

Adult Studies Program



T H E K N O W L E D G E T O S U C C E E D



The top five reasons why you should enroll in Virginia Wesleyan's Adult Studies Program

- 5.** You'll feel comfortable at Virginia Wesleyan with faculty and staff that are ready to help with any needs or concerns you may have.
- 4.** Our classes accommodate you! Evening and weekend classes are offered through the entire academic year.
- 3.** You'll have your own academic adviser who will guide you throughout your course of study.
- 2.** You'll receive a quality education at tuition rates you can afford. We offer financial aid, loan programs, payment plans, an employer tuition deferral program and support veterans' education benefit and active duty tuition assistance programs.
- 1.** You'll invest in your future, providing a step up to a productive and fulfilling life.

Influenced by its United Methodist heritage, Virginia Wesleyan was chartered in 1961 and provides a private education in an accepting and diverse campus where many states, traditions and faiths are represented. In a peaceful environment where nature and relationships thrive, you will learn and grow among people who support your personal growth.

A Program Designed Especially for Busy Adults.

Searching for a place to help you reach your professional or personal goals? The Adult Studies Program (ASP) at Virginia Wesleyan College is designed to meet the needs of adult students like you who are employed in full- or part-time jobs, or committed to many of life's responsibilities such as family, children or the community.

The Adult Studies Program provides a quality education – and is the same as that received by full-time undergraduate students. You'll use the same textbooks and be taught by talented full-time and adjunct faculty members who are experts in their fields and have an appreciation for adult learners.

With convenient class times offered in the evenings and on weekends, you'll be able to fit your education goals into a busy schedule. Our classes typically have fewer than 20 students, so you'll receive direct, personal attention from faculty members on a daily basis. And, you'll have a knowledgeable academic adviser who will guide you throughout the course of your study.

As you review Virginia Wesleyan's Adult Studies Program, take time to learn about our enriching academic program, superb faculty, and affordable tuition rates, and how each of these areas will benefit your college experience. There are many reasons to attend Virginia Wesleyan, and the best reason of all is the investment in your future.



At Virginia Wesleyan, the knowledge to succeed is within your reach.

Finish, or begin, your college education.

We know that many adults reach a point in their lives when it feels like the right time to begin or return to college. Enhance your career options, or pursue specific areas of interest by earning a bachelor's degree in one of six majors. You may also be eligible to arrange another major depending on your education circumstances. Either way, you'll develop the talents and abilities that you knew were always there.

As an adult student, you'll attend classes with your peers – students who, just like you, are trying to add another role to their already busy lives.

Already taken previous college courses or have credit-worthy experience?

We can help.

Virginia Wesleyan generally accepts non-vocational credit of "C" (or 2.0) or better from regionally accredited colleges (a maximum of 64 semester hours from two-year institutions), no matter how long ago the credits were completed.

We also accept DANTES (Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Educational Support) credit and use the A.C.E. (American Council on Education) guide to evaluate military-sponsored instruction.

We believe that your learning experiences outside of the classroom are valuable, and the sum of these experiences may equal college credit. You may be able to benefit from the College Level Examination Program (CLEP). CLEP provides national standardized tests in general or specific subjects. It is available to Adult Studies students who have completed fewer than 90 semester hours of college.

Convenient Classes

Evening – Virginia Wesleyan's evening classes are offered from 6 – 9 p.m. or 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday. Most classes meet one night a week. Adult students may take a maximum of two day classes at the ASP tuition rate during the course of their degree program, based on necessity due to unavoidable scheduling conflicts. With permission, ASP students may also take day classes at the day tuition rate.

Weekend – Virginia Wesleyan's weekend classes are offered Friday evenings from 6 – 10 p.m. or Saturday mornings from 8:30 – 12:30 p.m. Classes meet on alternate weekends, seven times a semester.

Additional Course Opportunities

Take advantage of our four accelerated Summer Sessions and Modified Distance Learning (MDL) courses – a mixture of "live" class sessions and online instruction. Committed to high-quality, face-to-face instruction, Virginia Wesleyan does not offer strictly online courses.



