



VUE

The Valparaiso University Experience

Launching in Fall 2024

VUE

Introduction

- 1 **Process**
- 2 **Courses**
- 3 **Faculty**

SECTION ONE

Process

New directions for the first year

- Importance of first-year students
- Previous attempts to reimagine FY
- Strategic plan initiative
- Momentum to embrace change
- Salience of liberal education at Valpo as a foundation



Why now?

Process

AY 2021–2022

AY 2022–2023

September 2023

Fall 2023–Winter 2024

Spring 2024

March–May 2024

May 13–17, 2024

June 2024

Fall 2024

Strategic planning process

Learn 2 Initiative committee

Learn 2A presentations & feedback

Discussion & revision & presentations

Faculty governance process

VUE Implementation team

VUE Faculty Symposium

FOCUS registration

Launch

Learn 2A members

Michael Chikeleze, Carter Hanson, and Lisa Jennings, Co-Owners

Kevin Goebbert, Executive Sponsor

Teresa Augustine, Library

Kelly Belanger, CAS

Ed Finn, CITAL

Sam Graber, CC

Matt Luth, COB

Daniel Maguire, COE

Bailey Regier, CONHP

VUE Implementation Team

Kelly Belanger

Michael Chikeleze

Carter Hanson

Lisa Jennings

Anna Stewart

Carrie Whittier

SECTION ONE

Courses

VUE logistics

- VUE 101 & 102 required for students in all colleges except CC
- Non-sequential; both courses offered fall and spring
- Easier for transfer students and faculty availability
- 4 credits each with academic experiential learning



VUE 101 and 102

Changes in response to stakeholders:

- **Student choice** of topics to spark curiosity
- **Faculty interests** to showcase their expertise
- **Experiential learning** to enhance sense of belonging
- **Service and leadership** opportunities to incorporate VU values
- **Strong foundation** to set up student success at VU

VUE: Valparaiso University Experience

At Valpo, leading and serving are inseparable, two sides of the same coin:

VUE 101 focuses on **service** side of the coin,
noting that effective service depends on leadership

VUE 102 focuses on **leading**,
acknowledging service at heart of effective leadership

To this, we add the anchors of values and voice:

Both courses engage students with ongoing process of
clarifying and dialoguing about values

VUE 101

- **Choose** from range of topic seminars
- **Attend** to values of self, Valpo, and the topic at hand
- **Collaborate** to turn values into action in experiential learning



Exploring Values

Curious about **VUE 101?**

Would you like to take a class in...?

True Crime in Early America

Ecocriticism and Environmental Justice

Storytelling as Community Engagement

Country Music: Geography and History

Religion, Humanity, and Bioethics

Gardening and the Good Life

Tech Trends in Intercultural Communication

Animals and Ourselves

VUE 101
Topics for
Exploring Values

VUE 102

- **Develop and adapt** effective voices in various forms of expression
- **Use voice** to practice values-based leadership
- **Explore** big questions while connecting to Valpo community



Finding Your Voice

Curious about **VUE 102?**

Combining Voice and Leadership:

Students' own writing and research are the primary texts for VUE 102.

"Students are most engaged in their writing when they understand the power of their own voices to make change."

- Jessyca Mathews, National Writing Project

*VUE 102
Finding Your
Voice*

VUE Hallmark: 4th credit

- VUE 101 students decide how values can be put into action and service
- VUE 102 students collaborate on projects and adapt their voices to various audiences
- **All students engage and reflect** to build community and critical thinking

*Academic
Experiential
Learning*

Student Learning Objectives

- Explore how values inform discourse
- Engage in respectful dialogue that supports & challenges one's ideas
- Use information effectively and ethically
- Exercise writing and reading as interconnected processes
- Examine how values, leadership, and service interconnect through experiential learning

VUE: Valparaiso University Experience

*Connecting voice,
values, leadership,
and service*

SECTION ONE

Faculty

Participating colleges & departments:

College of Business

College of Arts & Sciences

Communication/Visual Arts

Computer Science

Geography/Meteorology

Sociology/Criminology

Theology/Philosophy

World Languages and Cultures

Chemistry

English

History

Political Science

Music

VUE Faculty Symposium:

May 13-17



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What you can do:

- Advise with enthusiasm
- Assist with experiential learning
- Support colleagues with optimism, patience, and encouragement!

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Questions?

VUE: Valparaiso University Experience

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