

## PROGRESSIVE PROGRAM

Students enrolled in the Green Mountain College's Progressive Program can complete their major at Sterling College by taking courses in any appropriate major or by pursuing a Sterling Self-Designed Major. As with GMC Progressive Program requirements, students would enroll in two Independent Studies and a Senior Year Research Project:

A 200-level Independent Study portfolio review in the second year (Level III Review)

A 300-level Independent Study portfolio review in the third year (Level VI Review)

Two 400-level Senior Year Research Project (SYRP) courses for a total of 12 credits

The Green Mountain College catalog notes, "The Progressive Program has many unique requirements. Students are required to take the four core courses at Green Mountain College, but they are not required to take the general education, or S.L.A., distributive requirements. Instead, once during their sophomore year and once during their junior year, students undergo an intensive Level Review process. During these Level Review semesters, students produce a portfolio demonstrating competency in twelve areas (including scholarship, writing ability, community engagement, quantitative and scientific reasoning, and historical awareness) and write an essay reflecting on their past educational growth and future learning goals. A Level Review Team of the student's choosing evaluates the portfolio at a meeting with the student at the end of the semester.

The Progressive Program experience culminates in a substantive Senior Study Project that is worth 12 credits. The project allows students to integrate their coursework, interests, skills and passions into a single, focused project that is shared with the college community."

The [Sterling College curriculum](#) provides ample opportunity for students to explore the Progressive Program's learning outcomes and twelve Level III and Level VI Review competencies. Please see the list of outcomes and competencies from the Green Mountain College catalog below:

### Learning Outcomes for the Progressive Program

The successful student will:

- Demonstrate holistic, cooperative, and value-driven learning.
- Be sensitive and engaged members of their community.
- Demonstrate the ability to cultivate their own educational goals, and work with professors to bring them to fruition.
- Demonstrate competencies in a variety of areas critical to academic success, such as research, writing, environmental and cultural awareness, critical thinking, and quantitative and scientific reasoning.
- Our program assesses these outcomes with two portfolio level reviews and a major senior capstone project.

### **Competencies for Level III Review**

I. Students will demonstrate the following:

II. Writing & Communication Skills

- a. Ability to articulate ideas and information clearly in writing.
- b. Ability to use and document a variety of sources.

III. Progressive Learning Skills: Critical Thinking, Self-Awareness, & Self-Directedness

- a. Self-knowledge, ability to answer the question, "Who am I?" and reflect it in one's work.
- b. Ability to take responsibility for one's own learning and initiate one's own learning activities.
- c. Ability to plan, enact, and evaluate learning goals/objectives .

IV. Community Awareness & Integration

- a. Critical academic and experiential awareness of the interconnections and interdependencies of humans and the natural world.
- b. Ability to work in society beyond campus in preparation for field semesters and prof. life.
- c. Demonstrated awareness of one's own and other cultures.
- d. Ability to contribute to the GMC community.

V. Development of academic Perspectives & Abilities

- a. Ability to understand and integrate a historical perspective into one's academic work and understanding of the world.
- b. Ability to understand and integrate a scientific perspective into one's academic work and understanding of the world.
- c. Ability to understand and integrate quantitative-based reasoning into one's academic work and understanding of the world.

### **Competencies for Level VI Review**

Students will demonstrate the following:

I. Writing & Communication Skills

- a. Ability to articulate ideas clearly in writing.
- b. Ability to research and present findings; ability to undertake a creative project of professional caliber; ability to write in a prescribed format.

II. Progressive Learning Skills: Critical Thinking, Self-Awareness, and Self-Directedness

- a. Preparation relevant to the student's planned senior study, including acquaintance with theoretical, historical, and philosophical objectives.
- b. Ability to approach topics and problems critically and integratively from different perspectives.
- c. Ability to organize inquiry independently in preparation for the senior study.
- d. Ability to use varied experiences for significant learning.

III. Community Awareness & Integration

- a. Ability to collaborate with others while developing a sense of leadership within groups.
- b. Continued awareness of one's own and other cultures.
- c. Continued critical academic and experiential awareness of the interconnections and interdependencies of human and the natural world.

IV. Development of Academic Perspectives & Abilities

- a. Ability to understand and integrate ahistorical perspective into one's academic work and understanding of the world.
- b. Ability to understand and integrate a scientific perspective into one's academic work and understanding of the world.
- c. Ability to understand and integrate quantitative-based reasoning into one's academic work and understanding of the world.