

INFORMATION SYSTEMS, BSGS

Curriculum

The bachelor's degree requirements are 45 units total and include the major requirements, writing and foundational disciplines requirements, and elective courses.

Course	Title
CIS 110-CN	Introduction to Computer Programming
CIS 313-CN	Telecommunications and Computer Networks
CIS 317-CN	Database Systems Design & Implementation
CIS 394-CN	Project Management Concepts
or ORG_BEH 368-DL	Project Management
MATH 202-CN	Finite Mathematics
STAT 202-CN	Introduction to Statistics and Data Science
or STAT 202-DL	Introduction to Statistics and Data Science
ORG_BEH 307-CN	Leadership Principles and Practices
ENGLISH 205-CN	Intermediate Composition
or ENGLISH 205-DL	Intermediate Composition

6 additional courses from:

CIS 130-CN	Tools and Technologies of the World Wide Web
CIS 212-CN	Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming
CIS 323-CN	Python for Data Science
CIS 324-CN	Applied Data Science
CIS 325-CN	Enterprise Data Science
CIS 326-CN	Data Engineering
CIS 330-CN	Human Computer Interaction
CIS 345-CN	Information Security
CIS 370-CN	System Analysis and Design
CIS 380-CN	Information Architecture
CIS 385-CN	Programming for the Web

Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Science in General Studies

The Bachelor of Science in General Studies (BSGS) degree is conferred by the Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences (<https://www.weinberg.northwestern.edu/>). To earn the BSGS degree, students must complete 45 units*, including a writing requirement, a foundational disciplines requirement, a major, and electives. Minors are optional.

*Each course carries 1 unit of credit unless otherwise noted in academic catalog.

Courses	Units Earned
English 111 and 205	2
Humanities	4
Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning	4
Social Sciences	4
Major Requirements	10-20
Electives	Up to 21
Total	45

About the Writing Requirement

The writing requirement ensures that students have the skills necessary to meet the rigorous writing demands of subsequent SPS courses in all majors, degrees, and disciplines. Expository writing courses — ENGLISH 111 Writing Seminar II and ENGLISH 205 Intermediate Composition — provide the tools to meet the demands of advanced academic writing. Completion of ENGLISH 111 Writing Seminar II and ENGLISH 205 Intermediate Composition with a grade of C or higher satisfies the writing requirement in all SPS bachelor's degree programs.

Writing requirement courses may not be audited or taken on a pass/no credit basis. Performance-Based Admission students are required to complete ENGLISH 111 and ENGLISH 205 as two of their first four courses.

Writing Requirement Appeals

Students who have been admitted into the degree program as transfer admits may appeal the writing requirement. The writing requirement appeal is reserved for students who can demonstrate the necessary skills for writing university-level research and analytical papers by submitting previous college research papers written within the last three to five years. The papers submitted for the appeal will be evaluated for standards of good expository writing, including: a fully developed thesis; sound logic and adequate evidence in support of the thesis; effective organization, coherent structure, and an overall unity; correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling. A successful appeal does not result in credit for the writing requirement courses; the requirement for ENGLISH 111 and 205 is waived. Students must complete other courses in place of the writing requirement that meet the curriculum requirements of their program. Performance-Based Admission students may not appeal the writing requirement. To appeal the writing requirement, see instructions in the Undergraduate Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/sps/undergraduate-academic-policies-procedures/>).

About the Foundational Disciplines Requirement

Students complete coursework in three foundational disciplines—humanities, scientific inquiry and quantitative reasoning, and social sciences—to obtain broad experience in the liberal arts. Included in the foundational disciplines requirement are two courses that apply perspectives on power, justice, and equity: one course focused within the United States and one course focused globally. A philosophy course on professional ethics is required for one of the four humanities courses.

Students in the BSGS degree select courses from the following areas that satisfy the foundational disciplines requirement, including the two U.S. and global perspectives courses and one business ethics philosophy course (PHIL 264 or PHIL 364).

Humanities

Art history, classics, comparative literary studies, English literature, languages other than English (up to two units), history, humanities (HUM), music history, philosophy, religion, and some courses in black studies, languages with literature, gender studies, performance studies, radio/television/film, and theatre.

Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

Astronomy, biological sciences, chemistry, computer information systems, earth and planetary sciences, engineering, mathematics, physics and some courses in anthropology, communication sciences and disorders, psychology, radio/television/film, and statistics.

Social Sciences

Anthropology, economics, history, linguistics, political science, social sciences, sociology, and some courses in black studies, communication sciences and disorders, gender studies, psychology, and statistics.