

From: [WMU Faculty Senate](#)
To: [WMU Faculty Senate](#)
Subject: Senate Snapshot - Issue 48 WMU Essential Studies Early Course Review
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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
Senate Snapshot

WMU Essential Studies Early Course Review

This academic year, many courses were returned by the WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee and the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee to the originating department for corrections. With revisions, the vast majority of these courses will eventually be additions to the WMU Essential Studies program, but due to the current process, they will now need to wait another full academic year until they are offered in WMU Essential Studies.

In order to improve the approval rate of new and revised WMU Essential Studies courses, the WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee will now hold an additional interim/early review session each spring semester. This earlier review session will allow departments to receive feedback on returned courses, allowing for revision and approval to meet the October 31 deadline.

In addition to the October review session, the WMU Course Review and Approval Committee will now also review new/revised WMU Essential Studies courses during their annual April meeting (**April 9, 2024**). For this academic year all proposals must be submitted and approved through the appropriate College Curriculum Committee by **March 22, 2024** at the latest. This additional submission date will ensure that departments will have ample time to respond to the feedback provided by the WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee if a course is returned for revision.

The final deadline for all WES course additions and changes remains the same: October 31 of any given year. The Faculty Senate highly encourages departments to submit courses for early review: **March 22, 2024**.

For questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Jonathan Bush, WMU Essential Studies Faculty Director, at jonathan.bush@wmich.edu.

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