BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

The curriculum leading to the degree of Bachelor of General Studies is designed to provide maximum flexibility for undergraduates while planning their program of studies. Since the only specific subject requirements are the general university requirements, students can plan their programs to the best advantage of their particular educational objectives. This means that students must bear the major responsibility for their choice of courses. Those who plan wisely have the opportunity to obtain an excellent education. The key admonition is: plan your program carefully.

The major thrust of the B.G.S. degree program is nonspecialized education. Although a student could take his or her work in a limited number of departments, the intent of this program is to permit great latitude in the choice of subjects so that students may satisfy their particular objectives. No student may become a candidate for the B.G.S. degree who has already earned a baccalaureate degree or who is a candidate for another degree offered by the university.

Major

No major other than 'General Studies' will be certified on the student's diploma or official transcript. Students who wish to have a designated major should pursue a departmental baccalaureate degree (B.A., B.S., etc).

Minor

Students graduating with a Bachelor of General Studies may satisfy requirements for one or more minors. In these cases their transcript will reflect these minors.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the general university requirements for the baccalaureate degree (see regulation J-3 (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/general-requirements-academic-procedures/j-general-requirements-baccalaureate-degrees/)), sufficient electives must be taken to total 120 credits. A minimum of 45 credits must be earned in courses numbered 300 and above. Not more than 36 credits in any one discipline may be counted in the 120 credits.

Suggestions to Students

Students are advised not to make a firm decision with respect to the B.G.S. degree before the end of the freshman year. During the freshman year, and probably during the sophomore year, students should consider following one of the curricula leading to a departmental baccalaureate degree, deviating from the departmental requirements only where it appears educationally advisable to do so.

It is very important that the student working toward the B.G.S. 'look ahead' to see in which departments he or she wishes to accumulate the required 45 credits in upper-division courses (those numbered 300 and above). Many upper-division courses have prerequisites that must be completed during the early semesters of the student’s undergraduate career. If planning is delayed, it may be that some courses will be 'unavailable' because the student has not taken the prerequisites.

1. The student will be able to learn and integrate across disciplinary lines.

2. The student will be able to communicate an understanding of a complex idea in verbal form.

3. The student will be able to communicate an understanding of a complex idea in written form.

4. The student will be able to articulate their career goals and their plans to achieve them.