Bachelor of General Studies

The Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree is designed to enhance interdisciplinary studies and allows for greater curricular flexibility for students who desire to pursue coursework in more than one area of interest. At the same time, it affords students the opportunity to make choices that are geared toward their particular goals and plans for employment or further study. This degree in itself leads to no specific licensure or certification. Students seeking licensure or certification in their chosen field should consult with an academic advisor in that area. The transcript and diploma for this degree reads “Bachelor of General Studies” with no major, minor, or emphasis designation.

The BGS degree requires a minimum of 120 hours of college credit at the 1000-level or above. At least 40 hours must be at the 3000-4000 level.

Specific degree requirements are:
1. Completion of the University’s 35-hour general education curriculum.
2. Completion of 3 blocks with at least 18 hours in each block. A student may elect to choose blocks from three emphasis areas (such as one block each from Art, Biology, and Wildlife Management) or may elect to use more than one block from the same emphasis area (such as one block from Art and two from Biology) provided sufficient volume of courses is available in that area; however, no course taken to fulfill a block may be used more than once.
3. Completion of 26 or fewer elective hours to reach the minimum 120 hours required for the degree. Any necessary prerequisites for chosen block courses may be used to fulfill the electives category. The student should consider required prerequisites when making elective course selections.
4. Achievement of a minimum 2.00 grade point average in each block and overall.
5. Fulfillment of the University’s residency requirement.

To declare a major in Bachelor of General Studies, the student must have completed at least 45 hours at the 1000-level or above and must, at the time of declaring the major, select at least one emphasis area to be included in the degree. The form for changing the major to Bachelor of General Studies may be completed and submitted at the Office of Academic Affairs. Once the form is processed, the student may be assigned an academic advisor from a chosen emphasis area. Any student who declares a major in Bachelor of General Studies and then later decides to opt for a different baccalaureate degree will be required to fulfill all requirements (including major, minor, and identity) for the selected degree. Completion of one or more blocks for the Bachelor of General Studies degree does not necessarily satisfy completion of a major or minor from that emphasis area.

Requirements for Bachelor of General Studies degree:

English Composition: 6 Hours
   ENGL 1013 Composition I
   ENGL 1023 Composition II
Mathematics: 3 Hours
   MATH 1003 Survey of Mathematics
   MATH 1043 College Algebra
   Mathematics Course 1000-level or above

Communication: 3 Hours
   One of the following courses:
      COMM 1023 Public Speaking
      COMM 2283 Business and Professional Speaking
      COMM 2203 Interpersonal Communication

Fine Arts: 3 Hours
   One of the following courses:
      ART 1053 Art Appreciation
      FA 1013 Fine Arts Appreciation
      MUS 1113 Music Appreciation

Humanities: 3 Hours
   One of the following courses:
   One of the following courses:
      ENGL 2283 Survey of World Literature I
      ENGL 2293 Survey of World Literature II

U.S. History or Government: 3 Hours
   One of the following courses:
      HIST 2213 American History I
      HIST 2223 American History II
      PSCI 2213 American National Government

Social Sciences: 6 Hours
   Two courses from two different disciplines from the following:
      ANTH 2203 Cultural Anthropology
      CJ 1013 Introduction to Criminal Justice
      ECON 2203 Principles of Macroeconomics
      ECON 2213 Principles of Microeconomics
      GEOG 2213 General Geography I
      GEOG 2223 General Geography II
      HIST 1013 Survey of Civilization I
      HIST 1023 Survey of Civilization II
      PSY 1013 Introduction to Psychology
      SOC 2213 Introduction to Sociology
      SWK 1013 Introduction to Social Work

Basic Sciences: 8 Credit Hours
   Choose eight hours from two 3-hour lecture courses with associated 1-hour labs or two 4-hour courses with integrated labs chosen from two of the following groups:
   Biological Sciences
      BIOL 1063/1071 Introduction to Biology/Lab
      BIOL 1083/1091 Principles of Biology II/Lab
Earth Sciences
   ESCI 1063/1051 Elements of Geology/Lab
   ESCI 1073/1081 Earth and Atmosphere/Lab
   ESCI 1033/1041 Elements of Astronomy/Lab
Chemistry
   CHEM 1023/1031 Introduction to Chemistry/Lab
   CHEM 1103/1121 General Chemistry I/Lab
   CHEM 1113/1131 General Chemistry II/Lab
Physics
   PHYS 2203/2231 College Physics I/Lab
   PHYS 2313/2231 University Physics/Lab

Emphasis Area(s) – 54 hours minimum
   Block – 18 hours minimum
   Block – 18 hours minimum
   Block – 18 hours minimum
   Note: In each block, at least 9 hours must be at the 3000-4000 level.

Electives – 26 or fewer hours
   Note: The electives must include sufficient 3000-4000 level courses to meet the required 40 upper-level hours needed for this degree.

Total hours – 120

Emphasis Areas:
   Three blocks of at least 18 hours each are to be taken from one or more of the following emphasis areas. Each block must contain at least 9 hours at the 3000-4000 level. No course may be taken more than once, and no course taken to fulfill a block may be used for general education requirements.