

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 1 of 23

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Other Catalog Change

2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**College of Education**

↓

**State Requirements for Educator Licensure**

**~~ILTS Test of Academic Proficiency~~ State of Illinois Mandated Testing**

Successful completion of the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) is required no later than the semester before student teaching. The test bulletins and applications are available at the Office of Testing Services and in department offices. Students who intend to enter an educator licensure program need to take the ILTS Test of Academic Proficiency as soon as possible. Candidates must take and pass any state mandated tests prior to student teaching (tests may vary by program).

**Grade Minimum....**

*RATIONALE: The TAP is no longer required by the state of Illinois for educator licensure.*

Other Catalog Change Online, 2019-20 Graduate Catalog

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**College of Education**

↓

**State Requirements for Educator Licensure**

**~~Basic Skills Testing~~ State of Illinois Mandated Testing**

Successful completion of the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) is required for entry into most educator licensure programs and is listed as a prerequisite for many professional courses. The PPST and Praxis I bulletins and applications are available at the Office of Testing Services. Students who intend to enter an educator licensure program and need to take this test should register for and take the ICTS Test of Academic Proficiency as soon as possible. Candidates must take and pass any state mandated tests prior to student teaching (tests may vary by program).

**Grade Minimum....**

*RATIONALE: The TAP is no longer required by the state of Illinois for educator licensure.*

**COUNSELING AND HIGER EDUCATION**

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 2 of 23

Course Revision Online Catalog Links, 2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Course List**

↓

**Counseling (CAHC COUN)**

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 211. CAREER PLANNING (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 400. EXPLORATION IN THE COUNSELING PROFESSION (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 410. FOUNDATIONS OF CAREER EDUCATION (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 425. HUMAN RELATIONS SKILLS AND STRATEGIES (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 490. WORKSHOP IN COUNSELING (1-3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 493. CRISIS INTERVENTION IN THE HELPING PROFESSIONS (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

CAHC **COUN** 497. INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3)... ..

*RATIONALE: The department name was updated in spring 2019. The course designator COUN has been created to align with the program name. All Counseling program courses will be moved to the COUN designator.*

Other Catalog Change Online Catalog Link, 2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**A Guide to Reading This Catalog**

**Course Designators**

↓

BKST–Black Studies

BME–Biomedical Engineering

CAHA–Adult and Higher Education

CAHC–Counseling

CAHE–Adult and Higher Education

CHEM–Chemistry

COMD–Communicative Disorders

COMS–Communication Studies

**COUN–Counseling**

CSCI–Computer Science

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 3 of 23

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**University Graduation Requirements**

↓

**Human Diversity Requirement Course List**

↓

CAHC **COUN** 211. CAREER PLANNING (3)... ..

CAHC **COUN** 400. EXPLORATION IN THE COUNSELING PROFESSION (3)... ..

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**School of Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS, FSM, HDFS, HOSP)**

↓

**Comprehensive Major in Human Development and Family Sciences (B.S.)**

↓

**Emphasis 1. Family and Individual Development**

↓

**Requirements in School (39)**

↓

**Requirements outside School (24-26)**

↓

\*PSYC 102 - Introduction to Psychology (3)

PSYC 316 - Introduction to Psychopathology (3),

OR PSYC 465 - Advanced Developmental Psychology (3),

OR CAHC **COUN** 400 - Exploration in the Counseling Profession (3)

\*SOCI 170 - Introduction to Sociology (3)

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**School of Interdisciplinary Health Professions (HSCI, REHB)**

↓

**Major in Rehabilitation and Disability Services (B.S.)**

↓

**Requirements in School (30)**

↓

Two of the following (6):

\*CAHC **COUN** 400 - Exploration in the Counseling Profession (3)

COMD 220 - Introduction to Communicative Disorders (3)

↓

**Requirements outside School (18-19)**

\*CAHC **COUN** 211 - Career Planning (3)

^HSCI 460 - Research in Health and Human Sciences (3)

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Inter-College Interdisciplinary Certificates and Programs**

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**Biochemical Sciences Track (11-14)**

