



COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GENERAL STUDIES

Focus Your Interests Into a Comprehensive Degree Program

If you've completed studies in a variety of areas, both academic and applied, a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies is a way to bring those diverse subjects into a cohesive degree program. The program is unlike most in that you won't need to repeat coursework already completed to fulfill the requirements of an established program. This degree is an excellent choice if you aren't certain which course of study to pursue, or if you're coming back to school after taking time off to work or be with family and, in the interim, experienced a shift in academic focus or career goals. The general studies degree allows you to build on the studies you've already completed and use them as stepping stones to a respected and rounded degree program.

Program Highlights:

- Entire program can be completed online
- Develop critical thinking skills and exercise them in scholarly discourse
- Develop strong oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrate proficiency in the mechanics of academic writing
- Explain the role of education in occupational choices
- Learn to discuss ethical issues as applied to research and academic writing

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MAJOR IN GENERAL STUDIES

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The Bachelor of Arts in General Studies (BAGS) is designed to meet the needs of a growing number of students who have completed considerable study in diverse subject areas, both academic and applied. This program allows students to organize their varied explorations into a coherent degree program. The BAGS is unique among academic curricula, for it liberates students from the burden of repeating coursework in order to fulfill traditional degree requirements. The degree allows students to explore a wide variety of disciplines. It integrates both applied study (e.g., business, law, computer science, leadership) and arts and sciences to an extent not currently available in other degree programs. This is particularly important for adults who often interrupt their studies for prolonged periods and return with a different academic focus and career goal. The general studies degree allows nontraditional learners to continue moving forward without retracing a considerable portion of their study.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical thinking abilities on scholarly discourses within a specific range of disciplines.
- Demonstrate the ability with parenthetical citations within texts and other references.
- Develop oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrate consistent proficiency with the mechanics of academic writing.
- Explain the role of education in occupational choices.
- Discuss ethical issues involved in research and academic writing.

Degree Requirements

To receive a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies degree, students must complete at least 180 quarter units as articulated below, 45 of which must be completed in residence at National University, 76.5 of which must be completed at the upper-division level, and a minimum 70.5 units of the University General Education requirements. In the absence of transfer credit, additional general electives may be necessary to satisfy total units for the degree. The following courses are specific degree requirements. All students receiving an undergraduate degree in Nevada are required by state law to complete a course in Nevada Constitution.

In addition to the above general education requirements, two depth areas are required. A depth area for the General Studies degree program is defined as 22.5 upper-division quarter units in a given discipline. The first depth area requirement is fulfilled by acquiring 22.5 upper-division quarter units in an Arts and Sciences discipline such as natural sciences, mathematics, literature, history, or social science. For example: If a student was pursuing a literature depth area, they would need five courses with a Literature prefix.

The second depth area requirement is fulfilled by completing 22.5 upper-division quarter units in either a single Applied Studies or Arts and Science discipline. If a student selects the second depth area in the Applied Studies discipline, such as management, law, accounting, or marketing, all five courses must have the same prefix such as MGT if the management discipline was selected. However, students do have the option of selecting a second depth area in Arts and Sciences rather than Applied Studies. If a second depth area in Arts and Sciences is selected, then students have the option of choosing five upper-division courses from various disciplines within the Arts and Sciences area. Students should refer to the section on undergraduate admission procedures for specific information on admission and evaluation.

Requirements for Major

(13 courses; 58.5 quarter units)

BGS 301 Intro. to General Studies

BGS 385 Methods of Research

Prerequisite: BGS 301 and four additional courses from the major.

Depth Area Requirement

(10 courses; 45 quarter units)

Each student in the BAGS program is required to complete two depth area requirements of 22.5 upper-division quarter units each. Students can choose from a variety of subject areas to satisfy the Arts and Sciences depth area requirements. These courses could be used alone or in combination with courses taken at other institutions. Listed below are examples of subject areas that can be used to fulfill a depth area requirement:

Arts and Sciences

(5 courses; 22.5 quarter units)

Literature

Environmental Studies

Fine and Performing Arts (including Art and Music)

History

Social Sciences (including Sociology and Political Science)

Psychology

Spanish

Arabic

Persian

Chinese

Natural Sciences

Communication

Global Studies

Human Behavior

Philosophy

Applied Study

(5 courses; 22.5 quarter units)

Students can also use courses from the listed areas to satisfy the depth area requirement in Applied Study. These courses could be used on their own or in combination with related courses at other institutions.

Law

Management

Economics

Accounting

Information Technology Management

Criminal Justice Administration

Marketing

Public Administration

Leadership

Finance

Capstone Requirement

(1 course; 4.5 quarter units)

BGS 499 Capstone Project

Prerequisite: Completion of other major requirements. Must be taken within last three classes prior to graduation.

Upper-Division Electives

(3 courses; 13.5 quarter units)

To fulfill their unit requirements, students can choose electives from any 300, 400, or 500 level courses for which they meet prerequisites.