

Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

To earn a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree in the College of General Studies, you must complete a minimum of 120 credits (approximately 40 courses) taken from the categories that follow. At least 30 credits must be in upper-division (1000-level) courses. These 1000-level courses may be from any of the following areas, including those in the major.

Skills: 15 credits minimum

Certain tools of knowledge are required of all students in the baccalaureate degree program: the ability to use the English language orally and in writing, and the ability to understand and use basic mathematical symbols.

Oral Communication. 3 credits
Communication 0520 Public Speaking

Writing. 9 credits minimum
English composition: any Seminar in Composition course and two other courses from English composition, English writing, or those designated W (writing). Note: At least three credits of composition/writing must be from the University of Pittsburgh.

Mathematics. 3 credits minimum
Mathematics 0010 Algebra 1 and 0020 Algebra 2, or 0025 Applied College Algebra or 0031 Algebra or equivalent; or Computer Science 0007 Introduction to Computer Programming or 0004 Computer Programming -Basic.

NOTE: Students admitted to the College of General Studies after the Fall Term 2008 (2091) are required to complete the public speaking, math, and first University writing course (ENGCOMP 0200 and above) with a C- or better grade.

Quantitative and Formal Reasoning: 3 credits minimum

In addition to the acquisition of tools of knowledge through the skills requirement, students also must acquire the ability to apply logic and formal reasoning to reading, writing, and thinking.

Choose one course from the following list:

Computer Science, any course. 3 credits
Information Science 0010 3 credits
Introduction to Information, Systems, and Society
History and Philosophy of Science 0611. 3 credits
Principles of Scientific Reasoning
History and Philosophy of Science 0621. 3 credits
Problem Solving: How Science Works
Philosophy 0500, Introduction to Logic. 3 credits
Mathematics 0120, Business Calculus, 4 credits
or more advanced
Statistics, any course. 3–4 credits

Understandings: 27 credits

A liberal education provides broad exposure to three major bodies of knowledge—the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Students are exposed to social, scientific, aesthetic, moral, and religious information. The purpose is to furnish insight into how the concerns of people are interrelated, how knowledge accumulates, and how unsolved problems still challenge humanity.

Humanities: 9 credits

Three courses distributed over three departments. One must be a 1000-level.

Africana Studies	Linguistics
Classics	Music
Communication	Philosophy
English	Religious Studies
French	Russian
German	Slovak
History of Art & Architecture	Spanish
Italian	Studio Arts
Japanese	Theatre Arts

Social Sciences: 9 credits

Three courses distributed over three departments. One must be a 1000-level.

Africana Studies	Political Science
Anthropology	Psychology
Economics	Religious Studies
History	Sociology
Jewish Studies	Urban Studies
Legal Studies	Women's Studies

Natural Sciences: 9 credits

Three courses distributed over two or three departments.

Anthropology	History & Philosophy of Science
Astronomy	Neuroscience
Biological Sciences	Physics
Chemistry	Psychology
Geology & Planetary Science	

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Literature: 3 credits

This requirement introduces students to works of literature that have abiding literary value and, in the process, to the techniques of long-term change. This one-course requirement also may be fulfilled from departments other than English.

History: 3 credits

The study of history provides an understanding of contemporary society from the viewpoint of long-term change. This one-course requirement also may be fulfilled from departments other than history.

Note: A course can only be used to fulfill one requirement in the categories of understandings, literature, and history.

International Perspective: 9 credits minimum

The world of today is economically, politically, and culturally interdependent. In the 21st century, knowledge of other countries has become essential. This three-course requirement may be fulfilled by taking internationally focused courses offered by a variety of departments. At least one of the courses must be a non-Western course. The international course may overlap with another requirement. See the course descriptions published online or visit the College of General Studies Web site for a complete listing of courses and the requirements they fill.

Specialized Study (the major): 30–36 credits

The baccalaureate degree, in addition to providing certain skills and broad exposure to the major bodies of knowledge, also allows the opportunity to specialize in a particular field, providing depth of experience essential for vocational competence or future graduate study. An outline of each major may be obtained beside the College of General Studies front desk on the fourth floor of the Cathedral of Learning, or via the Web at www.cgs.pitt.edu.

Choose from 12 majors offered by the College of General Studies. Those majors that also may be completed entirely through Saturday and CGS Online courses are in bold print:

Administration of Justice

Dental Hygiene (for licensed dental hygienists) (BS)

Health Services (BA or BS)

Humanities

Legal Studies

Media and Professional Communications

Natural Sciences (BS)

Public Service

Self-Designed (BA or BS)

Social Sciences

Electives:

Any credits not used specifically to satisfy the preceding requirements are considered electives. Electives can be taken in a wide variety of subjects to complement, reinforce, or add further breadth to the chosen program of study. Students are limited in the number of professional courses that they may use as electives. Professional electives include administration of justice, business, education, engineering, information science, public service, and social work. See your academic advisor for limitations related to your program.

Preparation for Professional Programs

Prerequisite courses for the following programs may be taken through the College of General Studies. Upon successful completion of the courses, students may apply to the school offering the program. See an academic advisor for further information about requirements and acceptance.

- **Business**
- **Education**
- **Engineering**
- **Health and Rehabilitation Sciences**
- **Information Science**
- **Nursing**
- **Pharmacy**
- **Social Work**

College of General Studies

The College of General Studies provides adult and continuing education programs that are designed to address changing employer and student needs. The high-quality, flexible programs include courses, certificates, and degrees. The college provides a single point of access to the University's innovative programs and services that both enrich lives and promote the economic health of the region.

Requirements subject to change. Check with an academic advisor before registering.

An internship program is available through the College of General Studies. Please see your advisor for additional information.

For more information, contact:

**University of Pittsburgh
College of General Studies
412-624-6600
www.cgs.pitt.edu**