

Valdosta State University General Information Fact Book 2015-2016



Office of Institutional Research



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Foreword

Welcome to the 27th edition of the VSU Fact Book.

The Fact Book is a compilation of commonly requested data and statistical information about VSU. It includes information about students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Information on institutional measures such as admissions, enrollment, retention, graduation, and university finances is also included.

The Office of Institutional Research produces this publication annually in an effort to provide reliable and accurate information to the VSU community.

We extend our appreciation to all of the University offices that assisted us with the collection and development of this information.

For more information on any topics included in this publication, contact:

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Note: Cover photo courtesy of Valdosta State Instagram.

General Information

- **Brief Chronology of Valdosta State University**
- **Concise Mission Statement**
- **Strategic Goals**
- **Board of Regents Membership**
- **Board of Regents Organizational Chart**
- **VSU Organizational Chart**
- **Biography of President**
- **Accreditations**
- **Degrees and Majors Offered**

Quick Facts about VSU's History:

- Valdosta State College became a Regional University within the University System of Georgia on July 1, 1993; its name was officially changed to Valdosta State University. VSU celebrated its centennial years from 2006 to 2013, marking the institution's establishment and opening. VSU became a Comprehensive University within the University System of Georgia on July 1, 2013.
- The six colleges within the University are the College of Arts & Sciences, the Langdale College of Business Administration, the Dewar College of Education & Human Services, the College of the Arts, the College of Nursing & Health Sciences, and the Honors College.
- VSU offers fifty-six bachelor programs, eleven certificate programs, one endorsement, one diploma seal program, and two associate programs on the undergraduate level and thirty-seven master programs, five education specialists programs, five endorsements, eleven certificate programs, and five doctoral programs at the graduate level.
- VSU has hosted the Governor's Honors Program (GHP) since 1980.
- In 2010, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmed VSU's regional accreditation as a part of its 10-year review process.

Brief Chronology of VSU

A special act by the Georgia General Assembly established an institution of higher learning in Valdosta, Georgia, in 1906. South Georgia State Normal College opened to "young ladies" on January 2, 1913 as a two-year college specializing in teacher training. An act by the General Assembly in 1922 changed the institution's name to Georgia State Womans College at Valdosta and authorized a four-year liberal arts program leading to a bachelor's degree.

In 1950, after 37 years as a woman's college, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved the coeducational status and a new name for the institution: Valdosta State College. During the following forty-three years, the school grew exponentially in numbers through expanded undergraduate and graduate degree programs. In 1993, Valdosta State College was named a Regional University by the Board of Regents and became Valdosta State University. In 2013 VSU became a Comprehensive University.

As a comprehensive university in South Georgia, VSU collaborates with other University System of Georgia (USG) institutions to provide educational programs to the university's 41-county service region. To expand its programmatic outreach, VSU continues to develop and offer distance learning programs and courses at off-campus locations throughout Georgia and online.

The institution has been led by nine presidents:

- Richard H. Powell (1913-1933)
- Jere M. Pound (1933-1935)
- Frank R. Reade (1935-1948)
- J. Ralph Thaxton (1948-1966)
- S. Walter Martin (1966-1978)
- Hugh C. Bailey (1978-2001)
- Ronald M. Zaccari (2002-2008)
- Patrick J. Schloss (2008-2011)
- William J. McKinney (2012-2015)
- Cecil P. Staton (2015-Present, Interim)



Source: VSU Archives; VSU Office of the President, 2015.



Concise Mission Statement

As a comprehensive institution of the University System of Georgia, Valdosta State University (VSU) is a welcoming, aware, and vibrant community focused on and dedicated to serving our communities' rich and diverse heritages. Through excellence in teaching, basic and applied research, and service, VSU provides rigorous programs and opportunities that enrich our students, our university, and our region. As such, the VSU mission consists of three interrelated parts:

Student Mission: To provide a diverse student population with an inspired education, a safe learning environment, a nurturing community, and a wealth of experience that assists students in molding their futures in a creative, conscious, and caring fashion while preparing them to be lifelong learners who will meet the needs of a changing global society.

University Mission: To operate the university with a focus toward human, environmental, and financial sustainability while increasing value to our local, regional, national, and international stakeholders. To expand opportunities for our students, employees, and varied community members by promoting social justice and service learning.

Regional Mission: To provide our region and home with resources and support necessary to develop and sustain a higher quality of living, greater economic and community development, and inspired innovation that nurtures and respects our diverse population and beautiful environment while promoting academic outreach, public and private entrepreneurship, and collaboration with all regional entities. Valdosta State University fulfills its mission by focusing on inclusion in all aspects of the educational experience.

