

USP Recommendations Round 2



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH

USP Working Group

- We were asked to reimagine USP to ensure a program which:
 - supports and enhances the recruitment and retention of students;
 - provides relevant content through high-impact practices;
 - is driven by meaningful, measurable outcomes to prepare students for work, life, and citizenship; and
 - is financially sustainable for the long-term.
- Released a Draft of 8 Recommendations for Change in Spring 2024
 - Four of them were approved in Fall 2024
 - Four needed more time for discussion
- We are now circulating the last set of recommendations.

Name Change

- The USP Transition team recommends changing the name of the University Studies Program to the General Education Program

FYE Workgroup Goals

- Preserve the core of Quest I but attempt to ensure a **more uniform experience** for all first-year students;
- Intentionally incorporate **New Student & Retention Program (NSRP)** workshops (offered provisionally this fall) and related programming;
- Provide a connection to the “**career cluster**” approach that was the backbone of the Academic Restructure;
- Equip instructors with **common resources** across all FYE courses; and
- Develop a set of **common learning outcomes** for all FYE courses.

Signature Questions & Sustainability Requirement Recommendations

- The Learning Outcomes associated with **Signature Questions will be embedded** in other requirements throughout general education and **removed** as stand-alone requirements
- **Sustainability** will be **added** as a newly attributed requirement
 - We have an existing framework for criteria with the USP checklist and sustainability rubric. A taskforce is being created to discuss and revise these criteria.

Second Year Experience (SYE) Recommendation

- Create a “Second-Year Experience” (SYE) course requirement with three pathways to experiential learning:
 - career exploration
 - community engagement
 - and/or research experience
- Replaces Q2 and Q3
- Students take 1 course (but can take multiple if desired)
- SYE serves as an introduction to experiential learning at UWO

Second Year Experience (SYE) Options

Career Connections

- Explore class with course content
- Ethical Reasoning component
- Explore careers related to the school in which the class is taught.
- Required activities that relate to career planning

Community Connections

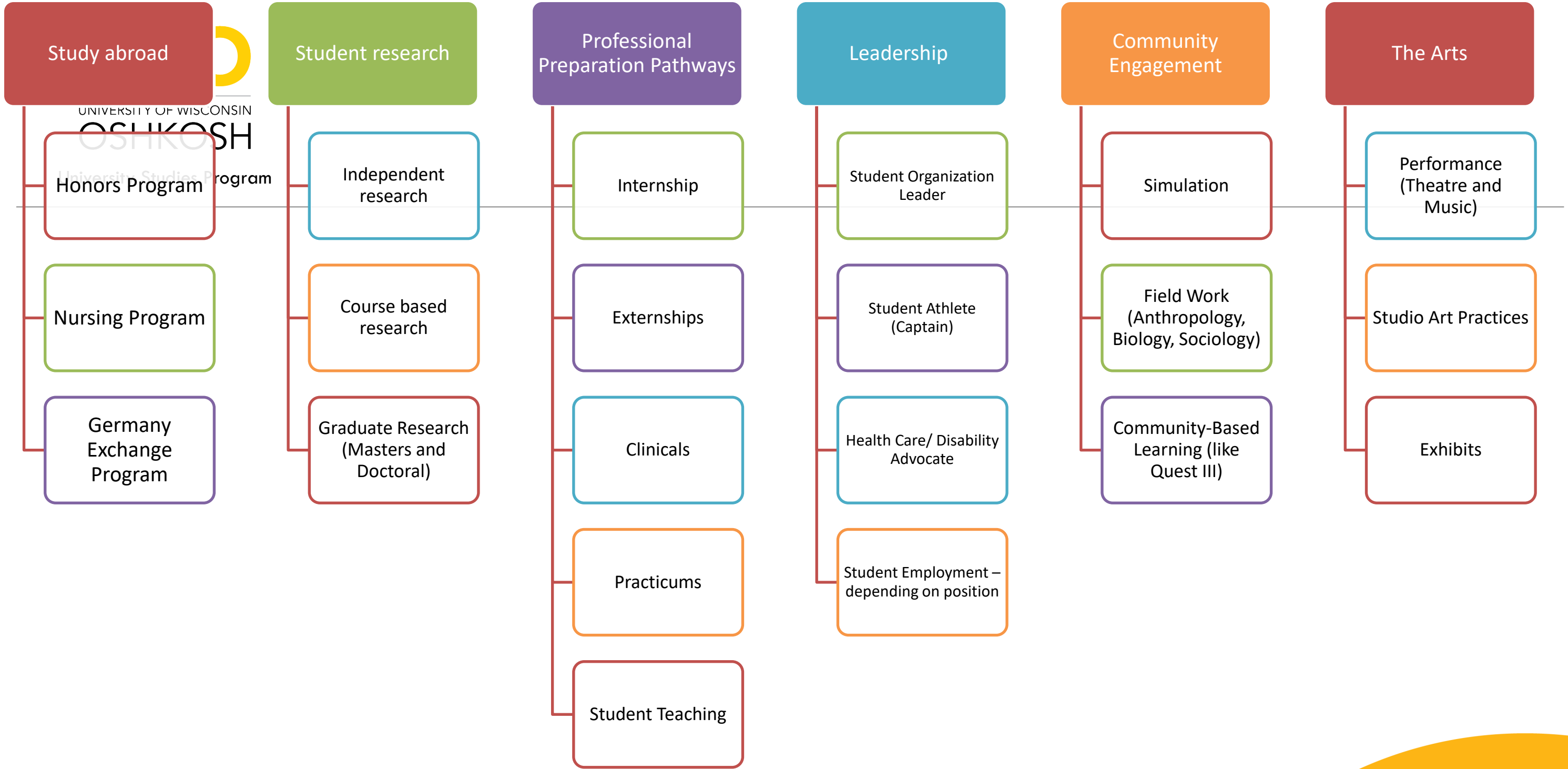
- Explore class with course content
- Ethical Reasoning component
- Community/service-learning project along lines of Quest 3
- Required activities that relate to community experience