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 4 of 23

↓  
**Emergency Management and Response Track (12)**

↓  
**Environmental and Hazards Risk Assessment Track (12)**

↓  
**Health Sciences Track (11)**

**Coordinator: College of Health and Human Sciences**

Four of the following (11)

AHLS 336 - Clinical Diagnostic Microbiology (2-3)

CAHC COUN 493 - Crisis Intervention in the Helping Professions (3)

GEOG 306 - Severe and Hazardous Weather (3)

*RATIONALE: The department name was updated in spring 2019. The course designator COUN has been created to align with the program name. All Counseling program courses will be moved to the COUN designator.*

Other Catalog Change [Online Catalog Link](#), 2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Department of Counseling and Higher Education (CAHC, COUN, HESA, SCL)**

↓  
**Minor in Counseling**

↓  
**Required Courses (12)**

CAHC COUN 211 - Career Planning Credits: 3

CAHC COUN 400 - Exploration in the Counseling Profession Credits: 3

CAHC COUN 425 - Human Relations Skills and Strategies Credits: 3

OR REHB 493 - Counseling in Rehabilitation Services Credits: 3

SCL 100 - Foundation of Social Change Leadership Credits: 3

**Elective Courses (6)**

CAHC COUN 490 - Workshop in Counseling Credits: 1-3

CAHC COUN 493 - Crisis Intervention in the Helping Professions Credits: 3

HDFS 230 - Child Development Credits: 3

↓

**Course List**

**Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA)**

↓

**Counseling (CAHC COUN)**

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 5 of 23

*RATIONALE: The department name was updated in spring 2019. The course designator COUN has been created to align with the program name. All Counseling program courses will be moved to the COUN designator.*

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

↓  
**Department of Mechanical Engineering**

↓  
Course Revision: 20-21 Undergraduate Catalog

↓  
Online Catalog [LINK](#)

↓

MEE 383. ENGINEERING ANALYSIS (3). Concepts from linear algebra and differential equations applied to a broad set of engineering analysis problems. Use of computational tools to analyze such problems. Communication of analysis results. PRQ: MATH 336; and MEE 209 or MEE 210.

*Rationale: One of the major benefits of teaching mathematics topics in an engineering course is that the subject can be placed in an engineering context. By making MEE 210 or MEE 209 a prerequisite to MEE 383, one can use statics concepts as well as frames and trusses as examples in the course.*

Other Catalog Change Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Department of Mechanical Engineering (MEE)**

↓  
**Major in Mechanical Engineering (B.S.)  
Requirements in Department (66-67)**

MEE 210 - Engineering Mechanics I (3)

↓  
MEE 322 - Dynamic Systems and Control I (3)  
OR ELE380 - Control Systems I (4)

↓

MEE 486 - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II (3)

OR MEE 486C - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Advanced Computing and Simulation (3)

OR MEE 486E - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Sustainable Energy (3)

OR MEE 486M - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Mechatronics and Robotics (3)

↓

**Total Hours for a Major in Mechanical Engineering: 107-108 105**

**Emphasis 1: Advanced Computing and Simulation**

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 6 of 23

**Requirements in Department (65-66)**

Same as required for major, ~~in addition~~ but with the following choices:

MEE 486C - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Advanced Computing and Simulation (3)

At least two of the following ~~three~~ **four** courses:

↓

**Total Hours for an Emphasis in Advance Computing and Simulation: ~~107-108~~ 105**

**Emphasis 2: Mechatronics and Robotics**

**Requirements in Department (66-67)**

Same as required for major, ~~in addition~~ but with the following choices:

MEE 486M - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Mechatronics and Robotics (3)

At least two of the following ~~five~~ **six** courses:

↓

**Requirements outside Department (42 39)**

Same as required for major.

**Total Hours for an Emphasis in Mechatronics and Robotics: ~~107-108~~ 105**

**Emphasis 3: Sustainable Energy**

**Requirements in Department (66-67)**

Same as required for major, ~~in addition~~ but with the following choices:

MEE 486E - Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II: Emphasis in Sustainable Energy (3)

At least two of the following ~~five~~ **six** courses:

↓

**Requirements outside Department (42 39)**

Same as required for major.