Virginia Wesleyan's Adult Studies Program offers professional, interesting professors and a warm, friendly staff. At Virginia Wesleyan, I have had the opportunity to put myself on a fast track to complete my bachelor's degree in a timely manner.

Jessica Nash '10, Norfolk, Va.
Major: Business
Employer: Northrop Grumman

Majors

Business – marketing, management and supervision, human resources, or accounting and finance

Social Science – history, psychology, sociology, or political science

Social Studies – a broad-based liberal arts program including history, government, civics, international studies and economics. Teacher Certification option is also available.

Criminal Justice – for individuals interested in the ever-growing field of law enforcement and who have extensive academic background in criminal justice

Interdivisional Major – a flexible program of study spanning all three academic divisions: Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Prescribed Inter-Divisional Major

- **Elementary (PIDME)** – provides non-degreed students with a Bachelor of Arts degree and an endorsement to teach in Pre K-6 classrooms

- **Special Education** – provides non-degreed students with a Bachelor of Arts degree and an endorsement to teach special education K-12 (General Curriculum)

You may also pursue individual courses that are of interest to you for personal or career enrichment.

Changing your career has never been so easy.

Most people will change careers several times during their life, and Virginia Wesleyan is here to help. If you have a bachelor's degree and want to have a profound impact on children by becoming a teacher, the Alternative Certification for Teachers (ACT) Program could have you teaching in a classroom in as little as two years.

Have a specific question about the ACT Program? Contact ACT Adviser Tom Farley at 757.455.5725 or tfarley@vwc.edu



Change your future and shape a child's life

The ACT Program is designed for those seeking licensure to teach Elementary Pre K-6, Special Education K-12 (General Curriculum), and Visual Arts, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English, Foreign Language K-12, History and Social Sciences and Math.

Classes for the ACT program are like other Adult Studies classes, held in the evenings, on weekends and during the summer. The program meets the Virginia Department of Education Standards.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree with a minimum 2.5 GPA (Grade Point Average)
- Be working in a career for at least one year
- Have passing scores on both the VCLA and Praxis I assessments. *Note:* Waiving the Praxis I assessment requirement is possible through adequate SAT or ACT scores. Official documentation of these scores must be obtained by the student before waiving the assessment.

Teachers. Mentors. Friends. At Virginia Wesleyan they're one and the same.

Virginia Wesleyan's faculty members don't just teach great thinkers. They *are* great thinkers. And 87 % of faculty members hold a Ph.D. or terminal degree in their field. You'll receive individual attention and won't find yourself in a course taught by graduate students. Virginia Wesleyan's faculty are approachable before or after class for that extra help you may need, and they enjoy teaching adults because of the knowledge and experience you bring to the classroom.



An Affordable Education.

Virginia Wesleyan believes that no student who wishes to attend our College should be denied the opportunity because of limited financial resources. The College participates in an employer tuition deferral program, offers financial aid opportunities and can put you on a payment plan that fits your budget.

