Welcome to Western Governors University (WGU)! As you begin your journey with us, you will encounter a number of tools and programs you will use throughout your time as a student. To begin, the tool you are working through now is called a Course of Study, or COS. The Course of Study is a tool designed to guide you through each assessment area you encounter. Please read on to begin your journey in Education Without Boundaries!

This course of study outlines the sequence of learning activities that will help you demonstrate competence in Education Without Boundaries. This course of study can take up to two weeks to complete depending on your educational background, work experience, and the time you are able to dedicate to your studies. Following this document sequentially is an important part of your preparation. Completion of this course of study and academic activity verification (AAV) signals a "Pass" for the EWB2 assessment for two competency units. These steps may be completed more quickly than shown in the course of study but must be completed so that academic activity verification (AAV) can be set by the 20th day of the month.

Introduction

Education Without Boundaries is a unique and engaging experience that will introduce you to WGU's competency-based education model. The Education Without Boundaries (EWB) Course of Study is designed to prepare you to be fully engaged as a student at WGU by providing you with the tools, resources, and information necessary for a successful start.

If you have any questions while working through this course of study, please use the following to contact your EWB Mentor Group for assistance.

EWB Group 2: 866-895-9660 ext 3185, ewbgroup2@wgu.edu
EWB Group 3: 866-895-9660 ext 3186, ewbgroup3@wgu.edu
EWB Group 4: 866-895-9660 ext 3187, ewbgroup4@wgu.edu

Overview

EWB2 Research suggests that successful students spend 20 hours or more per week studying. As you begin the EWB orientation process, you should plan on spending a minimum of two hours on each module to develop the time management skills and confidence necessary to succeed in this and future studies. Please note that you must complete all EWB assignments and required tasks, the EWB final assessment, and the EWB Learning Resource by the 15th day of your first term.

Outcomes and Evaluation

There are 4 competencies covered by this course of study; they are listed in the "Competencies for Education Without Boundaries" page.

Preparing for Success
To successfully complete this course of study, you will need to locate and access the appropriate resources, prepare a calendar outlining time devoted to your studies, and share your calendar with family and friends.

**Before You Start**

There are several preparatory activities you should undertake before launching into your EWB studies. The activities below will help you get off to a great start.

**View EWB Orientation Presentation**

Prior to the first of the month, you will receive an e-mail containing a link to the EWB orientation presentation. After viewing the orientation presentation, you are invited to attend a question-and-answer session to ask any questions you may have.

**Automatically Enrolled Resources**

Paired with this course of study is a learning resource you are required to work through. The learning resource is a sequential set of online modules and tutorials designed to help familiarize you with WGU. You will be automatically enrolled in the MindEdge learning resource when you click on the link found later in the COS.

As you progress through this course of study, you will find links to the learning resource in the activities for each topic area. Once in the learning resource, follow the assignment links to progress through the activities and required tasks for this course of study. At the end of each module, you will complete the self-assessment, which will demonstrate your competence in that subject area. You need to work through the learning resource in sequential order, and be sure to complete all required tasks and activities for each module. Upon completion of all required tasks and assignments, your mentor will receive an e-mail notification so that Academic Activity Verification (AAV) can be completed.

**Take Study Notes**

As you engage in the activities throughout this course of study, you will be answering questions, completing exercises, sketching out concepts, and so forth. You have the ability to take your notes online through the web-enabled course of study. A notebook or study journal (either paper or electronic) makes your learning more active and provides an excellent record of important materials to review prior to demonstrating your competencies through the assessment.

**Reference FAQs**

This course of study contains a frequently asked questions (FAQ) feature. For each topic, there are several commonly-asked questions and expert answers from the course mentors. You can use the FAQs to preview the topic’s content and determine your initial understanding of it. You should check out the FAQ section of your course of study before contacting your mentor with questions.

**Orientation to WGU**
The activities in this section will introduce you to WGU and will establish requirements. You must begin these activities no later than the 10th day of the month and complete them by the 15th of the month.

Competencies covered by this subject
101.1.2 - Student Resources
The student understands how to utilize WGU student resources.

**Introduction to EWB and WGU**

This introductory course of study provides a basic overview of competency-based education, defines the relationship between student and mentors, and outlines the EWB orientation process.

**View Introduction to EWB and WGU in EWB Learning Resource**

Go to MindEdge and view the following resource:

- "Introduction to EWB and WGU"

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view the introduction:

- What is competency-based education?
- How will you interact with WGU mentors?

**Student Portal: Module 1**

Learning to successfully navigate the student portal will help you quickly locate commonly used items and areas as well as interact with mentors and fellow students. You will be prompted to set up your profile and create your WGU e-mail signature to ensure effective and expedient communication.

**Module 1 in EWB Learning Resource**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 1 ("The Student Portal")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 1:

- What tools are available through the MyWGU Student Portal?
- How will you utilize your EWB community?

**Contact With Mentor**

As EWB begins, your mentor will contact you to schedule an introductory phone call. This will take place within the first few days of the EWB process. It is your
responsibility to reply to your mentor’s e-mail or phone message within 24 hours of receiving it. It is important to reply immediately so that schedules can be set accordingly.

**The Degree Plan: Module 2**

As you work through this module, you will learn how to read and use your Degree Plan. You will also learn about the different assessment types and be given an opportunity to locate an assessment site in your area. Your Degree Plan will help you see the "big picture" and will help you prioritize and monitor your progress.

