

Division of Continuing Studies

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The Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) program is an individualized, interdisciplinary major designed for returning adults. A student needs at least 60 college credits or an associate's degree from a regionally accredited college to be admitted to the program. BGS students either fulfill the requirements of a pre-identified BGS focus or design their own interdisciplinary focus. As the BGS program is oriented towards working adults, the degree is offered at all six undergraduate campuses of the University. Courses are available in the day, evening, weekends and online.

Admission Requirements

1. An associate's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, or at least 60 college credits from a regionally accredited college.
2. An interview with an academic advisor in the BGS program.
3. Official transcripts from all regionally accredited colleges and universities previously attended
4. Completion of the BGS Application and submission of the BGS application fee.
5. Students graduating from Connecticut Community Colleges from 2000 on are guaranteed admission into the BGS program.

Bachelor's Degree Requirements

1. Earn a minimum of 120 credits towards graduation
2. Fulfill the University of Connecticut General Education Requirements
3. 30 or more credits earned at the University of Connecticut
4. 30 or more credits earned at the junior-senior level (University of Connecticut 200 level courses or courses that transfer into the University of Connecticut at the 200 level)
5. Completion of a BGS focus or an individualized major
6. For students without a BGS focus, completion of a BGS Summary Project or Integrating General Studies is required.
7. University of Connecticut grade point average of at least 2.0
8. Students who complete a school change from another school or college at the University of Connecticut into the BGS program must complete at least 15 credits as a BGS student.
9. A BGS student is expected to complete degree requirements within eight years of admission unless an extension of time to complete the program is given.

Writing in the Major. The writing in the major requirement can be met by any 200-level W course approved for this major.

Information Literacy. Students must successfully complete one of the following courses: GS 295, 297; ISKM 210; OSH 277W.

Computer Technology Competency. Students must either successfully complete a University of Connecticut online class or a course equivalent to CSE 101. For an online class, students must submit papers online and exhibit knowledge of graphics and multimedia.

Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Focus

Each BGS focus is twenty four credits, with at least eighteen credits at the junior-senior level. Some of these are offered at all campuses, and some are at specific campuses or online.

Allied Health (Hartford, Storrs, Torrington and Waterbury) – This focus is designed for those with a background in Allied Health who want to expand and broaden their credentials in today's changing health care system. This focus may also prepare students for entrance into a graduate degree program in a specific health discipline. There are four required core Allied Health courses in this focus and another twelve credits can be taken in courses in Allied Health and related disciplines.

The required courses are: AH 241W, 242, 243, 244

There are 12 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Allied Health, Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Economics, Human Development and Family Studies, Molecular and Cell Biology, Nutritional Sciences, Physical Therapy, Physiology and Neurobiology, Psychology, Sociology and Women's Studies. Consult your BGS advisor for the specific recommended courses included in this focus.

Cities and Community Life (Tri-Campus: Hartford, Torrington, Waterbury) – This interdisciplinary focus enables students to better understand the challenges and opportunities of urban life from the local to the global level, and to participate in strengthening the institutional and social fabric of communities. Students receive training in the knowledge and methods of the social sciences and may complete pre-professional courses and capstone projects.

The required courses are:

Urban and Community Studies (URBN) 230

And two of the following: ECON 112; POLS 173; SOCI 107, 115; STAT 100, 110; URBN 130

There are 15 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Art History, Economics, Geography, History, Human Development and Family Studies, Interdepartmental, Political Science, Sociology, Statistics, Urban and Community Studies. Consult your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Corporate and Organizational Studies (All campuses) – This focus is designed to provide students with a foundation to respond to the demands of business and industry in today's global society. Subject areas include core courses and those selected to accommodate a student's individual professional development and career objectives.

The required courses are two of the following: ACCT 131; ECON 111, 112

There are 18 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Accounting, Anthropology, Business Administration, Business Law, Communication, Economics, Educational Leadership, Finance, Management, Marketing, Operations and Information Management, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Women's Studies. Consult your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Health and Science (All Campuses) – This focus is designed for students who intend to pursue careers in the health and medical professions, including physician, dentist, physicians assistant and related fields. Emphasis is on courses that provide the necessary foundation for entrance into these programs. Students need to check with prospective programs to determine the particular requirements for admission. Subject areas include biology, chemistry, physics, and appropriate courses in mathematics, social sciences and humanities. The required courses for this focus are usually offered during the day.