Tuition Deferral

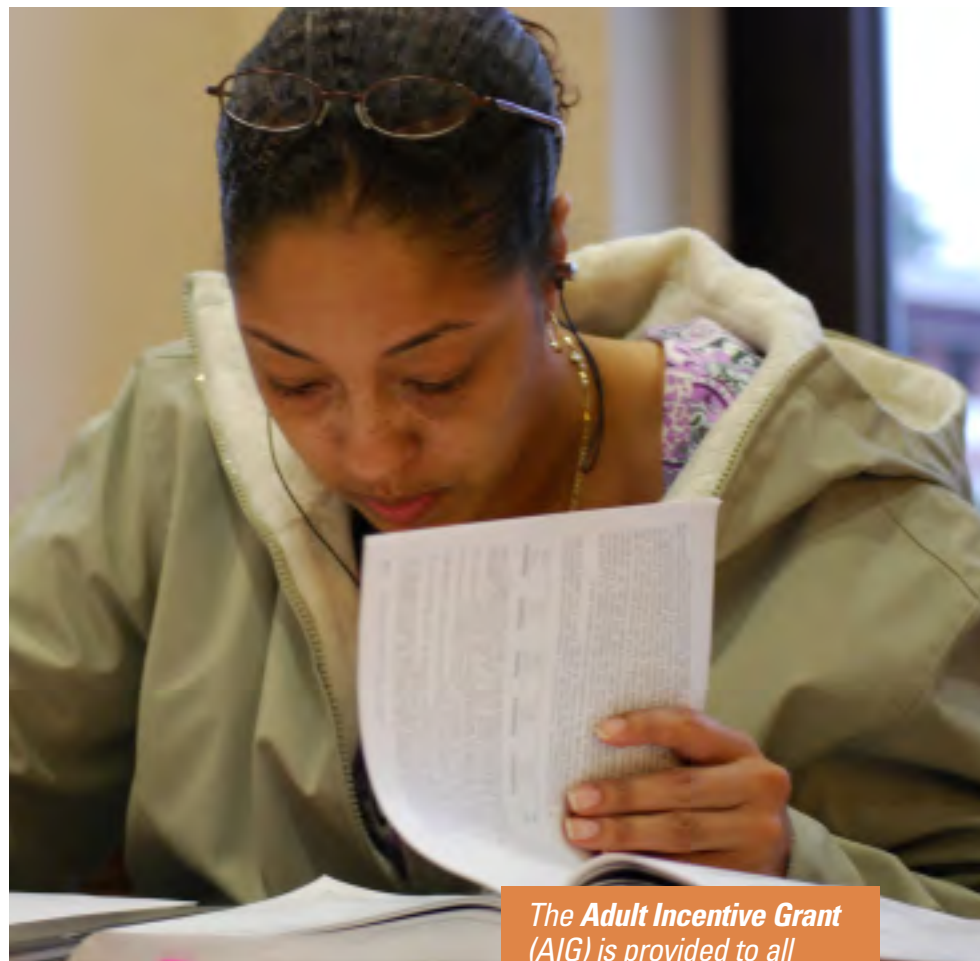
Many local employers reimburse all or part of their employees' educational expenses. If your employer provides you with tuition assistance, the Adult Studies program permits you to defer any reimbursable tuition until the semester ends.

Financial Aid

Adult students who are enrolled in six or more semester hours may qualify for financial aid through a Stafford Loan or a Pell Grant. Be sure to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) to maximize the value of your award, and use Virginia Wesleyan's school code: 003767.

Payment Options

Virginia Wesleyan offers college loan programs and payment plans are available. The College also supports the veterans' educational benefits, and active duty tuition assistance programs.



The Adult Incentive Grant (AIG) is provided to all students admitted to the Adult Studies Program. This grant is comparable to receiving a scholarship each semester you are enrolled.

Hofheimer Library

Research is a strong focus for students on the Virginia Wesleyan campus, and our newly expanded Hofheimer Library offers a wealth of information and assistance. We've recently added an additional 50,000 volumes, a new 24-hour study hall, a new instructional technology classroom/computer lab and additional floor space for individual and group study. Our librarians are available to help even during evenings and weekends.

The Learning Center

Having difficulty with the writing and reading required in class? The Learning Center provides tutorial support and coaching for writing, math assistance and peer and professional tutoring. These services are free of charge, and include evening hours.

Career Services

The Career Services Office offers a wide variety of tools including career counseling programs, and assistance with job searching. Career Services provides a résumé referral service, on-campus job fair and maintains an up-to-date database of job positions and internships.

Personal Counseling

The College has professional counselors that are available to assist ASP students facing personal difficulties. All information you share with a counselor will be treated with the highest regard for confidentiality. This means that information will not be disclosed to any outside persons or agencies without your permission.

