

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: PATHWAYS (updated February 6, 2010)

What is a Pathway?

Pathways are clusters of courses connected by a common theme. Engineering students will normally take three courses (at least 12 units). Arts & Sciences and Business students will normally take four courses (at least 16 units).

FACULTY QUESTIONS

What is the role of the Pathway facilitator?

The Pathway facilitator develops and submits the proposal and serves as liaison to faculty who teach associated courses. The facilitator encourages faculty to develop research and internship opportunities related to the Pathway. The facilitator encourages faculty teaching associated courses to include on the syllabus a note communicating the connection to the Pathway. See the following question for details.

What is the role/responsibility of the faculty who teach associated courses?

Faculty teaching associated courses will be encouraged to include on their syllabi a note communicating the connection to the Pathway. Suggested wording:
"This course is associated with the Pathway in If you declare a Pathway in this area you may use a representative piece of work from this course in the Pathway Portfolio you will complete during your senior year. Recommendation: Please keep electronic copies of your work."

Does the Pathway facilitator function as an advisor or program chair?

No. Drahmman Center staff are responsible for advising students about Pathways (and other Core curriculum issues) and for directing students to Undergraduate Research Experiences, Internships, or other programs linked with Pathways. Pathways facilitators are, of course, welcome to meet with students, but they have no formal Pathways advising responsibilities.

How will Pathways documents be stored?

A portfolio will be used. Details forthcoming.

How can I add my course to a Pathway?

E-mail your syllabus to the Pathway facilitator, who makes decisions about including new courses in consultation with the chair of the Pathways FCC.

STUDENT QUESTIONS

How do I declare or change a Pathway?

By the end of the sophomore year, students will declare a Pathway through e-campus. Students may change Pathways by contacting the Drahmman Center.

How do I complete the Pathway?

By the winter quarter of the senior year, each student will submit electronic copies of a two

page reflective paper and a portfolio containing a representative work from each Pathway course.

Can Pathways courses be from any department?

Yes. Normally, however, no more than two courses in a student's Pathway may be taken in the same department.

Can Pathways courses be part of my major?

Yes. For students in the Business School and the College of Arts and Sciences, two courses in any individual student's major department may contribute to the requirements for that student's Pathway, as long as the courses have been approved for the Pathway. For engineering students, one course in the student's major department may contribute to the requirement for that student's Pathway, as long as the course has been approved for the Pathway. For exceptions consult the Pathways Advisors.

Can I use all three Religion, Theology, and Culture courses for the Pathway?

No. A student's Pathway may contain no more than two courses in the Religion, Theology, and Culture sequence (RTC 1, 2, and 3).

Can I finish my Pathway in my freshman year?

No. Only one course in a Pathway may be a "Foundations" course (normally taken the first year).

Can I complete more than one Pathway?

No. Some courses will be appropriate for more than one Pathway, but students will complete only one Pathway.

Can students fulfilling the 2003-08 Core requirements participate in Pathways?

No. Students will complete the Core Curriculum requirements described in the Undergraduate Bulletin published in the year they entered the University. Any student may take courses associated with Pathways, but only students who entered the university as first year students in 2009 and following will formally complete Pathways.

Who is the audience for the two page reflective papers?

Students should write their reflective papers as if the faculty who taught the Pathways courses would be reading them. A Pathways Coordinator will read the papers. The faculty who taught the courses and the facilitators will be invited to see selected papers.

Where are the courses for each Pathway listed?

www.scu.edu/core ; select Pathways. Courses are also listed in courseavail, www.scu.edu/courseavail

Who can I contact for information on research opportunities, links to the Centers of Distinction, and other Pathways issues? Contact the Drahnann Center Pathways Advisors, Garrison Dyer and Jeremy Wang, 408-554-4318.