West Chester University Student Affairs RAM PLAN CO-CURRICULAR TRANSCRIPT



Why?

Student Affairs recognizes the profound impact that formal and informal experiences outside of the classroom setting have on the development of students in the pursuit of identifying their purpose, connecting with others, and thinking critically about their understanding of the world around them. During their time as a Golden Ram, students engage in a variety of educational opportunities within the co-curricular experience which are designed to foster transformative learning. Students who are actively engaged in community and the learning situated within them are more likely to persist at WCU, reach degree attainment, and apply those transferrable skills and experiences to their future endeavors whether it be situated within their career, civic engagement, personal development, or advocacy work.

What?

The Ram Plan co-curricular transcript serves as a tool to capture those co-curricular experiences and the learning within them. Together with their academic transcript and the leadership involvement highlighted on their resume, students leave WCU with a variety of tools to assist them in expressing their learning as a Golden Ram. Students may use their co-curricular transcript to help articulate their on-campus learning in interviews, cover letters, and conversations with others. In addition, the co-curricular transcript is sent along with the academic transcript when requested by students to highlight and verify from the university the learning in approved curriculums completed by the student.

The programs and experiences included in the <u>Co-curricular Catalog</u> reflect the reoccurring educational offerings within the Division of Student Affairs. Programs indicated as "transcript eligible" in the Co-curricular Catalog are peer-reviewed initiatives by a team of faculty and staff at WCU. These initiatives are grounded in student and identity development theories, learning, assessment, and best practices in higher education. They are cultivated and facilitated by the Division of Student Affairs to provide students the opportunity to engage in world class co-curricular educational opportunities which aide them in their personal growth and contributions to the global world. Learning together at WCU is what makes us golden. The Ram Plan is one more way for WCU students to demonstrate what it means to be a Golden Ram.

How?

The Ram Plan co-curricular experience is one of the first of the kind in the nation. It serves as a foundation for student success and completes the educational mission of the University in developing graduates to succeed personally, professionally, and contribute to the common good. There are five focus areas within the Ram

Plan: Career Readiness, Community Engagement, Health and Wellness, Involvement and Leadership, and Social Justice. Through programs and experiences within these focus areas, students will develop knowledge and skills in civic engagement, communication, critical thinking, integrative learning, intercultural fluency, personal development, and problem solving.

While at WCU, students engage in a customizable curriculum within the fives focus areas of the Ram Plan. The Ram Plan is comprised of a series of steps:

- The <u>Co-curricular Catalog</u> allows students to explore program offerings related to their areas of interests and goals as a Golden Ram.
- Students are then able to create an <u>Education Plan</u> of programs they would like to engage in throughout their time at WCU, like planning their courses for their academic major.
- Students attend programs, complete an assessment of the learning outcomes with a passing score, and then the program is listed on their official WCU Ram Plan transcript.