Jane P. Batten Student Center

The hub of campus activity, the Jane P. Batten Student Center features dining facilities, including the Marlin Grille, the college bookstore, and a variety of recreational facilities. For a nominal fee, ASP students can use the fitness center with weight machines, elliptical machines, stair climbers and treadmills, an elevated jogging track, and the pool.

Dining and Snack Facilities

The College's dining facilities are open during the early evening hours to ASP students. There is also a student lounge right outside the Adult Studies office where students gather before class to chat or study. A vending room adjacent to the lounge provides snacks and drinks.

Cultural Activities

The College offers a variety of cultural events throughout the year including musical and theatre programs, professional speakers and art exhibitions. Most of the activities are free and are a wonderful extracurricular aspect of your college experience at Virginia Wesleyan.

Computers and E-mail

Type a paper in a 24-hour computer lab or work on a project in Hofheimer Library's brand new computer lab. All adult students receive a College e-mail account to facilitate on-going communication and to keep you updated on important College information.

Parking

Virginia Wesleyan's ample, convenient parking around the campus means you'll never have to walk more than five minutes to class. All students are required to have a parking decal in order to enter campus. Maps of campus facilities and parking areas are available online or in the Adult Studies office.

Security

Virginia Wesleyan is safe and secure for all students. Emergency call boxes are located throughout campus and all areas are well lit for your safety. A team of Campus Security officers patrols the campus by foot, bicycle and vehicle 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Security officers can also escort you to your car in the evening and offer assistance in the event of a vehicle breakdown or other personal needs.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Admission Requirements?

No entrance exams or SAT scores are required for admission. Students must have graduated from high school with a 2.0 GPA, or completed the GED.

Transfer students must have at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA in previous college course work, and be at least 23 years of age.

What will it cost?

Tuition rates are published on our Web site at www.vwc.edu/asp. There is no out-of-state tuition fee.

How do I sign up for classes?

At the time you are accepted, your adviser will assist you in planning your educational program and selecting your courses each semester. Most ASP students take one or two courses each semester, but we encourage you to set the pace that is right for you. You can register right at the ASP office or online.

How do I “learn the ropes”?

Right before each semester begins, you will be invited to an orientation meeting for new students to introduce you to the campus and ease your transition into college. If you have fewer than 12 semester hours of previous college work, you will also take an orientation seminar designed especially for you in your first semester. Our ASP student handbook – prepared with input from students – will be given to you during orientation and contains helpful information. During each semester, we will keep you posted on campus activities and services via e-mail.

How and where do I pay my tuition?

You can conveniently pay your tuition with cash, a check, automatic debit with Discover, American Express or MasterCard by going to the Web site www.afford.com, or by calling Tuition Management Systems, Inc. to arrange a payment plan at 1.800.356.8329. Payments of cash or check can be made directly in the Adult Studies office.



Next Steps

Apply to Virginia Wesleyan.

For many people, getting started is the hardest step. Virginia Wesleyan’s Adult Studies Program serves adults, from those who already have college credit to individuals who have never attended college. In fact, most of our staff returned to college as adults, so we understand on a very personal level many of your concerns and anxieties.

If you haven’t already done so, we encourage you to visit us during one of our monthly information sessions, or on your own when it’s convenient for your schedule. You may also set up an appointment to meet with an adviser who will explain the program, your degree options, and the application and registration process. And, if you’re still uncertain, we invite you to take a class, either for credit or on a non-credit basis.

How to Apply Checklist

- Complete online or paper application
- Submit essay with application
- Copy application for your record
- Submit application to ASP office
- Request high school and/or previous college transcripts be sent to ASP
- Complete Financial Aid forms

Ready to enroll in Virginia Wesleyan’s Adult Studies Program?

We are here to assist you in the application and enrollment process. Please contact an ASP adviser with any questions at 757.455.3263 or e-mail asp@vwc.edu

Financial Aid
757.455.3345
or e-mail finaid@vwc.edu



Adult Studies Program

www.vwc.edu/asp

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