The expanded mission statement is available at www.valdosta.edu/about/facts/organization-and-mission.php.

Source: VSU Facts, 2015.



Strategic Goals 2013-2019

University Goal 1: Recruit, Retain, and Graduate a Quality, Diverse Student Population and Prepare Students for Roles as Leaders in a Global Society

- Actively pursue VSU's Complete College Georgia Plan (CCG).
- Promote educational excellence in all learning environments through academic, professional, and social opportunities.
- Improve academic advising and shorten time-to-degree.
- Create and market an institutional brand identity.

University Goal 2: Increase Financial Support for the Institution

- Increase the number of gifts received and the total dollar amount of gifts raised with a focus on student scholarship support.
- Increase the total number of donors and the total amount of gifts to the annual fund campaign.
- Increase the alumni giving rate.
- Educate faculty and staff about the importance of their gifts and increase the faculty/staff giving rate and the total dollar amount of faculty/staff gifts.
- Conduct a comprehensive capital campaign.

University Goal 3: Promote Student, Employee, Alumni, Retiree, and Community Engagement in our Mission

- Promote a diversity-rich, student-centered environment by engaging in inclusive social, civic, cultural, professional, and intellectual activities.
- Develop a campus-wide coordinating infrastructure to secure and provide external recognition for community engagement.
- Enhance our role as a comprehensive institution and economic leader for South Georgia

University Goal 4: Foster an Environment of Creativity and Scholarship

- Serve as a center for higher education research and development.
- Increase sponsored research and grants in number and size of awards.

University Goal 5: Develop and Enhance Valdosta State's Human and Physical Resources

- Prepare all employees to be successful throughout their careers.
- Elevate service excellence.
- Engage in concise, inclusive, and purposeful planning

Source: Strategic Plan 2013-2019, July 2014.



