

Requirements and Course List for the Peace Corps Prep Program (PCPP)

A student must be at least a second-semester freshman to apply for acceptance into the Peace Corps Prep Program at VWC. Applicants must also have attended at least one Peace Corps information session (PC recruiting session, Global opportunities workshop, RPCV off-campus social, etc.) to be eligible for the program, and must identify two VWC faculty members who are willing to serve as supporting references for their application. The other major PCPP requirements are as follows:

Coursework:

1. Foreign Language Study: Two (2) years; Peace Corps actively recruits for French and Spanish experience.
 - Students have two options to complete this requirement:
 - a) Complete the VWC Foreign Language requirement (111, 112, 213 or exemption) and one additional 300-400 level class in the same language; any upper level course can be used to fulfill the additional requirement EXCEPT: SPAN 370, GER 305, GER 340, FR 327*, 328*, 329*, 334*, 335.* (* Because these classes may be taught in French for students meeting certain requirements, they may be applicable in consultation with the PCPP Committee and Foreign Language department.)
 - b) Complete a total of four (4) semesters in Foreign Language study or exemption with courses in more than one language.

2. Area studies/international studies: 4 courses
 - Courses must be taken in at least 3 different departments OUTSIDE of the student's major and minor.
 - Only courses bearing 3 or more credit hours may be applied toward these requirements.
 - Education majors or other interested in teaching for the Peace Corps must meet the requirements listed in #3 below.

3. Education majors and students interested in teaching overseas: 6 courses
 - Students interested in teaching for the Peace Corps, or who are already education majors at VWC, must take a total of six (6) area studies courses. Three (3) of these courses must be in the education department; three (3) of these courses must be selected from other departments.
 - Course work in English as a Second Language (ESL or TEFL) is recommended.

Experiential Enhancements:

Successful completion of the PCPP requires 200 hours of experiential enhancements. These enhancement hours may be met with a combination of the following:

- Off-campus study in an international program, or local urban education program
- Volunteer service in a community development project
- Management or accounting internship
- Tutoring/teaching experience
- Health care outreach experience
- Study abroad

Experiential learning hours may overlap other course requirements (e.g., a Study Abroad course could also apply toward the required number of experiential hours).

PCPP Courses:

The following courses are currently accepted by the PCPP.

NOTE: Additional courses may also be accepted by the program, subject to approval by the PCPP Committee. Courses that may be presented for possible approval include topical and periodically offered courses, and courses transferred from other institutions or overseas programs.

Biology

BIO 150 Introduction to Marine Biology

BIO 355 Marine Biology

BIO 285 Plants and Man

BIO 316 General Ecology

Business

Business 332 Economic Development

Business 333 International Business

Education

EDUC 225 Characteristics of the Learner

EDUC 329 Curriculum & Instruction PreK-6

EDUC 366 Classroom Management

EDUC 375 Teaching Methods

English

ENG 230 Environmental Literature and Ecological Reflection

ENG 306 Eco-poetry

ENG 321 Introduction to Linguistics

ENG 344 Practicum in Teaching English

ENG 410 Environmental Writings

Environmental Studies

ENVS 106 Humans and the Environment

ENVS 304 Environmental Ethics

ENVS 326 Environmental Policy Analysis

Foreign Languages

See the Foreign Language Study Requirement (Peace Corps actively recruits for French and Spanish experience.)

Geography

GEOG 113 Human Geography

History

HIST 219 Topics in Asian History

HIST 248 Medieval Islamic World
HIST 252 Topics in Non-Western History
HIST 306 Seminar in Asian History
HIST 346 History of South Africa

Humanities

HUM 150 Service Learning in a Global Context

Interdisciplinary Studies

INST 108 Wesleyan Information Seeking Experience

Philosophy

PHIL 272 Beyond the Western Tradition
PHIL 328 Buddhist Philosophy

Political Science

POLS 130 Global Realities
POLS 206 Introduction to Comparative Politics
POLS 210 Introduction to International Relations
POLS 250 Introduction to International Political Economy
POLS 317 Comparative Politics: Asian Pacific Rim
POLS 320: Comparative Politics: Latin America
POLS 321 Politics and Literature of Latin America
POLS 326 Environmental Policy Analysis
POLS 334 Comparative Politics: Contemporary Africa
POLS 338: Comparative Politics: Middle East and North Africa
POLS 346 Model United Nations
POLS 348 International Human Rights
POLS 353 Globalization and Its Discontents

Religious Studies

RELST 116 World Religions
RELST 341 War, Peace, and Christian Ethics

Sociology/ Anthropology

SOC 110 Cultural Anthropology
SOC 351 Medical Sociology

Spanish

SPAN 329 Political Writings of Latin America
SPAN 313 Seminar in Hispanic Culture