

Online Learning Pacing Policy

Purpose

To ensure students engage meaningfully with coursework and maintain steady academic progress, this policy establishes minimum and maximum pacing expectations for lesson completion in courses.

1. Lesson Engagement Requirements

- **Minimum Engagement Time:**

Students must spend a **minimum amount of time actively engaged** in each lesson before it can be marked as complete.

- The required time will be determined by the instructor based on the lesson's content and complexity (e.g., typically **45-60 minutes per lesson**).
- Time is tracked through the Virtual Learning Academy (VLA) and includes reading, video viewing, interactive activities, and assessments.

- **Maximum Lesson Duration:**

To prevent students from falling behind or spending excessive time on a single topic, students are expected to **complete each lesson within 5 hours per lesson**. Any lesson with seat time over 5 hours may not be counted towards total seat time.

2. Pacing Benchmarks

A typical schedule for a student who is on pace is 5 credits per year. For students who are recovering credits or start at GOVS after the first day of school, pacing will be greater than the minimum requirement of 5 lessons per week. Please contact your Academic Coach or School Counselor for additional information.

3. Monitoring and Intervention

- VLA will flag students who:
 - Complete lessons significantly **faster than the minimum expected time**, or
 - Spend **more than five hours** on a single lesson.
- In such cases:

- The instructor may require additional review activities (e.g., discussion posts, reflection questions, or practice quizzes) before granting credit for the lesson.
 - Students consistently exceeding time limits may be subject to loss of accumulated hours that do not serve an educational purpose and referred to school administration.
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4. Academic Integrity and Mastery

- Students must **demonstrate understanding** of lesson objectives through graded assessments or mastery checks.
 - Rushing through lessons without demonstrating comprehension may result in:
 - Retaking quizzes or assignments,
 - Temporary access restrictions to future lessons until mastery is shown,
 - Receiving a failing grade for the lesson or the entire course.
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5. Enforcement

Failure to follow pacing expectations may result in:

- A “Progress Warning” notice,
- Temporary course access limits, or
- Administrative referral for withdrawal or reassignment to a different course.