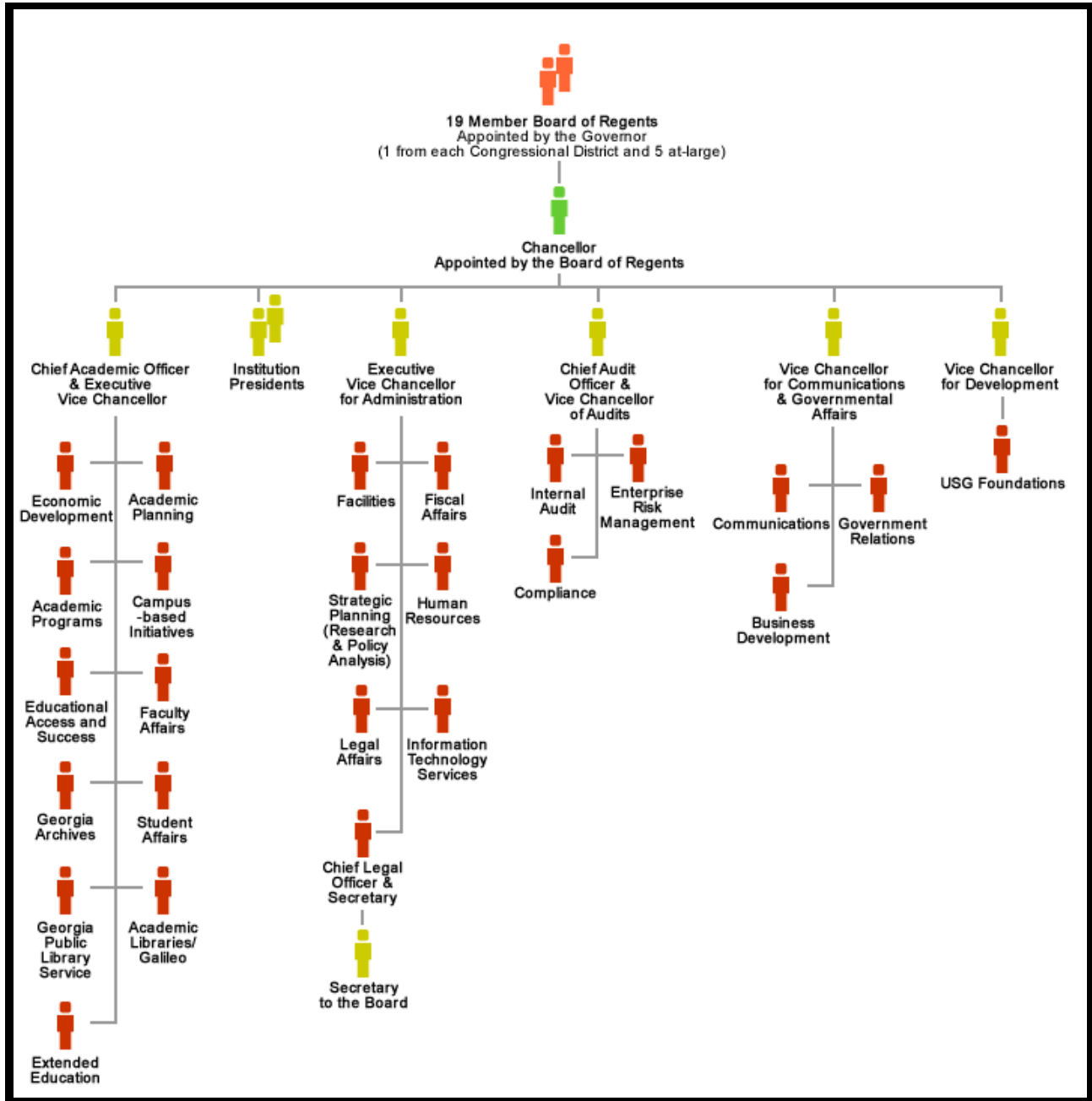
Board of Regents Membership



Name	District	Home
Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. (Chair)	Eleventh	Norcross, GA
Kessel Stelling, Jr. (Vice Chair)	Sixth	Columbus, GA
C. Dean Alford, P.E.	Fourth	Conyers, GA
W. Paul Bowers	At-Large	Atlanta, GA
Lori Durden	Twelfth	Statesboro, GA
Larry R. Ellis	Fifth	Atlanta, GA
Rutledge A. (Rusty) Griffin Jr.	Eighth	Valdosta, GA
C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., MD	Third	Griffin, GA
James M. Hull	At-Large	Augusta, GA
Donald M. Leebern, Jr.	At-Large	McDonough, GA
Doreen Stiles Poitevint	Second	Bainbridge, GA
Sachin Shailendra	Thirteenth	Atlanta, GA
E. Scott Smith	Fourteenth	Ringgold, GA
Benjamin "Ben" J. Tarbuton III	Tenth	Sandersville, GA
Richard L. Tucker	Seventh	Duluth, GA
Thomas Rogers Wade	At-Large	Atlanta, GA
Larry Walker	At-Large	Perry, GA
Don L. Waters	First	Savannah, GA
Philip A. Wilheit, Sr.	Ninth	Gainesville, GA

Source: Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG), retrieved October 2015.

