MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES, A.A. (BEHREND)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Erie

End Campus: Erie

Degree Requirements

For the Associate in Arts degree in Multidisciplinary Studies, a minimum of 60 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	21
Electives	15
Requirements for the Major	30

6 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 6 credits of General Education GWS courses.

Requirements for the Major

The required credits of General Education and Requirements for the Major must be baccalaureate-level courses. For students intending to seek admission to a baccalaureate program upon graduation, it is recommended that most, if not all, of the courses be at the baccalaureate level. For those students who will seek a bachelor of arts degree upon graduation from Multidisciplinary Studies, it is strongly recommended that a world language be taken since admission to a bachelor of arts program in the College of the Liberal Arts requires one college-level course, or the equivalent, in a world language.

Courses that will satisfy the arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, and quantification requirements are defined on the Multidisciplinary Studies checksheet, which may be obtained from the College of the Liberal Arts associate dean for undergraduate studies at the University Park campus or from any Multidisciplinary Studies representative at other locations.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
CAS 100	Effective Speech	3
ENGL 15	Rhetoric and Composition	3
Additional Courses		
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select one of the following:		3
ENGL 202A	Effective Writing: Writing in the Social Sciences	
ENGL 202B	Effective Writing: Writing in the Humanities	
ENGL 202C	Effective Writing: Technical Writing	
ENGL 202D	Effective Writing: Business Writing	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 3 credits in any course designated as arts		3
Select 3 credits in any course designated as humanities		3
Select 3 credits in any course designated as social and behavioral sciences		3
Select 3 credits in any course designated as physical, biological, or earth sciences		3
Select 9 credits in any one of the following areas: arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences and quantification, and world language skills [1]		9

[1] If world language courses are chosen, it is recommended that these courses be in one world language sequence.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all associate degree students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 3 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 3 credits

Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Note: Up to six credits of Inter-Domain courses may be used for any Knowledge Domain requirement, but when a course may be used to satisfy more than one requirement, the credits from the course can be counted only once.

Exploration

- **Any General Education course (including GHW and Inter-Domain):** 3 credits

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement

3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.