

Metro Academies Course Opt-out Policy

Context & Rationale: Metro Academies course sequencing aims to serve the best interest of as many of the students as possible in the program, however, this is not possible for every single student based on the fact that students have different needs academically (ie, major requirements, skill levels, etc.). Thus, we have developed the following policy regarding students who may be best served by opting out of certain Metro Academy courses.

- *Students **may not opt out** from the Metro Academies Core Foundation Courses (See chart below for which courses are Core Foundation Courses) and still remain in Metro Academies. The reasoning for this is that these three courses are scaffolded and integrate college success skills, case-management, and community-building—all integral components which support Metro Academies’ purpose of creating, growing, and maintaining a strong learning community. We believe this supportive learning community is one of the most significant factors in students’ success in Metro Academies.*
- *Upon consultation with and advisement by an Academic Advisor and Metro Academies Advising Coordinator, Students may opt out of the Metro Academies Core GE courses and can remain in Metro Academies. This, however, is not recommended as the Metro Academies GE courses have linked content from the Metro Academies Core Foundation Courses and are intended to complement each other to enhance student learning. In addition, these courses have wrap-around services including tutoring, peer-to-peer support as these courses are offered in a learning community model, and supplemental instruction support (Sci 199, Sci 124). The professors teaching these courses are part of a Metro Academies faculty learning community, are trained in best teaching practices and pedagogy, and collaborate with other Metro Academies professors in the Core Foundation Courses and Metro Academies Coordinators to monitor student progress overall. We understand that there are cases in which the student may benefit from opting out of the Metro Academies Core GE courses, specifically if a different Math course or a pivotal lower-division pre-requirement is required for the major. The Metro Academies Course Opt-out Policy hopes to address this possibility.*

Metro Academies Course Opt-out Policy: If it is in the best interest of the student, weighing all costs and benefits of remaining in the Metro Academies course sequencing versus not doing so, the Metro Academies courses taken may be altered based on individual student circumstances as determined by an Advisor working directly with a student in collaboration with the Metro Academies Advising Coordinator. We prefer students to follow the set course sequence if at all possible to receive the maximum and intended benefit from being a part of Metro Academies, however, we will consider individual student situations on a case by case basis.



Metro Academies

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Metro Academies Course Opt-out Policy Guide:

Type of Metro Course	Courses	Opt-out Rule	Protocol
Metro Academies Core Foundation Courses*	1st Year CINE 102 H ED 120 ETHS 100	Not Allowed if student would like to continue being a part of Metro Academies	Student will no longer be able to be part of Metro Academies if he or she decides not to take any of the Metro Academies Core Foundation Courses. Student will email Metro Academies Advising Coordinator regarding this decision. Advising Coordinator will reach out to student via email or phone to set up a time to discuss consequences of not taking the identified course. If student decides not to take the course, student will complete an exit interview with Rama Kased.
	2nd Year CAD 260 H ED 221 H ED 241 RRS 240		
Metro Academies Core GE Courses*	ETHS/RRS 110	Allowed on a case by case basis	Student will discuss opting out with his/her Academic Advisor. If it is advised that it would benefit the student to opt out of the identified course, the student or Advisor will email the Metro Academies Advising Coordinator requesting to opt out of the identified course and provide reasoning for this request. If request is granted, student will remain in Metro Academies. The Metro Academies Advising Coordinator will inform student regarding decision through email and will CC the student's Advisor and Rama Kased.
	MATH 124		
	ENG 214		
	COMM 150		
	MATH 199/ SCI 199		
	MATH 226/ SCI 226		
	CAD 210		

Contact Information:

(From July 21-November 2, 2014)

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