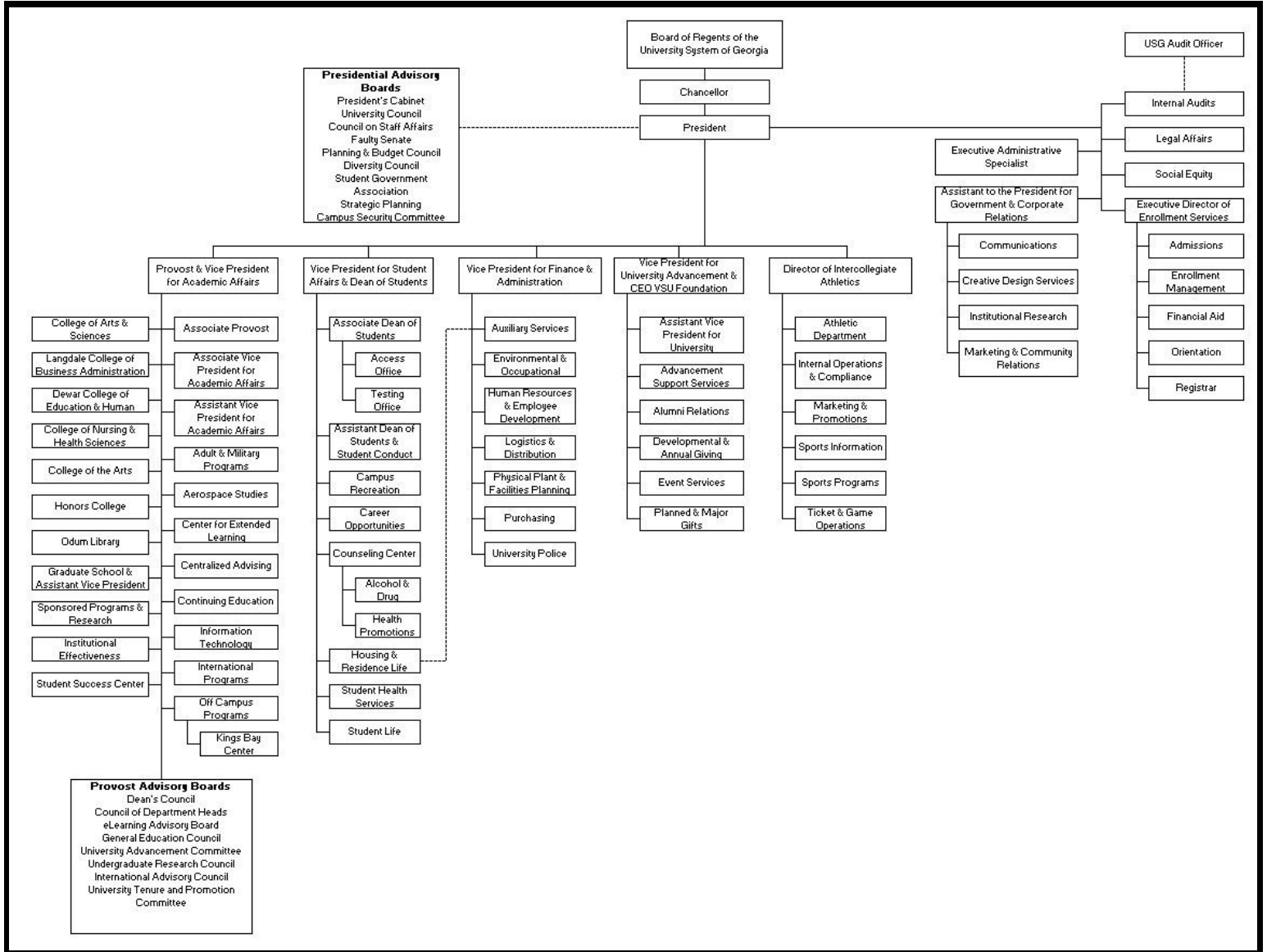
Board of Regents Organizational Chart



Source: Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG), retrieved October 2015.



VSU Organizational Chart



Source: VSU OIR, 2015.

Biography of Interim President

On July 1, 2015, Dr. Cecil P. Staton became Interim President of Valdosta State University. Appointed by Chancellor Hank M. Huckaby, Staton comes to VSU having served as Vice-Chancellor for Extended Education with the University System of Georgia. In that role, Dr. Staton served as the Chief International Officer for the system and was responsible for the system-wide priorities of international education, continuing and professional education, entrepreneurial education, and military affairs. He also worked with Georgia's economic development initiatives in order to match the resources of USG institutions with Georgia's evolving workforce needs. Most recently, Staton led system efforts to create the Georgia Film Academy, supporting the state's burgeoning film industry.



Prior to this Dr. Staton served as a Georgia State Senator for 10 years including two terms as Majority Whip. During his tenure he served on most major committees including: Assignments, Rules, Appropriations, and Finance. From 2006-2010 he served as chair of the Senate Science and Technology Committee. He also chaired for two terms the sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee responsible for Georgia's 2 billion dollar annual investment in higher education. He also served as vice chair of the Senate Appropriations sub-committee on Community Health, leading efforts to increase the healthcare workforce of Georgia. Staton sponsored legislation creating the Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission and championed more than 100 million in investment in the state's trauma care system.

Staton, an entrepreneur, was the founding CEO and President of several successful media companies that focused upon broadcasting and publishing. Among these are Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc., founded in 1990, Stroud & Hall Publishers, Inc. (2003), and Georgia Eagle Media, Inc., founded as Staton Broadcasting, Inc. in 2003, a media holding company with interests in television, radio, newspaper and digital media.

Dr. Staton holds the Doctor of Philosophy degree (1988) from the University of Oxford in England, the Th.M. (1985) and M.Div. with Languages (1982) degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the B.A. (1980) from Furman University. He was awarded the honorary Doctor of Humanities degree by Mercer University in 2014 for his service to higher education and medical education. He served as a college and university faculty member and administrator for 15 years before his business and political career. He was Associate Professor and Associate Provost at Mercer University (1991-2003), where as University Publisher and head of faculty research initiatives he led efforts successfully securing a 4.5 million dollar endowment for Mercer University Press. He served as a presidential fellow in 2002, travelling to and conducting research at 15 small comprehensive universities around the country leading to the publication of *A Sturdy American Hybrid* (Mercer University Press, 2003).

