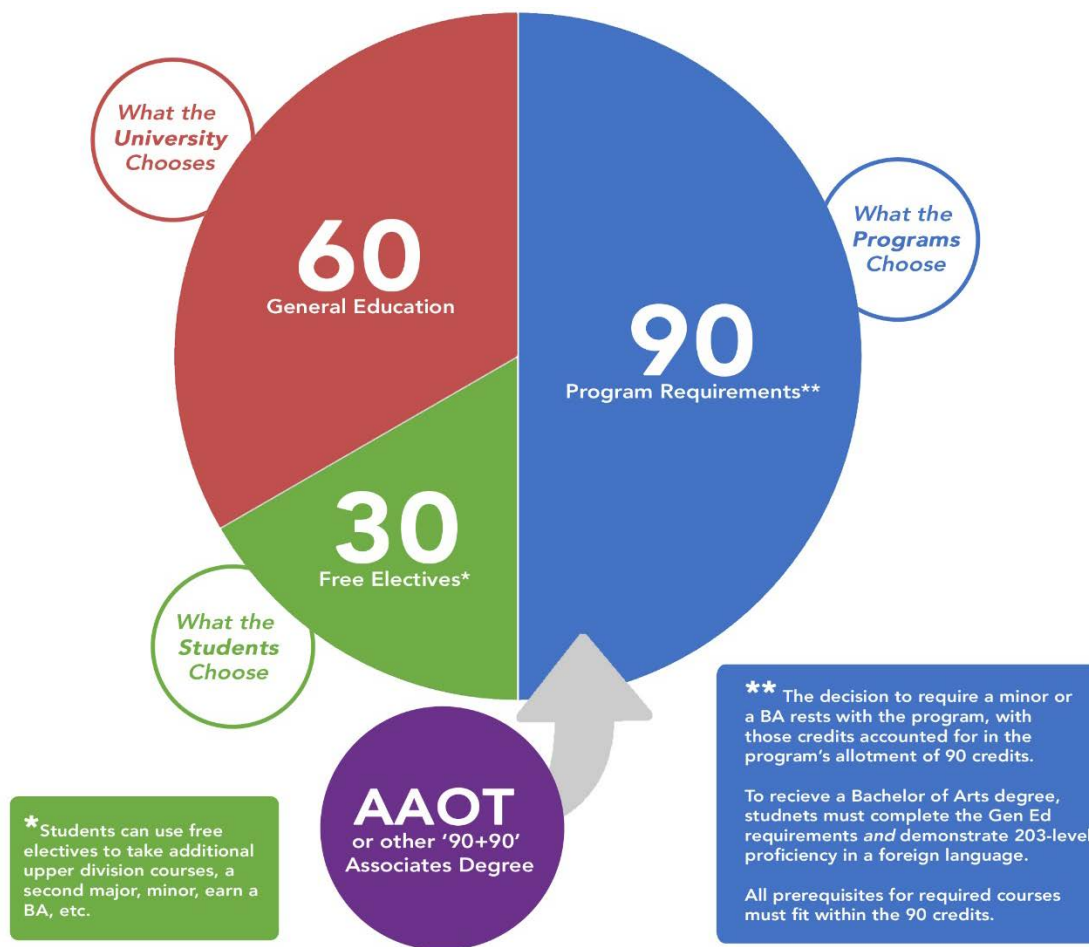


The WOU Way: A New Curricular Framework



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**
- ✓ **Obtain a career-related certificate or endorsement**
- ✓ **Complete an internship or practicum**
- ✓ **Study abroad**
- ✓ **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**

Moving Forward Together **with the Strategic Plan...**

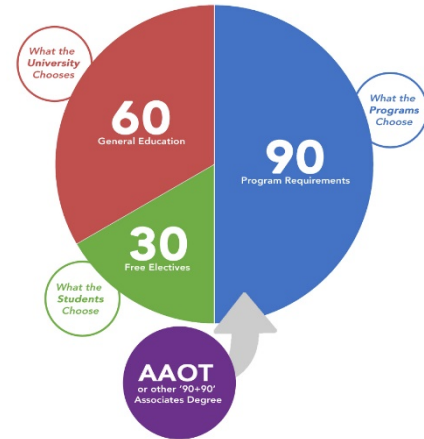
Implementation of this new curricular framework enables the Faculty (and Academic Affairs) to:

- **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: less than 10% of WOU undergrad students graduate with **189** or fewer credits (2013).
- 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:

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