**Total Hours for an Emphasis in Sustainable Energy: ~~107-108~~ 105**

*Rationale:*

- Many years ago, when MEE 322 was taught only once per year and both courses were 4 credit hours, many MEE students took ELE 380 to satisfy the control systems requirement. The number of students doing that now is essentially zero. It is a disadvantage for students to do so. We are removing it from our requirements to simplify the listing in the catalog.
- The change makes explicit the fact that students may take any of the specialized versions of Senior Mechanical Engineering Design II and satisfy the requirements of the standard Mechanical Engineering degree.
- The "in addition" within the descriptions of the emphases are misleading. A reader might think we are requiring additional courses rather than imposing additional constraints on choices.
- Various corrections to properly account for the number of courses and credits

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

↓

Department of Economics

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 7 of 23

New Course 2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

CIP: 45.0699

340. FINANCIAL ECONOMICS (3). Provides students with theoretical knowledge in the mechanisms of various financial markets and how to value market assets including stocks, bonds, and derivatives. Focuses on theoretical background in economics underlying common practices in the investment industry. PRQ: ECON 260 and ECON 261.

Rationale: This class has been taught regularly since Spring 2008 using the department's "topics" class (ECON 370: Current Economic Issues). Student enrollment has been strong, so we wish to renumber the course to give it a separate listing in the catalog. There are similar classes being taught at nearby universities, such as UIC, Iowa State, and UW-Milwaukee, so this is a common offering that will keep our course offerings competitive.

Non-Duplication: The Department of Finance was consulted regarding this course and has indicated there is no significant duplication with any of their current course offerings.

New Course 2019-20 Undergraduate Catalog

CIP: 45.0699

442. INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL ENGINEERING (3). An application of economic, mathematical and statistical tools commonly used in physics and engineering to solve financial problems typically involving derivative pricing and use of derivatives to hedge securities and portfolios. PRQ: ECON 360, ECON 361, and MATH 211 or MATH 229.

Rationale: This course has been taught regularly since Spring 2010 in tandem with the 500-level course as one of the topics offered in ECON 489/589: Seminar in Economic Analysis. The 400-level course is required as part of the undergraduate Emphasis in Financial Economics and the 500-level course is required in the Master's level Concentration in Financial Economics and the proposed MS in Financial Engineering, so we wish to offer it with an independent course designation.

Non-Duplication: The Department of Finance was consulted regarding this course and has indicated there is no significant duplication with any of their current course offerings.

Course Revision 2019-20 Undergraduate Online Catalog [LINK](#)

494. INTERNSHIP IN ECONOMICS (1-6). Student works for a firm or government agency under the sponsorship ... .. May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 semester hours with department approval. Up to 3 semester hours may be applied toward satisfying the requirements for the B.A. or B.S. in Economics. **Does not count toward the Minor in Economics.** PRQ: Junior or senior

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 8 of 23

standing with a declared major **or minor** in economics and consent of a department faculty member.

Rationale: The Department of Economics requests that the course description for ECON 494: Internship in Economics be revised to allow minors in economics to enroll in the course. However, the course will not count toward the 12 credit hours required for the minor.

Course Revision 2019-20 Undergraduate Online Catalog [LINK](#)

498. UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (3). Independent work in economics under the direction of a faculty member. Open only to **juniors and** seniors... .. PRQ: Consent of department.

Rationale: The current catalog descriptions of ECON 497: Independent Study in Economics and ECON 498: Undergraduate Research indicate that they are both limited to seniors. To permit juniors to also undertake research, the Department of Economics requests that catalog description describing the requirements of ECON 498 be revised by *opening it to juniors and seniors* so that it can be used more generally by economics majors. Because the course may only be taken with consent of the department (i.e., the faculty member and UG Director must approve), there will oversight in approving juniors enrolling in this course.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Undergraduate Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Economics (ECON)**

↓

**Major**

**Economics (B.A. or B.S.)**

↓

**Requirements in Department (34-35 37)**

- ECON 260 - Principles of Microeconomics (3)  
Available for general education credit.