Staton has received numerous awards including the inaugural Richard Furman Award from Furman University in 2000, and most recently the 2014 Miller-Deal Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Georgia Independent College Association. Other recognitions include:

- Star of Life Legislative Award, Georgia Association of Emergency Medical Service, 2007
- Mercer University School of Medicine Commencement Speaker, 2008
- Technology Association of Georgia, Legislator of the Year, 2010
- Georgia Hospital Association, Legislator of the Year, 2010
- Georgia Rural Healthcare Association, Legislator of the Year, 2010
- Georgia Bio, The life Sciences Partnership, Legislator of the Year, 2012
- The 1849 Friend of Medicine Award, Georgia Medical Association, 2013
- Emory University Center for Injury Control, Award for Outstanding Service, 2013

Dr. Staton has published numerous books, book chapters, and articles. He is married to Catherine Davidson Staton and together they are the parents of two sons. Dr. Staton is a recognized authority on higher education and healthcare issues and the challenges facing public and private higher education today. In making the appointment of Dr. Staton, USG Chancellor Hank Huckaby commented, "Cecil has an extensive academic background in higher education combined with solid experience in leading a business operation that makes him uniquely qualified to provide leadership at Valdosta State during this important period. We are fortunate to have someone of Cecil's caliber in the University System who can step in and ensure Valdosta State continues to move forward."

Source: VSU Office of the President, 2015.



Accreditation

Valdosta State University is accredited or recognized by the following organizations:

- Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- AACSB International-The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
- American Association of School Librarians
- American Chemical Society
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
- American Library Association
- Association for Childhood Education International
- Association for Educational Communications and Technology
- Association on Middle Level Education
- Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Training and Education of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
- Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs
- Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation
- Council for Exceptional Children
- Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Council on Social Work Education
- Georgia Professional Standards Commission
- International Reading Association
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Association of Schools of Art and Design
- National Association of Schools of Music
- National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration
- National Association of Schools of Theatre
- Public Relations Society of America

Source: VSU Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, 2015.



Degrees and Majors Offered Undergraduate

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Biology	Biology	B.A., B.S.
Chemistry	Chemistry	B.S.
English	English	B.A.
	Journalism	Certificate - Institutional Cross-training for Journalism & Mass Media
History	History	B.A.
Mathematics & Computer Science	Mathematics	B.A.
	Applied Mathematics	B.S.
	Computer Science	B.S.
	Computer Information Systems	B.S.
Modern & Classical Languages	French Language & Literature	B.A.
	French Language & Literature: French Education Track	B.A.
	Spanish Language & Literature	B.A.
		Certificate - Spanish for Community Professionals
	Spanish Language & Literature: Spanish Education Track	B.A.
	Latin American Studies	Certificate - Latin American Studies
	English to Speakers of Other Languages	Certificate - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
Endorsement - English to Speakers of Other Languages		
Philosophy & Religious Studies	Philosophy & Religious Studies	B.A.
	Interdisciplinary Studies	B.A.
Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences	Physics	B.S.
	Astronomy	B.S.
	Environmental Geosciences	B.S.
Political Science	Political Science	B.A.
	Legal Assistant Studies	B.A.
	Organizational Leadership	B.S.
Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice	Sociology & Anthropology	B.A.
	Criminal Justice	B.A.
College-wide	Associate of Arts	A.A.

LANGDALE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Accounting	Accounting	B.B.A.
		Certificate - Internal Auditing
Marketing & International Business	Marketing	B.B.A.
	International Business	B.B.A.
Management & Healthcare Administration	Management	B.B.A.
		Certificate - Healthcare Administration
		Healthcare Administration
Finance & Economics	Finance	B.B.A.
	Economics	B.B.A.



Degrees and Majors Offered Undergraduate

DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Adult & Career Education	Workforce Education & Development	B.S.Ed.
	Office Administration & Technology	B.S.
	Human Capital Performance	B.A.S.
Early Childhood & Special Education	Early Childhood Education	B.S.Ed.
	Special Education: General Curriculum/ Early Childhood Track	B.S.Ed.
Kinesiology & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education	B.S.Ed.
Middle, Secondary, Reading, & Deaf Education	Middle Grades Education	B.S.Ed.
	Special Education: Deaf Education Track	B.S.Ed.
	American Sign Language and English Interpreting	B.S.Ed.
Psychology & Counseling	Psychology	B.A., B.S
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Communication Disorders	B.S.Ed.

