

Proposed Revision to B.A. in General Studies Course Requirement

Effective Date: Fall 2019

Intended Curricular Change:

Change BGS 2985, Adults in Transition, from a required course for all students to a course required only for students who have not taken college-level classes for the past five years. Other students may take the course as an elective.

Rationale:

The BGS program has seen a larger enrollment of students who have recently completed an associate's degree or other college-level courses; as a result, the need for BGS 2985 to be required has lessened. Students are entering the program more prepared for upper-division level work. Students who have not taken recent college-level coursework (in the past five years) will be required to take BGS 2985 as it will benefit them in their transition back to classes.

Approved by Program: January 2, 2019

Approved by College of Education Curriculum Committee:

Approved by CAA:

Current Version:

General Studies (B.A.)

←Return to: [Majors and Minors](#)

The School of Continuing Education Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program is an individualized, nontraditional program designed for learners with significant life and/or work experience. The program combines sound academic principles with advances in technology to facilitate degree completion. After admission to the program, knowledge and skills acquired by prior learning outside of the traditional classroom, may be evaluated for academic credit.

Core Requirements

- 120 semester hours total
- 40 semester hours at the junior-senior level
- 20 semester hours taken from EIU
- 12 semester hours in Humanities/Fine Arts
- 12 semester hours in Social/Behavioral Sciences
- 12 semester hours in Scientific Awareness/Mathematics
- 6 semester hours in Communication/English
- 1 course in Cultural Diversity
- 1 Senior Seminar

In Addition Students Must:

- Complete BGS 2985, Adults in Transition, BGS 3002, Critical Thinking and the Adult Learner and BGS 4001, Self-Directed Leadership. Note: Students must complete BGS 2985 and BGS 3002 with a grade of “C” or higher and have earned at least 90 semester hours prior to enrolling in BGS 4001.
- Complete Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP) requirements;
- Maintain a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade-point average.

Notes:

1. A student must be admitted to this program by the Director of the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program.
2. Beginning Fall 2014 and thereafter, all students transferring into the BGS program from another EIU academic program must meet the BGS degree requirements for the catalog year they are admitted into the program.
3. After the student is admitted to the program, only grades of “C” and above will be counted toward meeting graduation requirements. Grades of “D” and “F” earned after admission to the program will be included in the cumulative EIU grade point average, consistent with current EIU grade policy.
4. After admission to the program, students may use no more than five (5) one-credit-hour courses towards their degree.

Revised Version:

General Studies (B.A.)

← Return to: [Majors and Minors](#)

The ~~School of Continuing Education~~ Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program is an individualized, nontraditional program designed for learners with significant life and/or work experience. The program combines sound academic principles with advances in technology to facilitate degree completion. After admission to the program, knowledge and skills acquired by prior learning outside of the traditional classroom, may be evaluated for academic credit.

Core Requirements

- 120 semester hours total
- 40 semester hours at the junior-senior level
- 20 semester hours taken from EIU
- 12 semester hours in Humanities/Fine Arts
- 12 semester hours in Social/Behavioral Sciences
- 12 semester hours in Scientific Awareness/Mathematics
- 6 semester hours in Communication/English
- 1 course in Cultural Diversity
- 1 Senior Seminar

In Addition Students Must:

- Complete ~~BGS 2985, Adults in Transition~~, BGS 3002, Critical Thinking and the Adult Learner and BGS 4001, Self-Directed Leadership.
- Students who have not taken college-level courses for the past five years are required to take BGS 2985, Adults in Transition. Other students may take the course as an elective.
- Note: Students must complete BGS 2985 (if required) and BGS 3002 with a grade of “C” or higher and have earned at least 90 semester hours prior to enrolling in BGS 4001.
- Complete Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP) requirements;
- Maintain a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade-point average.

Notes:

1. A student must be admitted to this program by the Director of the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies Degree Program.
2. Beginning Fall 2014 and thereafter, all students transferring into the BGS program from another EIU academic program must meet the BGS degree requirements for the catalog year they are admitted into the program.
3. After the student is admitted to the program, only grades of “C” and above will be counted toward meeting graduation requirements. Grades of “D” and “F” earned after admission to the program will be included in the cumulative EIU grade point average, consistent with current EIU grade policy.
4. After admission to the program, students may use no more than five (5) one-credit-hour courses towards their degree.

Course Revisions – to be requested by Executive Action

BGS 2985 - Adults in Transition.

(2-0-2) Designed to assist returning adult students with the transition into academia with an emphasis on writing/communication skills, learning styles, successful learning techniques/practices, program policies/procedures and developing an academic plan of study. WI

Prerequisites & Notes:

Admission to the Board of Trustees BA in General Studies Degree Program or permission of the instructor. This course is required for students who have not taken college-level courses in the past five years. The course may be taken as an elective by all other students.

Credits: 2

BGS 3002 - Critical Thinking and the Adult Learner.

(3-0-3) On Demand. The course focuses on adult development, adult learning theory, the adult learning cycle and critical thinking as it relates to the students earning a general studies degree. Throughout the course, students will critically analyze and evaluate the course content as it applies to them as adult learners. At the end of this course, students will create a set of learning goals to help guide them through the BGS program. Course restricted to BGS students. WI

Prerequisites & Notes:

Prior completion (with a “C” or better) or concurrent enrollment in BGS 2985 (if required) and admission to the BGS Program.

Credits: 3

BGS 4001 - Self-Directed Leadership.

(3-0-3) Su. On Demand. In this capstone course for the B.A. in General Studies degree, students apply transformative change process, critical thinking skills and concepts to explore the influence of their educational experiences on their professional and personal lives and to assess and develop their self-directed learning and leadership skills. Open to majors in General Studies. WI

Prerequisites & Notes:

Students must be admitted to the BGS Programs and have completed at least 90 hours and BGS 2985 (if required) and BGS 3002. It is highly recommended students complete this course their last semester prior to graduation.

Credits: 3

Effective Date: Fall 2019