↓

- ECON 361 - Intermediate Macroeconomics (3)

For the B.A. Degree

↓

For the B.S. Degree

↓

- Select from economics courses at the 300 or 400 levels (18)

**Requirements outside Department (B.A., 3-16; B.S., 11-15)**

For the B.A. degree

↓



BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 9 of 23

For the B.S. degree

- ↓  
• STAT 300 - Introduction to Probability and Statistics (3)

**Total Hours for a Major in Economics: 37-52 (B.A.) OR 50-52 (B.S.)**

**Recommendations**

↓  
**Emphasis 1. Financial Economics (B.S. only) (50-52)**

↓  
**Requirements in Department (35-37)**

- ECON 260 - Principles of Microeconomics (3)  
Available for general education credit.  
↓
- ECON 390 - Basic Econometrics and Economic Applications (3)
- ECON 390A - Basic Econometrics Laboratory (1)
- ECON 393 - Introduction to Mathematical Methods in Economics (3)
- ↓
- Recommended: ECON 484X - Financial Derivatives (3)
  - OR STAT 484 - Financial Derivatives (3)

**Requirements outside the Department (15)**

- CSCI 240 - Computer Programming in C++ (4)  
↓
- STAT 300 - Introduction to Probability and Statistics (3)

**Total Hours for Emphasis 1, Financial Economics: 50-52 (B.S. only)**

Rationale: We are addressing corrections that need to be made with regard to program totals: 1) The credit totals for "Requirements in Department" is currently "34-35" but should be "34-37"; 2) The credit totals for "Requirements Outside the Department" is currently "11-15" IN THE ONLINE CATALOG for the B.S., but should be just "15"; 3) The credits listed in parentheses in the phrase "One of the following groups (11-15)" should be just (11); 4) The total hours listed for the B.S. degree is currently "50", but should be "50-52".

Other Catalog Change      2019-20 Undergraduate Online Catalog [LINK](#)

**Economics (ECON)**

↓  
**The Degree with Honors**

↓  
**Economics Honors Program**

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 10 of 23

~~Students who wish to work toward a B.A. or B.S. degree with honors in economics should discuss the matter with the departmental undergraduate adviser. Admission to the department's honors program requires the approval of the departmental undergraduate adviser and the chair and will be considered only for economics majors in their junior and senior year. These students must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in all work.~~

The following are the minimum requirements for ~~successful completion of honors work in economics.~~ **The honors designation will be added to the transcript for every graduating senior who meets the requirements.**

- A minimum GPA of 3.00 in all work.
- A 3.50 GPA or above in economics courses.
- Completion of all requirements for an economics major
- A score of 90% or higher on the capstone research paper, which can be satisfied in ECON 492 or with the permission of the Undergraduate Director when taking ECON 492 is not possible, a grade of 90% or higher in ECON 498 or ECON 497.

**Minor in Economics (18)**

↓

Rationale: Starting in the 2014-15 Undergraduate Catalog, the requirements for honors in economics were changed. Although the designation "Honors in Economics" is now placed on the transcript of every student who qualifies, the current catalog text still reads as if the student must apply for this award. The requested change in the catalog language will clarify the process by eliminating the first paragraph and adding the highlighted sentence in the second paragraph.

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**All University Sections**

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Undergraduate Programs**

**Major**

- Accountancy (B.S.)
- ↓
- Art Studio and Design (B.F.A.)
  - **Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.)**
  - Biological Sciences (B.S.)

↓

**Contract Major**

- Education B.S. Contract Major

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 11 of 23

- ↓
- Liberal Arts and Sciences B.A. or B.S. Contract Major
  - ~~Liberal Arts and Sciences B.G.S. Degree~~
  - Visual and Performing Arts B.A. Contract Major

**Certificate of Undergraduate Study**

↓

Rationale: Addition of the B.G.S. major within the Undergraduate Programs listing. It's currently incorrectly categorized under "Contract Majors."