The required courses are:

BIOL 107, 108; CHEM 127, 128, 243, 244, 245; PHYS 121, 122

There are 12 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Allied Health, Anthropology, Economics, Human Development and Family Studies, Mathematics, Molecular and Cell Biology, Philosophy, Physiology and Neurobiology, Psychology, and Sociology. Consult your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Human Services (All campuses) – This focus is an interdisciplinary program of study designed for individuals seeking to pursue a professional career path in mental health, family services, employee assistance programs, counseling services to diverse populations and related fields. This focus may prepare students for entrance into graduate schools in social work and counseling. The University has course offerings for the human services focus in psychology, sociology, human development and family studies, as well as other disciplines.

The required courses are:

Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) 266

And two of the following:

HDFS 190; PSYC 132, PSYC 133 or 135; SOCI 107, 115

There are 15 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Anthropology, Communication, Human Development and Family Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Statistics, and Women's Studies. Consult with your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Information Technology (Stamford) – This focus is designed for those seeking a formalized information application and technology orientation for a business environment. It is also for individuals already in a business environment who want more Information Technology skills. It is assumed that students following this BGS focus will be experienced in the use of personal computers.

The required courses are: ACCT 131, 200; OPIM 203, 205, 206, 207, 208; ENGL 296

There are 3 credits of recommended courses. These are specific classes selected from the disciplines of Operations and Information Management, Management, Marketing and Finance. Consult your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Law and Society (All Campuses) – This focus emphasizes concepts of law, judicial proceedings, and the framework of legal institutions in modern society, social justice and social problems. This focus serves students whose interests are in such areas as law, government, public service and criminal justice.

The required courses are:

One of the following: POLS 121,173; SOCI 107, 115, 125

Two of the following: BLAW 271; POLS 251; SOCI 216

Three of the following: POLS 205, 252, 253, 255, 256, 260, 270, 274, 275

There are 6 credits of recommended courses. These are specific courses selected from the disciplines of History, Human Development and Family Studies, Natural Resource Management and Engineering, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Women's Studies. Consult your BGS advisor for specific recommended courses in this focus.

Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health (Online) –

Employers are increasingly concerned with the environmental factors that can affect the workplace. Also of interest is the prevention of occupational injuries and illnesses. This has created a demand for individuals with specialized training in maintaining a workplace that complies with Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Environmental Protection Agency regulations. There are five specialties in this focus:

- (1) Occupational Safety
- (2) Occupational Health
- (3) Industrial Environment Safety
- (4) Occupational Safety and Health
- (5) Environmental Safety and Health.

This focus will provide training in these areas.

Students complete eight of the following courses: AH 280, 281, 282, 283, 284; OSH 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278

Web Technology (OnLine) - The BGS program focus in Web Technology is designed for those seeking the knowledge and skills to design, build, and maintain content for the World Wide Web. IT emphasizes the use of open source technologies, and includes courses on how to effectively administer web server infrastructure.

The required courses are: ISKM 217, 218, 219, 220, 222, 230, 231, 232

Pathway to Certification (All campuses) – This focus is designed for area bound returning adult students who intend to enter a Teacher Certification program upon graduation. It allows students to fulfill the liberal arts and subject area requirements for elementary, middle, secondary or special education certification in selected academic subjects. There are no education courses offered in this BGS focus. Students who are able to attend classes on the Storrs campus should contact the NEAG School of Education for information on its certification program.

Connecticut teacher certification regulations, which are revised periodically, are listed on the Web site of the Connecticut State Department of Education. For more information, please visit their Web site at www.state.ct.us/sde/dtl/cert/regtoc.htm.

Contact your BGS advisor for information on current certification requirements for elementary, middle, secondary and special education.

Bachelor of General Studies Website: www.bgs.uconn.edu