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS			
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES	
Art	Art	B.A., B.F.A.	
	Art Education	B.F.A.	
	Interior Design	B.F.A.	
Communication Arts	Dance	B.F.A.	
	Mass Media	B.F.A.	
		Certificate - Institutional Cross-training for Journalism & Mass Media	
		Certificate - Sports Broadcasting	
	Speech Communication	B.F.A.	
	Theatre Arts	Certificate - Health Communication	
Music	Music	B.A.	
	Music Performance	B.M.	
	Music Education	B.M.	

COLLEGE OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Nursing	Nursing	B.S.N.
Health Sciences	Athletic Training	B.S.A.T.
	Exercise Physiology	B.S.E.P.
	Dental Hygiene	A.A.S.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
University-wide	Honors College	Certificate - University Honors
	Cooperative Education	Certificate - Cooperative Education
		Diploma Seal of Advanced Cooperative Education

Source: VSU Office of Institutional Effectiveness, 2014.

Degrees and Majors Offered Graduate

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Biology	Biology	M.S.
English	English	M.A.
	English Studies for Language Arts Teachers	M.A.
Modern & Classical Languages	English to Speakers of Other Languages	Endorsement - English to Speakers of Other Languages
History	History	M.A.
Political Science	Public Administration	M.P.A., D.P.A.
	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Non-Profit Management	Advanced Certificate
	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Management	Advanced Certificate
	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Sector Human Resources Management	Advanced Certificate
Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice	Criminal Justice	M.S.
	Sociology	M.S.

LANGDALE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Accounting	Accountancy	M.Acc.
Business Administration	Business Administration: General Business Track	M.B.A.
	Business Administration: Healthcare Administration Track	M.B.A.

DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Adult & Career Education	Adult & Career Education	M.Ed., Ed.D.
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in Business Education	GA PSC Certificate - Business Education
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Communication Disorders	M.Ed.
	Speech-Language Pathology	SLPD
Curriculum, Leadership, & Technology	Curriculum & Instruction	Ed.D.
	Instructional Technology: Technology Applications Track or Library-Media Track	M.Ed., Ed.S.
	Leadership	Ed.D.
	Educational Leadership: Higher Education Leadership Track	M.Ed.
	Educational Leadership	Ed.S.
	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Online Teaching	Advanced Certificate
	Online Teaching	GA PSC Endorsement - Online Teaching
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in School Library Media	GA PSC Certificate - Media Specialist
Early Childhood & Special Education	Early Childhood Education	M.Ed.
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in Early Childhood Education	GA PSC Certificate - Early Childhood Education
	Special Education	GA PSC Endorsement - Physical & Health Disabilities
	Early Childhood Special Education General Curriculum	M.Ed.
	Special Education: Adapted Curriculum	M.A.T.
	Special Education: General Curriculum	M.A.T.
Kinesiology & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education	M.Ed.
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in Health & Physical Education	GA PSC Certificate - Health & Physical Education
	Coaching Pedagogy in Physical Education	Ed.S.



Degrees and Majors Offered Graduate

DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Marriage & Family Therapy	Marriage & Family Therapy	M.S.
Middle, Secondary, Reading, & Deaf Education	Special Education: Deaf & Hard of Hearing	M.Ed., M.A.T.
	Middle Grades Education	M.A.T., M.Ed.
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in Secondary Education Fields (English, Math, History, Political Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science)	GA PSC Certificate - English, Math, History, Political Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science
	Curriculum & Instruction: Accomplished Teaching	M.Ed.
	Teacher Leadership	Ed.S.
	Middle Grades Education: Math & Science	M.Ed.
	Secondary Education	M.A.T., M.Ed.
	Reading Education	M.Ed. GA PSC Endorsement - Reading
Psychology & Counseling	Psychology: Clinical/Counseling Track or Industrial Organization Track	M.S.
	Gifted In-Field	Endorsement - Gifted In-Field
	School Counseling	M.Ed., Ed.S.
	Post Baccalaureate GA PSC Certificate in School Counseling	GA PSC Certificate - School Counseling
Social Work	Social Work	M.S.W.

COLLEGE OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Nursing	Nursing	M.S.N.

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Communication Arts	Communication	M.A.
Music	Music Performance	M.M.P.
	Music Education	M.M.E.

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS		
DEPARTMENTS	MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY	DEGREES
Library & Information Science	Library & Information Science	M.L.I.S.

Source: VSU Office of Institutional Effectiveness, 2014.