Other Catalog Change                      2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Inter-College Interdisciplinary Programs**

**Homeland Security (18-21)**

**Certificate of Undergraduate Study**

↓

**Environmental and Hazards Risk Assessment Track (12)**

↓

**Three of the following (9)**

- Elective course chosen with approval of certificate coordinator (3-6)
- ↓
- GEOG 406 - Natural Hazards and Environmental Risk Credits: 3
- ~~GEOG 408 - Tropical Environmental Hazards Credits: 3~~
- GEOG 459 - Geographic Information Systems Credits: 3

↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 408.

Notification: The coordinators for the Homeland Security certificate were notified of this change via email on September 23, 2019.

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

New Course                      2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

Display courses for this school/college.

CIP: 24.0102

ILAS 391. BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES CAPSTONE (1). Designed for seniors in the Bachelor of General Studies baccalaureate degree program. Students will complete a number of

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 12 of 23

different critical essays designed to demonstrate a synthesis and integration of course work and experiences provided by the B.G.S. curriculum. Also provides personalized self-assessment, preparation for future careers, and assessment feedback for the B.G.S. degree.

Rationale: This course will assist in the assessment for the B.G.S. program as well as offer students guidance and individual assistance as they transition into professional careers and graduate programs.

Non-Duplication: This course is exclusive to the B.G.S. program.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Go to information for this school/college.

**Programs**

**Major**

- **Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.)**
- **Contract (B.A. or B.S.)**

**Minor**

- **Minor in Classical Studies (24)**
- ↓
- **Minor in Women's and Gender Studies (18)**

**Contract Major**

- ~~Liberal Arts and Sciences B.A. or B.S. Contract Major~~
- ~~Liberal Arts and Sciences B.G.S. Degree~~

**Certificate of Undergraduate Study**

- **Asian American Studies (12)**
- ↓
- **Women's and Gender Studies (12)**
- ↓

**Display courses for this school/college.**

**Rationale: The "Major" category should come first, so we are moving it above the minors. The term "Contract Major" is incorrectly used and should be replaced with just "Major" followed by the two current college offerings of the BGS and Contract majors.**

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

### **Liberal Arts and Sciences B.G.S. Degree**

#### **Contract Major—Liberal Arts and Sciences**

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers students opportunities for constructing two types of individualized programs of study which differ from the university's regular major and minor programs. These individualized programs, the B.A. or B.S. contract major and the general program in which a student earns a Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) degree, utilize existing university courses.

Each of the two programs offered by Liberal Arts and Sciences addresses a different set of educational objectives. The contract major allows a student with unusual and well defined academic interests to design a major with the advice of a faculty sponsor. The general program, by contrast, requires no formal major; it is a minimally structured program built around a general curriculum of courses offered or approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The general program is expected to appeal primarily to mature students with broad academic interests whose educational objectives do not include preparation for a specific professional career.

NOTE: The degree Bachelor of General Studies is not as well understood outside the university as traditional baccalaureate degrees. Students earning this degree may be required to convince prospective employers or graduate schools that the degree will enable them to succeed in a particular job or a future educational endeavor.

The student learning outcomes for this degree are located at <http://www.niu.edu/assessment/Outcomes/general.pdf>.

#### **Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.)**

The B.G.S. program requires no formal major; it is an interdisciplinary, liberally-structured program built around a general curriculum of courses offered or approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The general studies program is expected to appeal primarily to students with broad academic interests whose educational objectives do not include preparation for a specific professional career.

#### **Admission**

Students seeking admission to one of these the B.G.S. programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences must have at least sophomore standing and must meet with the program director to declare the major, file an application for admission to the program with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Forms can be obtained from the Advising Office of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The student learning outcomes for this degree are located at [https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/\\_files/outcomes/provost/general-studies-bgs.pdf](https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/_files/outcomes/provost/general-studies-bgs.pdf)

**Commented [DH1]:** Per Suzanne Hogan - Nothing has changed programmatically; it's strictly clean-up. The BGS has been incorrectly identified in the catalog for years as a "contract" major, and it's not...not even close. The BGS and Contract majors are totally separate and distinct so we're trying to make that more clear. The way things currently read has caused confusion for students so it's time to fix it.

Suzanne is the Curriculum Administrative Coordinator in CLAS.

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 14 of 23

**Requirements**

To receive the degree Bachelor of General Studies **degree**, a student must satisfy all university graduation requirements except those of a major. All courses ... .. calculate the minimum 2.00 GPA required for graduation.