Research Connections

- Explore class with course content
- Ethical Reasoning component
- Research project suitable for first- or second-year students
- Required activities that relate to research enhancement or project

Logistics of SYE Courses

- SYE classes would have a prerequisite of WRT 188
 - FYE would not be a prerequisite
- Students can take at any point in their career; recommend that students take them in their second year
- Students can take more than one
- Alumni presentations optional but possible
- Any student can enroll in the classes



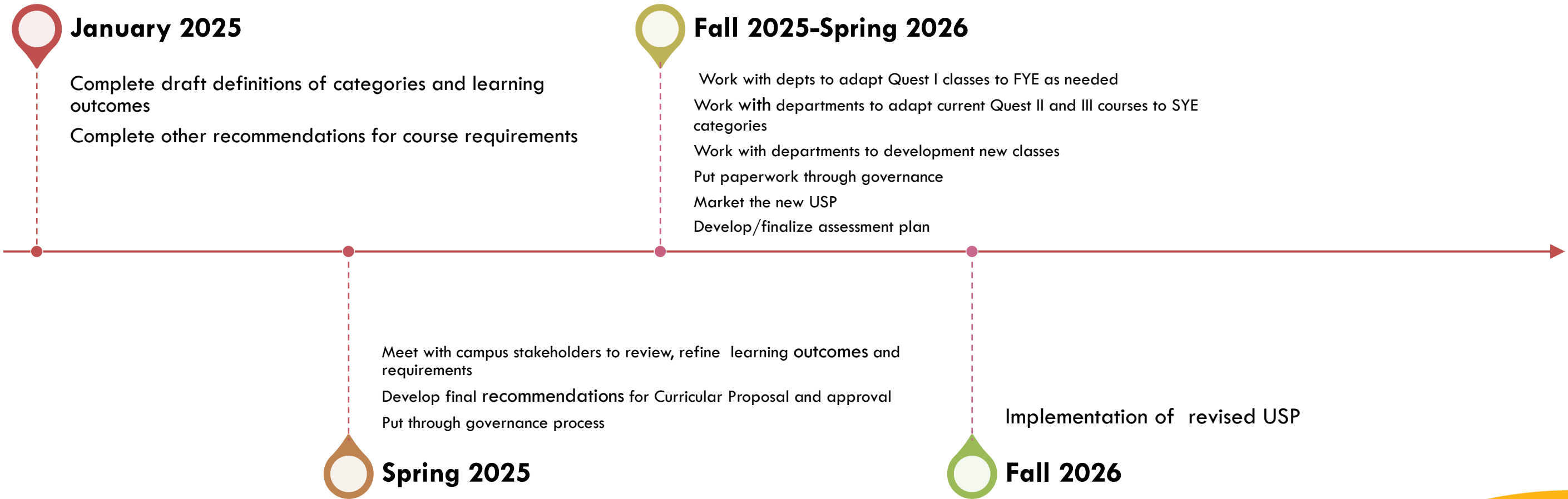
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Looking Ahead: Process



Timeline for Course Development



February-March 2025– Develop Learning Outcomes, Course descriptions, Materials for Instructors



Fall 2025— Professional Development for FYE & SYE Courses



Fall 2025-Spring 2026--Instructors modify courses, put paperwork through governance



Spring 2026-Spring 2027—Courses built in SIS



Fall 2026-Spring 2027—Courses taught for first time

General Education/USP Reimagining, Phase 2 Working Groups

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Second-year Experience (SYE): Kim Rivers (lead), Stephanie de Montigny, Ann Kunkle-Jones, Sam Looker-Koenigs, Emmet Sandberg, Ted Mulvey, and Chrissy Lambie

Signature Questions and Sustainability Requirement: Lisa Szromba (lead), Beth Johnson, Eric Brunsell, Stephanie Spehar, Shannon Davis-Foust, and Kathryn Allen

Experiential Learning: Jennifer Considine (lead), Jim Koch, Maria Graf, Jamie Paige-Stadler, Kyle Steele, Linda Eroh, Jenny Christus, and Mike Lueder.

Project Leadership Team: Jennifer Considine (Professor, Communication Studies), Caroline Geary (AVC, Curriculum and Student Achievement), Kim Rivers (USP Director), Tracy Slagter (CETL Director) and Lisa Szromba (Associate Director of Academic Advising, UARC)

