



Academics at Emory & Henry—An Introduction for Freshmen

Welcome to Academics at Emory & Henry. College is exciting in many ways: being on your own for the first time, living on a college campus, making new friends—and of course embarking on an education of your own choosing, to become the person you want to be. You will begin that journey when you walk through the door for your first class at Emory & Henry. This guide is intended to help you prepare for that journey, including advice about classes you can take and information about how to register.

All Freshmen Start as “Undeclared” Majors

Some of you may already know what you want to major in—terrific! You will have an opportunity to declare a major at the start of your second semester at Emory & Henry. For those of you who are uncertain, don’t worry. You can use your first year or two to work toward fulfilling the requirements of the Core Curriculum and to take entry-level classes in various departments that interest you. We encourage students to choose a major by the fall of their junior year.

The Core Curriculum at Emory & Henry

At Emory & Henry, you will take a series of classes designed to give you a true liberal-arts education. Through the Core Curriculum, we hope you will come to understand yourself, learn to solve problems, think ethically, develop a broad base of knowledge, connect with the world, and engage in your community through service.

You will also be asked to demonstrate proficiency with computers, writing, speaking, math skills, and a foreign language. For more information about the Core Curriculum and the classes it includes, see this link:

www.ehc.edu/academics/programs/core-curriculum.

Transitions I—the First Step in the Core Curriculum

All freshmen at Emory & Henry take a course called Transitions I: Engaging the Liberal Arts (ETLA-100) during their first fall here. There are many different sections, each focusing on a different topic: myths, racial identity, controversy in theater, and many more. Our hope is that every student will find topics on the list that interest them! For a complete description of Transitions I courses, use this link:

<http://www.ehc.edu/admissions/accepted-students/orientation/transitions-i/>.

Regardless of which Transitions I section you take, you will receive a similar introduction to the college experience at Emory & Henry. Transitions I courses provide practice in taking tests and quizzes, thinking critically, making presentations, using math in non-mathematics classes, writing papers, doing research, working in groups, communicating with professors and planning your college experience.





Your First Faculty Advisor

The professor who teaches your Transitions I course will also serve as your first faculty advisor at Emory & Henry. Because they have taught you in class, they will know you well enough to work closely with you. When you declare a major, you will be reassigned to a faculty advisor in that department. Students who wait to declare their major until sophomore or junior year will continue working with their Transitions I professors in the meantime.

Register for New Student Orientation

We ask all students to come to New Student Orientation on a designated day in April, May or June. While here, you will take a Compass math placement test, sit in on a session led by your Transitions I professor, meet with your advisor to sign up for classes, and meet other new and current students. To register for New Student Orientation, use this link: www.ehc.edu/summer-orientation-registration. (Note: You will have to rank your top five Transitions I topics when you register.)

Use Web Advisor to Find Courses for Your First Semester

So now you know when you will register for classes—but how do you know what to take? Your advisor will help, but the more *you* can take charge of your schedule, the better. You can use our online system in Web Advisor to search for courses. We recommend using the online program to create a worksheet of classes that interest you, to discuss with your advisor at summer orientation. Instructions for how to use Web Advisor can be found in a separate file in the Academics folder of your flash drive.

Course Ideas for First-Year Students

Here is some advice we offer to incoming students as they map out their first semester of academics:

- Register for about 15 credit hours—enough to challenge you, but not so many you are overloaded
- ETLA 100, which is your **Transitions I** course, will count for 3 of those credits
- Consider taking **Math** your first semester here. People perform better in math if they don't take "time off." You won't know what math class you need until you take the Compass placement test at summer orientation. But you can still reserve 3 credit hours in your schedule for it!
- If you have an idea of a **Major** that might interest you, you can sign up for a 100-level course in that department
- All students take a **Religion** class while at E&H, and this can be a good requirement to fulfill during the fall of your semester year. The options are: RELG 111 (World Religions), RELG 131 (Old Testament Survey), RELG 132 (New Testament Survey) or RELG 200 (Introduction to the Christian Faith)
- All students take two credits of **Lifetime Wellness**—1 credit comes from ETLA 103, a general wellness course we ask students to take their first year; the other credits comes from two physical activity courses worth ½ credit each (these are listed under PHED and can be taken in everything from basketball to ballroom dancing, from self-defense to kayaking).

- Consider courses that meet the **Modes of Inquiry** requirements in the Core Curriculum. You will take four courses to fulfill these requirements, one from each of the following areas:
 - Artistic Expression can be studio art, music lessons, creative writing, theatre or more
 - Understanding the Natural Worlds can be covered by biology, chemistry, environmental studies, physics or psychology
 - Understanding the Individual and Society includes diverse offerings across the humanities and social sciences
 - Interpreting Texts offers an opportunity to look in-depth at famous works of art, literature, philosophy, religion, etc.



When you take your Modes, keep in mind that you can NOT choose classes in your intended major. The classes also must be taken in four different departments. Find the complete list of classes that fulfill the Modes at: www.ehc.edu/academics/programs/core-curriculum.

- One year of **Foreign Language** is required for graduation. As with math, it is a good idea to take your foreign language courses early, especially if you took language in high school. Generally, students are placed in entry-level (101) sections of foreign languages. If you would like to try to test into a higher level class, you will need to take the Foreign Language Placement Exam. Instructions can be found in a separate document on the flash drive.

You can find a description of all courses offered at E&H, along with a list of classes required for each major, in the Academic Catalog: www.ehc.edu/academics/resources/registrar/academic-catalogs. (In the event that the upcoming school year's Academic Catalog hasn't yet been posted when you access this link, earlier versions will still give you a good idea of course options.)

The PRC—An Academic Safety Net

Beginning college is an exciting prospect, but we know some students will also be a little nervous. That is natural. Please know that we have many programs that can function as a safety net for you, and all of them are free: math and writing centers, tutoring, peer mentoring, accommodations for those who qualify, and counseling. Most of these services can be accessed through the Powell Resource Center—also known as the PRC—in Wiley Hall Room 220.

Questions?

Contact us anytime: Dr. Michael J. Puglisi, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs (mpuglisi@ehc.edu), or Jolie Lewis, Academic Advisor (jllewis@ehc.edu). Or call us at Powell Resource Center, 276-944-6144.