The student who wishes to earn a degree through the general program must:

- earn at least 85 semester hours of credit ... .. at other baccalaureate institutions.
- ↓
- successfully complete 15 semester hours in humanities courses. These include all courses offered by the Departments of Communication, English, **World Languages and Cultures**, History, and Philosophy, **and World Languages and Cultures**, except for ENGL 103, ENGL 203, ENGL 204, and COMS 100.
- **successfully complete either an internship or independent study project or a capstone experience (ILAS 391).**
- complete at least 30 semester hours after formal admission to the general program.

Students following this program may ... .. at NIU or other baccalaureate institutions.

Students completing the general **studies** program will not receive formal recognition of the completion of a **departmental** major or a minor on their permanent academic records, **but may apply for an interdisciplinary minor within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.**

Courses used to fulfill ... .. the second, third, and fourth areas above.

Return to: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Rationale: Separating the language for the BGS and Contract Majors is consistent with the unique nature of these two degree options. The qualifying language that the BGS is “not well understood” has been deleted because it is archaic and not reflective of the nature of the BGS. It is increasingly accepted as a viable degree which provides students with marketable skills. Addition of an internship / independent study / capstone activity to the requirements ensures that students have the opportunity to integrate their diverse coursework in a meaningful way, and also provides a mechanism for more effective assessment of the BGS program. Finally, the completion of an interdisciplinary minor is entirely consistent with the broad-based and integrated nature of the BGS, and would benefit students in the program by providing additional credentials on their transcript.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Liberal Arts and Sciences B.G.S. Degree**

**Contract Major (B.A. or B.S.) –Liberal Arts and Sciences**

SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog p. 15 of 23

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers students opportunities for constructing two types of individualized programs of study which differ from the university's regular major and minor programs. These individualized programs, the B.A. or B.S. contract major and the general program in which a student earns a Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) degree, utilize existing university courses.

Each of the two programs offered by Liberal Arts and Sciences addresses a different set of educational objectives. The contract major is an individualized program that allows a student with unusual and well-defined academic interests to design a major with the advice of a faculty sponsor. The general program, by contrast, requires no formal major; it is a minimally structured program built around a general curriculum of courses offered or approved by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The general program is expected to appeal primarily to mature students with broad academic interests whose educational objectives do not include preparation for a specific professional career.

NOTE: The degree Bachelor of General Studies is not as well understood outside the university as traditional baccalaureate degrees. Students earning this degree may be required to convince prospective employers or graduate schools that the degree will enable them to succeed in a particular job or a future educational endeavor.

The student learning outcomes for this degree are located at <http://www.niu.edu/assessment/Outcomes/general.pdf>.

The student learning outcomes for this degree are located at <https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/assessment/outcomes.shtml>

### Admission

Students seeking admission to one of these **this** programs in Liberal Arts and Sciences must have at ... from the Advising Office of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

### Requirements

A student may formulate ... Students desiring programs involving a substantial amount of course work in colleges other than Education or Visual and Performing Arts should work with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and will be required to secure a co-sponsor from the discipline housing such course work. Programs proposals must be submitted through the Advising Associate Dean's Office of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and must be approved by the college's Contract Major Curriculum Committee.

The student who wishes to propose a contract major must:

- have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50.

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BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 16 of 23

- complete either the university foreign language requirement for the B.A. degree or the college requirement for the B.S. degree.

A student who completes ... .. major in \_\_\_\_\_ (the theme specified in the contract).

Return to: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Rationale: Updating the Contract Major language so the program stands on its own, separate from the B.G.S. Updating the information as to where the application must be submitted as well as the approving committee.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Minor in Global Studies (24)**

↓

**Requirements (24)**

↓

**Global Development Studies**

- ANTH 361 - Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Women Credits: 3  
↓
- GEOG 204 - Geography of Economic Activities Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
This is a society and culture general education course for Global Connections Pathway.
- ~~GEOG 332 – Geography of Latin America Credits: 3~~
- ~~GEOG 338 – Geography of Asia Credits: 3~~
- ~~GEOG 408 – Tropical Environmental Hazards Credits: 3~~
- GEOG 430 - Population Geography Credits: 3

↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 332, GEOG 338, and GEOG 408.

