

Undergraduate Studies

Mission

The Office of Undergraduate Studies (OUS) is committed to working synergistically with the University's eight colleges and school to ensure an integrated academic experience for all undergraduate students at Prairie View A&M University. Through working with the academic departments, the OUS encourages the use of innovative instructional methods for all disciplines with an emphasis on rigor, relevance, and responsiveness to the academic and professional needs of the PVAMU undergraduate. We provide opportunities for students to participate in experiential learning opportunities that are an essential component of the undergraduate learning experience, through High Impact Practices i.e. research, internships, and service-learning.

As a component of the academic leadership team of the Office of Academic Affairs, the OUS is committed to serving the University in achieving its mission by working to:

- Assist students as they transition to PVAMU from high school or other educational institutions, identify a major, complete their Core Curriculum, participate in HIPs/Career Exploration and complete the requirements for the Bachelor's Degree;
- Ensure high-quality undergraduate degree and certification programs that are rigorous and current;
- Establish new degree programs and reviewing existing programs for quality and coherence through the Undergraduate Council and in collaboration with colleges and departments; and
- Provide administrative oversight and support for the Bachelor of General Studies Degree Program, the Core Curriculum, Assessment and Evaluation, Academic Advising, Undergraduate Policies and Procedures, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), Open Educational Resources (OER) initiatives, Undergraduate Research and other HIPs initiatives.

College Academic Requirements

The BA and BS in General Studies falls under the requirements of the Brailsford College of Arts and Science. Students pursuing an undergraduate degree in the Brailsford College of Arts and Science may satisfy the language requirement through course work or examination. Credit by examination may be by Advanced Placement (AP) or College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

Major and Minor Requirements

The General Studies degree is a customized set of study that allows the student to pursue an academic program that fits their educational, professional, and career goals. Through individualized advising, the program helps students define their educational goals and design multidisciplinary curricula drawing on a variety of course offerings.

The purpose of the degree program is (1) to provide flexibility to students with broad interests, (2) to offer an option to those with new interests or those changing their majors late in their academic careers, and (3) to maximize opportunities for individuals to pursue graduate studies and advance their careers.

Students must earn a minimum grade of a "C" in all classes taken in their major disciplines and a minimum grade of a "C" in all classes taken in their minor disciplines (if applicable). A 2.00 grade point average is required before the student is approved for graduation. Transfer credits toward the major must be approved by the program coordinator and Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

Minimum Total Credit Hours for Graduation

Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credit hours with at least a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in the major field of study in order to earn a bachelor's degree. Students must review the requirements for each degree program outlined in the catalog.

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in General Studies Degree Program Requirements

BA and BS General Studies Recommended Degree Sequence (http://catalog.pvamu.edu/undergraduatestudies/GNST_BA-BS_21-22.pdf)

Core Curriculum ¹		42
Foreign Language Requirements (one language)		6
Language and Communications Requirements		3
ENGL 2311	Technical and Business Writing	
or ENGL 2314	Advanced Composition	
Major Requirements ²		9
GNST 3310	Multidisciplinary Seminar	
GNST 4310	Diversity & Global Learning	
GNST 4320	Multidisciplinary Capstone	

Prescribed Electives ³	42
Concentration I (21 Hours)	
Concentration II (21 Hours)	
Unrestricted Electives	18
Total Hours	120

- ¹ MATH REQUIREMENT: BA in GNST requires MATH 1332 or MATH 1314. BS in GNST requires MATH 1314; additionally, one advanced level (3-4 SCH) mathematics course above MATH 1314 is advised to meet prerequisites in STEM concentrations.
- ² Major requires 9 SCH
- ³ CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT: Consult with your academic advisor. 9 SCH in each 21 SCH concentration must be upper division with the same course prefix unless approved by the Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Courses

GNST 2301 Coding and App Development (Basics): 3 semester hours.

Introduction to general programming language (including various data types, syntax, expression, assignment, branching, looping, function, etc.) Swift programming language. Xcode platform and coding playground and basic app development for smart devices. (IOS).

Prerequisites: MATH 1123 or MATH 1316.

GNST 3302 iOS App Development: 3 semester hours.

Swift programming language, Xcode app development platform, and basic data structure and algorithm concepts, and advanced iOS app development, including GPS and map app, single view app, multiple view app, text field, table view, list view, gesture recognizer, various sensors, and app publication in App Store.

Prerequisites: GNST 2103 or GNST 2301.

GNST 3310 Multidisciplinary Seminar: 3 semester hours.

This course is designed to encourage self-analysis of career interests and planning. Students will also (a) develop their skills in critical thinking, reading, writing, and speaking; (b) synthesize knowledge drawn from other courses; and (c) learn to collaborate with others in building knowledge and understanding. Required for all General Studies majors.

Prerequisites: (ENGL 2311 or ENGL 1143) or (ENGL 1302 or ENGL 1133) or (HUMA 1303 or HUMA 1301) or (PHIL 2023 or PHIL 2306) or PHIL 2303 or (ENGL 2153 or ENGL 2341) or (ENGL 2383 or ENGL 2331) or (HUMA 1403 or HUMA 1305).

GNST 4203 Multidisciplinary Capstone: 3 semester hours.

This course requires students to integrate and use fundamental concepts learned in previous courses within the students' degree concentration.

Students nearing the end of their college years will create a project of some sort that integrates and applies what they've learned. The project might be a research paper, a performance or an ePortfolio of their "best work". Required for General Studies majors. This is a writing intensive course.

Prerequisites: GNST 3103 and GNST 4103.

GNST 4310 Diversity & Global Learning: 3 semester hours.

This high impact practice course will introduce students to obstacles that world populations face. The course will consist of field assignments that will help students explore cultures, life experiences, and worldviews different from their own. Experiential learning may be local, regional, or national.

Required for all General Studies majors. This is a writing intensive course.

Prerequisites: GNST 3310 or GNST 3103.

GNST 4320 Multidisciplinary Capstone: 3 semester hours.

This course requires students to integrate and use fundamental concepts learned in previous courses within the students' degree concentration.

Students nearing the end of their college years will create a project of some sort that integrates and applies what they've learned. The project might be a research paper, a performance or an ePortfolio of their "best work". Required for General Studies majors. This is a writing intensive course.

Prerequisites: (GNST 3310 or GNST 3101) and (GNST 4310 or GNST 4103).