

MVNU's School of Graduate and Professional Studies

General Studies Course Descriptions

ITDS1051: Introduction to the College Experience

This is a five-week, self-directed course that equips students who have limited college experience with strategies that will help them successfully navigate critical elements of their chosen GPS programs, including important MVNU policies, procedures, and resources. It also provides a basic introduction to online learning at MVNU, navigation and use of MVNU's learning management system, general research skills and appropriate use of library resources, use of current APA formatting and style guidelines, effective college-level writing skills, and techniques for avoiding plagiarism. This course will also explore the general characteristics of the adult learner, critical thinking and active reading skills, effective time management skills, and the academic support and career development services available to non-traditional undergraduate MVNU students.

ITDS2051: Personal Development and Research Skills

This is a five-week, self-directed course that equips students with strategies that will help them successfully navigate critical elements of their chosen GPS programs, including important MVNU policies, procedures, and resources. It also introduces students to navigation and use of MVNU's learning management system, college-level research skills and application of current APA formatting and style guidelines, and effective techniques for avoiding plagiarism. The impact of both personality type and learning style on the student's educational experience will also be explored, as well as additional important elements connected to overall student success and retention, including critical thinking and active reading skills, effective time management skills, prior learning assessment, and academic support and career development services available to non-traditional undergraduate MVNU students.

BIBL2003: Biblical Perspectives

This course is a foundational study of the entire Bible and a biblical understanding of the world. Special emphasis is given to biblical interpretation, biblical theology, and biblical worldview with a view toward contemporary issues and personal applications regarding following Christ.

BIOL1014: Principles of Biology with Laboratory

A study of life processes, organization and structure common to animals, plants, and microbes. Laboratory exercises are included. The course is designed for non-majors and does not count toward the biology major or minor.

COMM1023: Public Speaking

A study in the preparation and delivery of informational and persuasive speeches.

COMM1053: Introduction to Communication

Through the use of readings, discussion forums, exercises and writing, we will explore the often taken-for-granted power of communication that makes people unique among all creatures. We will discover that talk is not cheap, but rather it allows us to express our humanity in a rich and powerful way. The course will cover interpersonal, small group, and public communication.

CSCI2083: Impact of Technology on Society

A study of technology's impact on individuals, groups, and institutions. Special emphasis is given to worker displacement, computer illiteracy, environmental and health issues, depersonalization, computer crime, intellectual property, invasion of privacy and other ethical/legal issues.

ECON1033: Principles of Macroeconomics

An introduction to macroeconomics including basic concepts of supply and demand, price system, employment theory, inflation, business cycles, monetary policies, and fiscal policies.

ENGL1063: Introduction to Literature

A study of literary genres through representative readings. This course is offered in traditional and non-traditional formats

ENGL1083: College Writing

This course focuses on the process and practice of composition and includes attention to formatting, modes of writing, grammar, and persuasion. Students will develop critical writing, reading, and thinking skills. Emphasis will be given to the research essay, including argumentation, documentation styles, and research techniques. Both MLA and APA styles will be introduced in the course.

ESSC1044: Astronomy with Laboratory

A study of the structure, composition, organization and history of the universe. Special emphasis is given to the solar system, the structure and function of stars, the structure of galaxies, the organization of matter, and theories about the history and origin of the universe.

ESSC1054: Meteorology with Laboratory

A study of the earth's atmosphere, physical factors that affect weather, weather systems and patterns, and scientific methods used to collect data, analyze trends, and forecast weather.

HIST1013: The Western Tradition in World Context

This course will examine the development of Western civilization within a broader world context since 1500 A.D. The course particularly attends to the emergence of "modern patterns of life," including modern states and systems of production and exchange, the development of modern science and technology, globalization, and modern concepts of the self and society.

HUMA2003: Survey of the Arts

This course explores significant works in music, literature, and the visual arts in order to create contexts for asking fundamental questions about the nature and purposes of the arts. Students will learn key terminology, explore important cultural and historical contexts, and apply conceptual frameworks in order to understand Christian categories for evaluating and appreciating a variety of artistic forms.

MATH1033: Introduction to Mathematical Systems

A study of number systems. Special emphasis is given to logic, axioms and applications from groups and non-Euclidean geometry.

MATH2063: Introduction to Statistics

A study of basic descriptive and inferential statistics with emphasis on applications in business, biology, and social sciences.

MTHY1002: Music in the Western World

A comprehensive survey of musical trends and developments in the western world and a guide to appreciating these trends. This course is offered in traditional and non-traditional formats.

PSYC1013: General Psychology

An introduction to psychology with emphasis on the biological and social perspectives. Special emphasis is given to the scientific method, psychological terminology, and prominent theories.

SOCL1013: Introduction to Sociology

An introduction to the sociological perspective of humans in social relationships, social groups and in society with emphasis on basic concepts, terms, and sociological theory.

SOCL2023: Social Problems

An introduction to basic principles in understanding patterns of social relations. Includes the major theoretical perspectives and methods for obtaining sociological knowledge. Special emphasis is given to the sociological examination of the major institutions in society.