Notification: The coordinator for the Minor in Global Studies was notified of this change via email on September 23, 2019.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Minor in Latino/Latin American Studies (18)**

↓

**Requirements (18)**

↓

**Five of the following (15)**

- ANTH 414 - Archaeology of Mesoamerica Credits: 3



BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 17 of 23

- ↓
- FLSP 487 - Hispanic Dialectology Credits: 3  
FLSP 487 is a writing infused course.
  - ~~GEOG 332 – Geography of Latin America Credits: 3~~
  - GEOG 430 - Population Geography Credits: 3
- ↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 332.

Notification: The Center for Latino and Latin American Studies was notified of this change via email on September 23, 2019.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Minor in Southeast Asian Studies (19-21)**

↓  
Requirements (19 or 21)

- ↓
- ANTH 302 - Asian American Cultures Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.
  - FLTH 400 - Special Topics in Thai Language, Literature, Linguistics or Culture Credits: 3
  - ~~GEOG 338 – Geography of Asia Credits: 3~~  
~~May be counted toward the minor when topic is appropriate.~~
  - GEOG 390 - Topics in Geography Credits: 1-3  
May be counted toward the minor when topic is appropriate.
  - ~~GEOG 408 – Tropical Environmental Hazards Credits: 3~~  
~~May be counted toward the minor when topic is appropriate.~~
  - GEOG 491 - Undergraduate Research in Geography Credits: 1-3  
May be counted toward the minor when topic is appropriate.
- ↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 338 and GEOG 408.

Notification: The Center for Southeast Asian Studies was notified of this change via email on September 23, 2019.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Asian American Studies (12)**

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 18 of 23

**Certificate of Undergraduate Study**

↓

**Requirements**

↓

**Two of the following (6)**

- ANTH 407 - Peoples and Cultures of Insular Southeast Asia Credits: 3
- ↓
- EPFE 430 - Comparative and International Education Credits: 3  
(When a substantial part of the course is devoted to Asian or Asian American topics, with approval of the coordinator.)
- ~~GEOG 338 - Geography of Asia Credits: 3~~
- HIST 346 - Women in Asian History Credits: 3

↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 338.

Notification: The coordinator for the Asian American Studies certificate was notified of this change via email on September 23, 2019.

**Environmental Studies**

Course Deletion                      2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

ENVS 315. GEOGRAPHY OF ENERGY (3). (*Crosslisted as GEOG 315X.*)

Rationale: Course has not been taught since faculty left NIU and there are no plans to hire a person qualified to teach.

Other Catalog Change                      2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Environmental Studies (B.A. or B.S.)**

↓

**Requirements in Environmental Studies (19)**

↓

**Emphasis 2. Energy Studies (37)**

↓

Select three of the following applications and natural science-based courses (9)

- BIOS 106 - Environmental Biology Credits: 3
- CHEM 427 - Environmental Chemistry Credits: 3
- ~~ENVS 315 - Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
  - ~~OR GEOG 315X - Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 19 of 23

- ENVS 409 - Water Quality Credits: 4

↓

**Emphasis 4. Environmental Policy (30-31)**

↓

Select at least one of the following science, engineering, and technology courses (3-4)

- BIOS 106 - Environmental Biology Credits: 3
- ↓
- GEOG 303 - Water Resources and the Environment Credits: 3
- Available for general education credit.
- ~~GEOG 315X – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
  - ~~ENVS 315 – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
- GEOG 368 - Climate Change: Science, Impacts, and Mitigation Credits: 3

↓

**Emphasis 5. Water Sciences (37-41)**

↓

Select one of the following engineering/technology-based courses (3)

- ~~GEOG 315X – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
  - ~~ENVS 315 – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
- ISYE 421 - Introduction to Green Engineering Credits: 3

↓

**Emphasis 6. Educator Licensure - Environmental Science (96)**

↓

Electives in designated courses teaching environmental science concepts (12)

- ANTH 425 - Environment and Anthropology Credits: 3
- ↓
- ECON 386 - Environmental Economics Credits: 3
- ~~GEOG 315X – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
  - ~~ENVS 315 – Geography of Energy Credits: 3~~
- GEOG 253 - Environment and Society Credits: 3

↓

Rationale: Deletion of ENVS 315 and GEOG 315X.