**View Module 2 in EWB Learning Resource**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 2 ("The Degree Plan")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 2:

- What are the key components of your Degree Plan?
- What are competency units?

**Degree Plan Meeting With Mentor**

Schedule a meeting with your mentor to review your Degree Plan.

**WGU Resources and Library: Module 3**

After viewing this module, you will be able to locate and use the WGU Student Handbook to find information and answers on a variety of topics. You will also learn how to use the WGU Library to request articles and books. WGU has an abundance of resources to assist you in gaining the competencies you need to complete your program and prepare for a successful career.

**View Module 3 in EWB Learning Resource**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 3 ("WGU Resources and Library")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 3:
What resources are available to you at WGU?
What is your responsibility for locating and understanding the information available to you?
Whom should you contact if you need assistance using the WGU Library?

Communication: Module 4
During your time in EWB and beyond, you will be in frequent contact with your mentors by phone and e-mail. This module will provide you with the tools and tips needed to get the most from communication with your mentors and peers.

View Module 4 in EWB Learning Resource

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- Module 4 ("Communication")

Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 4:

- What are the expectations established for student and mentor communication?
- What does it mean to be an inactive student?

Academic Expectations: Module 5
The "Academic Expectations" module will define continuous enrollment, explain Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid, and establish a timeline for completing Academic Activity Verification (AAV).

View Module 5 in EWB Learning Resource

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- Module 5 ("Academic Expectations")

Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 5:

- How can you demonstrate responsibility for academic achievement?
- How is Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) calculated?

Academic Authenticity: Module 6
The "Academic Authenticity" module establishes expectations regarding academic
authenticity and demonstrates how to cite resources in APA style. This module will give you tools and outline guidelines for you to become competent and know that you are providing authentic work.

**View Module 6 in EWB Learning Resource**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 6 ("Academic Authenticity")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 6:

- What obligations do you have to comply with the WGU academic authenticity policy?
- What skills must you demonstrate to properly cite, quote, or paraphrase material?

**TaskStream: Module 7**

This module introduces you to TaskStream, WGU's platform for the submission of performance assessments. After completing this module, you will be prepared to properly submit performance tasks for grading. Note: You will have access to your TaskStream account after the 10th day of the month.

**View Module 7 in EWB Learning Resource**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 7 ("TaskStream")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 7:

- What are the proper procedures for using TaskStream?
- What resources should you work with prior to engaging in TaskStream?

**Strategies for Student Success: Module 8**

This module discusses time-management skills, study strategies, and student support available through WGU. Completion of this module will give you an understanding of how to effectively organize your time, figure out study strategies that work best for you, and know who to contact with questions.
View Module 8 in EWB Learning Resource

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **Module 8 ("Strategies for Student Success")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 8:

- What strategies have you identified that are important for your success as a student?
- What challenges do you anticipate in managing your study time?

**Career Services and Alumni Affairs: Module 9**

WGU's Career Services, a part of the Alumni Affairs department, offers assistance with resume writing and job searches among other services. This module will discuss the career services to you as a WGU student, the services you'll be offered as an alumnus and information on how to access these valuable services.

View Module 9 in EWB Learning Resource

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to MindEdge and complete the following resource:

- **Module 9 ("Career and Alumni Services")**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

Pay close attention to and take notes on the following concepts as you view module 9:

- What career services are offered to WGU students?
- What services are offered to WGU Alumni?

**Conclusion**

This module of the EWB learning resource includes the final steps of EWB you need to complete before you set AAV. After completing this resource, you should have a clear understanding of WGU policies, procedures, and resources. This module also includes a final checklist and final assessment. Please be sure to complete all of the activities.

**EWB Conclusion**

The MindEdge resource is designed to be completed in sequential order. Go to
MindEdge and complete the following module:

- **EWB Conclusion**

*Note: If you have not advanced through the resource to this point, use these navigation instructions to continue where you left off.*

You must pass this with 100% for it to be complete and have your assignments checked off. Return to modules as needed to refresh your knowledge of the material.

**Final Steps**

The activities for this section will complete the EWB orientation process and document the next steps for your degree program. All activities must be finished so that you and your mentor can complete AAV by the 20th of the month. You can begin future courses of study after all activities for EWB have been completed. AAV signifies that the EWB process is complete.

**Final Step to Complete EWB**

Now that you have worked through all EWB modules, assignments, and activities; and submitted all required tasks, you are ready to establish AAV. Completion of AAV confirms your intention to continue with your program at WGU. Your mentor will formally record your AAV during a telephone call with you. You must also accept your AAV in the student portal. If you have not yet scheduled an AAV call with your mentor, you should do so now.

**Academic Activity Verification (AAV)**

Completion of AAV with your mentor is **required** on or before the 20th day of your first month. Students without AAV by the 20th day of their first month will be dropped for non-completion. Please remember to accept your AAV in the student portal.

*Note: EWB modules must be completed and AAV entered for financial aid funds to be released. A "Pass" for EWB will appear at the beginning of the student's second month at WGU.*

**Feedback**

To provide feedback on this or any other course of study, please use the [Course of Study Feedback form](#).

**ADA Requirements**

Please review the [University ADA policy](#).