force</i> |
| May | <i>President and Provost establish Gen Ed Task Force (to include divisional and Faculty Senate Exec committee representation)</i> |
| May 18-19 | <i>Paul Hanstedt campus visit — including all-campus ‘town hall’ meetings</i> |
| May 18-19 | <i>Gen Ed Task Force works with Paul to complete pre-planning for summer work</i> |
| May 23 | <i>Faculty Senate presentation on process for Gen Ed re-envisioning</i> |
| Summer | <i>Gen Ed Task Force engages in Gen Ed re-envisioning</i> |
| October | <i>Town Hall sessions (2) held to review proposed Gen Ed and provide feedback</i> |
| November | <i>Town Hall sessions (2) held to review proposed Gen Ed and provide feedback</i> |
| December 31 | <i>Curriculum proposal into system, Faculty Senate curriculum process commences</i> |