

## Upside Down Guiding Principles

1. Upside Down students are getting an award of additional credit in exchange for broadening their academic experience through interdisciplinary work outside of the area they have received a specialized degree.
2. The best academic plan would have the student begin at Evergreen by completing the ***32 credits of interdisciplinary study outside of their technical degree area.*** This allows the student exposure to different academic disciplines to help shape the rest of their study.
3. While the ideal might be 32 credits in broad, liberal arts, full-time, team-taught programs, for some students full-time study is not an option. Students may take a series of ***8-credit interdisciplinary programs outside of their technical degree area that may or may not be team taught*** because this pathway will expose the student to multiple faculty and disciplines.

## Upside Down Program Requirements

- Student has earned an approved technical degree from a community college (see <http://www.evergreen.edu/admissions/waCCdegrees.htm> for list of acceptable Upside Down transfer degrees).
- Student has successfully completed college-level English composition or its equivalent with a "C" grade or better (technical writing, business writing and creative writing are not equivalent to English composition).
- Student's cumulative GPA from all colleges attended is at least 2.50.
- Student must meet with an Academic Advisor who will approve a plan of study at Evergreen.
- Student must earn at least ninety credits at The Evergreen State College.
- At least thirty two of the Evergreen credits must be in half-time or full-time interdisciplinary programs outside of the subject area of the approved technical degree.

## Upside Down Advising Procedures

1. Academic Advisors are responsible to meet with students to document plans that meet the principles and requirements as outlined in this document. Additionally, Advising staff track completion of these plans and alert Admissions once they are completed.
2. The full-time curriculum dean will determine which full-time programs are appropriately interdisciplinary (team taught, with faculty teaching across disciplines) and will provide a list as soon as possible each year to Academic Advising. In addition, approval as an Upside Down option will be indicated on the curriculum update form throughout the year.
3. For Evening/Weekend curriculum, only programs offered for eight or more credits qualify for the Upside Down option. All programs listed as half-time interdisciplinary offerings can be considered in making Upside Down agreements.

4. For summer programs, only programs offered for eight or more credits qualify for the Upside Down option. The summer curriculum dean will identify appropriate interdisciplinary programs and send a list to Academic Advising as early as possible.
5. **Academic Advisors are responsible for determining whether qualifying programs are outside the scope of the student's technical degree.**
6. If an advisor feels that an exception should be made for an Upside Down student, advisors will consult with director and assistant director who may confer with the Academic Deans for guidance.
7. In the event that a student fails to earn all of the 32 credits as outlined in the advisor-approved Upside Down plan, an Academic Advisor can work with the student to find a suitable program that will complete the 32 required credits. If the student wishes to request an exception, the Academic Advisor will refer the student to an Academic Dean who will make a final decision.

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