

GUIDED PATHWAYS STUDENT DRIVEN SCHEDULING

WORKING GROUP CHARTER

Mission & Objectives

The Guided Pathways Working Group at Marion Technical College is dedicated to creating a flexible, data-driven, and inclusive scheduling framework that meets students' diverse needs. Through collaboration, innovation, and a commitment to equity, we strive to provide an academic schedule that accommodates different learning styles, life circumstances, ensuring students have the courses and support they need to achieve their goals and be successful at MTC.

Values and Beliefs

Expanded and Accessible Course Offerings

We believe in providing flexible course offerings to accommodate the diverse needs of our students. By offering hybrid, in-person, and online (both synchronous and asynchronous) courses, we ensure that students can engage with their education at times that are most productive for them. This flexibility supports students in balancing their academic pursuits with personal and professional responsibilities.

Collaboration

We value the power of collaboration in the learning process. Recognizing the importance of social interaction and teamwork, we foster an environment where students and faculty can work together, share insights, and build knowledge collectively. Collaboration not only enhances learning outcomes but also prepares students for success in their future careers.

Responsibility

We are committed to supporting our students by clearly communicating any changes in course delivery and setting clear expectations. We understand that timely and transparent communication is crucial for student planning and success. By upholding this responsibility, we guide our students towards achieving their academic goals.

Holistic Approach

We adopt a holistic approach to education, considering the academic and personal needs of each student. We strive to understand and support the whole student, recognizing that personal well-being and academic success are deeply interconnected. Our approach ensures that students receive the comprehensive support they need to thrive.

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Data-Driven Decisions

We believe in making informed decisions based on reliable data. By collecting and analyzing data on student and college needs, we tailor our programs and services to better serve our community. Data-driven decisions help us to identify areas for improvement, allocate resources effectively, and enhance the overall educational experience.

Consistency, Adaptability, and Evolution

We are committed to maintaining consistency in our educational offerings while remaining adaptable to changing needs and circumstances. Through ongoing assessment and feedback, we continually evolve our practices to ensure they meet the highest standards of quality and relevance. This commitment to continuous improvement enables us to provide an education that is both stable and dynamic, preparing students for the future.

Success Criteria

Student Satisfaction and Engagement: Measure success by assessing student feedback and participation in providing input on preferred times and modalities for courses. A high level of engagement and positive responses indicate that students feel empowered and invested in the scheduling process.

Clarity and Consistency of Schedule: Success is demonstrated by the establishment of a consistent 3–5-year schedule for each academic program. This ensures that students understand when courses will be offered each term, facilitating better planning and progression through their academic journey.

Accessibility and Flexibility: Evaluate success based on the degree to which the scheduling framework accommodates the diverse needs of students, including those with varying scheduling constraints. The availability of options such as evening classes, online courses, and alternative modalities reflects the commitment to accessibility and flexibility.

Retention and Progression Rates: Success can be assessed by tracking changes in retention and progression rates following the implementation of the student-driven scheduling framework. An improvement in these metrics indicates that students are better able to plan their course schedules and stay on track toward graduation.

Continuous Improvement and Adaptation: Success is demonstrated by the working group's ability to continuously gather feedback, assess the effectiveness of the scheduling framework, and make necessary adjustments. This ongoing process ensures that the scheduling system remains responsive to evolving student needs and preferences over time.

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Projects & Goals

- Develop and administer student and community surveys to assess preferred days, times and modalities for an academic schedule
- Develop summary of survey results and share with academic deans and directors with the directive to develop a student driven 3-year academic schedule committing to days, times and modalities to help students plan ahead
- Receive updated academic schedule from each department and share with admissions, advising and registrar
- After implementation, administer follow-up student survey to assess satisfaction with revised academic schedule
- Provide accessible Wi-Fi/technology to students
- Conduct assessment on student retention to measure the impact of implementation of a student driven schedule
- Support campus community in transition to more 8-week classes
- Participate in visit to Patrick & Henry and attempt to implement strategies based on feedback from their campus leadership

Team Members

- Craig Sohl – Co-Chair: Director of Title III
- Kristy Taylor – Co-Chair: Registrar
- Tony Box: Director of Admissions
- Brandy Page: Assistant Director of Advising
- Deb Myers: Associate Dean of Health Programs/Professor
- Callum Morris: Director of College Credit Plus Program
- Tyler Maley: Director of Mathematics and Natural Sciences & Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- Andrew Hand: Director of Arts & Science, Social Science & Humanities & Professor, Psychology
- Mike White: Associate Dean of Technical Programs/Assistant Professor

Responsibilities

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- Responsibilities
 - Accountability and decision- making authority

Communication Guidelines

- Meeting Frequency
 - The guided pathways working group will meet in-person or virtually every two months until the work is complete
- Communication Methods
 - Email
 - Microsoft Teams Site
 - In-person & Virtual Meeting
- Meet with Council
 - All Guided Pathways Steering Council members will meet as a group once every two months to provide implementation updates