**Department of Geographic and Atmospheric Sciences**

Course Deletion                      2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 250. CIVIL SURVEYING (4).

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 20 of 23

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 251. CONTROL SURVEYING (4).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 315X. GEOGRAPHY OF ENERGY (3). (*Crosslisted as ENV5 315.*)

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 332. GEOGRAPHY OF LATIN AMERICA (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 338. GEOGRAPHY OF ASIA (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 350. LAND SURVEYING (4).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 352. GEOSPATIAL DIMENSIONS OF HOMELAND SECURITY (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 408. TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 21 of 23

GEOG 450. LEGAL ASPECTS OF GEOMATICS AND LAND SURVEYING (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 469. EDUCATION METHODS AND MATERIALS IN GEOGRAPHY (3).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 474. GEOMATICS DESIGN IN LAND DEVELOPMENT (4).

Course Deletion 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (UG Courses)  
2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#) (Course Desc.)

GEOG 475. GEOMATICS PLANNING AND COMPUTATION (3).

Rationale: These courses are no longer taught in the department, so we would like to have them removed from the catalog.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Meteorology (B.S.)**

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**Requirements in Department (34)**

- GEOG 105 - Weather, Climate, and You Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
↓
- Students must take MET 475 twice for a total of 2 semester hours.

**Course work from the following (6)**

- GEOG 370 - Regional Climatology Credits: 3  
↓
- GEOG 406 - Natural Hazards and Environmental Risk Credits: 3
- ~~GEOG 408 - Tropical Environmental Hazards Credits: 3~~
- GEOG 460 - Remote Sensing of the Environment Credits: 3  
↓

Rationale: Deletion of GEOG 408.

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 22 of 23

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Minor in Geography (19)**

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**Requirements (19)**

Six or more semester hours in the minor must be taken at NIU

- GEOG 101 - Introduction to Environmental Geography Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
This is a nature and technology general education course for the Global Connections Pathway.
  - ~~AND GEOG 102 - Introduction to Environmental Geography Laboratory Credits: 1~~
    - OR GEOG 105 - Weather, Climate, and You Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.
    - ~~AND GEOG 106 - Weather and Climate Laboratory Credits: 1~~
- GEOG 202 - World Regional Geography Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
GEOG 202 also fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement.  
This is a society and culture general education course for the Origins and Influences Pathway.
  - OR GEOG 201 - Introduction to Human Geography Credits: 3
  - OR GEOG 204 - Geography of Economic Activities Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
This is a society and culture general education course for the Global Connections Pathway.
- GEOG 256 - Maps and Mapping Credits: 3  
Available for general education credit.  
Electives from geography courses at the 300 or 400 level (9)

Rationale: The department wishes to delete GEOG 102 and GEOG 106 from the requirements for the minor. By removing these two laboratory courses, students will have the option to complete the entire minor online if they so choose.

Other Catalog Change 2019-20 Online Undergraduate Catalog [LINK](#)

**Geographic Information Systems (15)**

**Certificate of Undergraduate Study**

This certificate is designed to provide pre-professional study ... .. It is open to all NIU undergraduates. Students must maintain good academic standing in the university, achieve a minimum grade of C in each certificate course, achieve a GPA of at least 3.00 in all certificate courses, and complete all certificate course work within six calendar years. **All A minimum of 12** semester hours certificate must be completed at NIU. With department approval, some ... .. limit enrollment in any of the certificate courses.

BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Second Meeting/2019-2020 Academic Year  
October 10, 2019

**SECTION A – Recorded for inclusion in the 2020-21 Undergraduate Catalog** p. 23 of 23

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Rationale: By only requiring 12 of the credits towards the certificate to be taken at NIU, this allows students pursuing the certificate the opportunity to count a relevant transfer course they may have taken at another institution prior to coming to NIU.